

Practice Paper 3 (HL)

Instructions to Candidates:

- Answer all questions.
- Refer to the resource booklet which accompanies this question paper.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is **30**.

Materials (Enclosed)

- Refer to the sources in the accompanying psychology resource booklet to answer questions 2-4.

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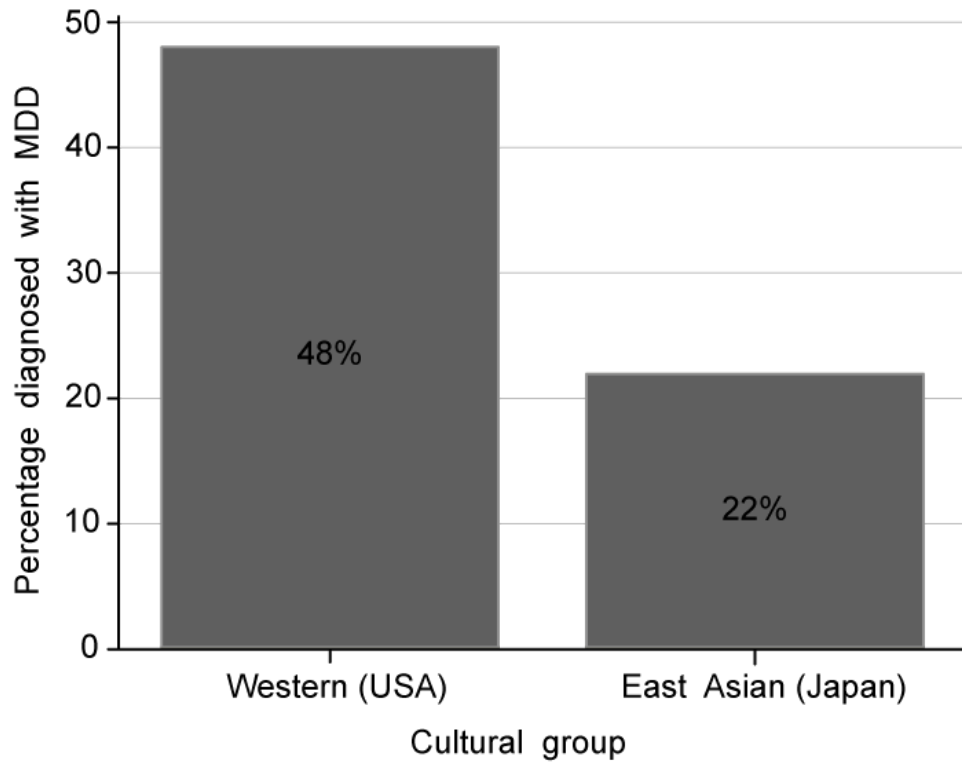
Total Marks

/30

1 Source 1

Figure 1 shows the percentage of patients diagnosed with major depressive disorder (MDD) in two cultural groups following an initial clinical assessment. Diagnoses were made using DSM-5 criteria by clinicians trained in Western psychiatric diagnostic frameworks.

Figure 1: Percentage of patients diagnosed with MDD by cultural group



Explain **one** issue that limits the interpretation of the data in **source 1**.

(3 marks)

2 Source 2

A study was conducted comparing self-reported depressive symptoms and clinical diagnosis rates among university students in two countries. Fifty students from each country completed the same standardised depression questionnaire. Scores ranged from 0 to 30, with higher scores indicating more severe depressive symptoms.

3 Source 3

A researcher conducted focus group interviews with mental health professionals from four different cultural backgrounds to explore how depression is recognised and diagnosed. A thematic analysis identified the following themes:

- Emotional symptoms such as sadness and hopelessness were prioritised in Western diagnostic contexts
- Physical symptoms (e.g. fatigue, headaches, sleep problems) were more frequently emphasised in non-Western clinical settings
- Clinicians reported concern that Western diagnostic criteria may not adequately capture culturally specific expressions of distress
- Some clinicians noted stigma surrounding mental illness influenced patients' willingness to report emotional symptoms

Discuss how the researcher could improve the credibility of the findings in **source 3**.

(6 marks)

4 To what extent can we claim that cultural bias influences the diagnosis of major depressive disorder? In your answer, use your own knowledge and **at least three** of [sources 2-5](#).
