



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

National Qualifications Framework Levels 1–3, 2004

Psychology

National Moderator's Report

National Moderator's Report

General Guidance for Assessors of Achievement and Unit Standards

The purpose of external moderation is to provide reassurance that assessor judgments are at the national standard and are made on the basis of assessment materials that are fair and valid.

All assessment materials are expected to:

- give the learner the opportunity to meet the requirements of the standard
- have an assessment schedule that gives evidence of appropriate learner responses and clear judgments at all levels.

The Ministry of Education contracted subject experts to write assessment resources for achievement standards. These are not pre-moderated. The intention is that they are modified to suit teaching programmes and learner needs. They do not provide “rules” but suggest different ways of assessing to the nationally registered standard.

General Overall Comment

Most of the moderated Psychology assessment tasks have given learners fair and valid opportunities to meet the national standards. In some cases the assessment schedule evidence statements did not fulfil the required operational descriptions or detail of actual or possible learner responses. This lack of detail may be due to the demands of implementing the new Psychology unit standards because in practice, the assessor judgements have been generally consistent and appropriate for all levels.

US 11685, 20645 or 20646: *Conduct a psychological experiment, observation, or survey with direction.*

Because a psychological experiment, observation or survey is conducted *with direction*, assessors are able and in addition have a moral and legal responsibility, to ensure that *ethical practice* is followed. This could include discussing with, encouraging or directing learners to avoid any foreseeable harm to the participants in any study.