**Paper 3 Practice Answer Key: Individualism and Happiness in a Japanese Workplace**

This answer key goes with this Paper 3 Practice:

<https://www.themantic-education.com/ibpsych/2020/03/24/paper-3-practice-individualism-and-happiness-in-a-japanese-workplace/>

1a. **Identify** the method used and **outline** two characteristics of the method. [3]

*The method used was a correlational study. Characteristics include:*

* *A study that tests the strength of a relationship between variables*
* *No IV and DV but rather co-variables*
* *No cause-effect conclusions can be drawn*

*Note: this is a regression analysis, which technically is used to measure an IV and a DV. However, I think as there is no second condition in this study, it would be inaccurate to classify it as a type of experiment so it’s best described as a correlational study.*

b. **Describe** the sampling method used in the study. [3]

*The sampling method can best be described as a volunteer/self-selected sample.*

*Characteristics of this sample include:*

* *Participants choose themselves who wants to be in the study*
* *They often respond to some kind of advertisement*
* *It might be subject to sampling bias*

c. **Suggest** an alternative or additional research method giving one reason for your choice. [3]

*Accept any alternative or additional method, provided that:*

* *There is a detailed description of HOW the alternative or additional method could be used (1 mark)*
* *There is at least one reason given WHY the alternative or additional method could be used (1 mark)*

*Example:*

* *A case study could be conducted. One of the female participants who had a particular strong association between individualism and SWB could be selected for a case study. Researchers could conduct interviews with her to find out more about why SWB might be linked to individualism and how or why it might affect her friendships. This could give a better insight into understanding the link between individualism, friendship and SWB.*

2. **Describe** the ethical considerations in reporting the results and **explain** additional ethical considerations that could be taken into account when applying the findings of the study. [6]

**Note: this is a really hard question to write a study for, but there were no mention of ethical considerations in the original so I had no choice. I would only use this for a practice assessment, not a real test or exam because I think this question in particular is very tough.**

*Three relevant considerations for reporting results:*

1. *Anonymity – the names of the participants could be removed. Knowing ow many (or few) friends they have could be embarrassing.*
2. *Confidentiality – it might be a source of conflict in the office who is and isn’t participating in the study. (e.g. some might get angry at those who are not participating because they might feel that they’re not working as hard as them).*
3. *Disclosure – the detail about receiving funding was deliberately included to give an answer to this question – researchers should report any funding they received for a study*

*Accept any other answer as long as it’s logical and well-justified.*

*Three relevant considerations for applying findings:*

1. *The detail about how Bhutan is having policies against globalization is aimed to give students material for this question. They might suggest other countries could use the study for a similar purpose. Award 1 mark if they can explain a way that using this result for that purpose could be an ethical issue – e.g. if a country tried to reduce Western influence using this study as a justification it could be a violation of personal rights or freedoms. It could have other negative influences (e.g decreasing quality of life).*
2. *The detail about future research using longitudinal methods is also for this question. Students might suggest an ethical consideration related to using longitudinal methods.*
3. *This is where it’s tough – students to get the third mark would have to think of a possible application of this finding by themselves and then consider an ethical issue with that. I would accept any logical application and related consideration.*
4. **Discuss** how the researcher in the study could avoid bias. [9]

*Relevant considerations include:*

* *Triangulation*
  + *Researcher: e.g. having more than one researcher analyze the data.*
  + *Data: gathering data at two different times.*
  + *Methodological: using questionnaires and another method, like interviews, to reduce the bias.*
* *Translation: if the questionnaires are being*

*Sampling: this sampling method can be biased. They might consider replicating using a different sampling method.*

*Replication: if a longitudinal study found similar results this could be one way of reducing bias.*

*A screenshot of a social media post

Description automatically generated*