

Marks

Question 3 (6 marks)

- (a) Distinguish between the research techniques of *observation* and *participant observation*.

2

The difference between these two research techniques is that participant observation means that you not only observe things happening but you also partake in them, whereas observation means that you're just standing back and observing what is actually happening.

- (b) Assess the value of participant observation in a study of teenage gangs.

I would have to say that I think participant observation would be a good research technique to be using in a study of teenage gangs because unless you are in the gang you don't really know what goes on or what they do. If you are a part of their gang then you will find out a lot more information about them.