THE EFFECT OF FRAME-OF-REFERENCE ON THE CONSTRUCT VALIDITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PERSONALITY INVENTORY

by

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REMARKS / COMMENTS

- The layout of the study followed a mini-dissertation article route. Although it was based on an article route, there was no page limitation.
- In this mini-dissertation, the M student referred to herself as the researcher.
- Primary data was used.
- The 6th edition of the APA referencing style was used.
- Multiple authorship of a single reference will apply plural tenses throughout this minidissertation.
- Please take note that symbols and acronyms will be utilised throughout the minidissertation (refer to list of symbols and abbreviations on p. xi). However, in some instances a concept will be written out when referring to key words or terms.
- The words *sub-constructs* and *factors* have similar meanings and will be used interchangeable, where the word sub-constructs will be applied in the literature review section and the word factors will be applied in the analysis and discussion sections.
- Specific acronyms will be used when referring to items of the Frame–of–Reference (see list of symbols and abbreviations on p. x).

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- To myself for having the courage and strength to complete the final 100 metres that took every bit of strength I had. I am able, I am strong and I do have the tenacity and resilience required. I got through this; I can get through anything.

DECLARATION

I, Mariaan Botha, declare that *The effect of Frame of Reference on the construct validity of the South African Personality Inventory* in my own unaided work both in content and execution. All the resources I used in this study are cited and referred to in the reference list by means of a comprehensive referencing system. Apart from the normal guidance from my study leader, I have received no assistance, except as stated in the acknowledgements.

I declare that the content of this thesis has never been used before for any qualification at any higher education institution.

I, Mariaan Botha, declare that the language in this mini-dissertation was edited by Karien van Weele.

Mariaan Botha

Date: 31 December 2017

Signature

LANGUAGE EDITING REPORT

Confirmation of editing

I, Karien Slabbert (BA Hons. Applied Language Studies, UP) confirm that this document has been language edited.

Thank you,

Karien Slabbert

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ABBREVIATIONS

EFA	Exploratory factor analysis
FOR	Frame of Reference
PCA	Principle component analysis
RQ	Research question
SAPI	South African Personality Inventory
ML	Maximum likelihood

SYMBOLS

X ²	Chi-square
α	Cronbach alpha
h^2	Communalities
Μ	Mean
n	Sample Size
р	Statistical significance

The effect of "Frame-of-Reference" on the construct validity of the South African Personality Inventory

ABSTRACT

- Orientation: Organisations in South Africa have increasingly become more reliant on personality inventories, not only for selection purposes but also for developmental purposes. When testing candidates and/or employees, language and cultural differences should be taken into consideration. This may be affected by the respondent's frame of reference when completing a personality inventory. To standardise the context participants use when completing a personality inventory, adding a standard frame-of-reference after each line item could affect the construct validity of the inventory. This presents a new set of challenges to personality researchers.
- Research purpose: The purpose of the study is to investigate the effect of a contextualised versus a non-contextualised inventory on the reliability and construct validity of the six-factor South African Personality Inventory, hereafter referred to as the SAPI¹. The use of research objectives guided the developing arguments in order to achieve the purpose of the study.
- Motivation for the study: Language and culture play a very important role when testing individuals from a cross-cultural background. Studies have shown that language affects the responses to line items, especially when the test is not in the respondent's home language. Recently, researchers started experimenting with using contextualised inventories and the effect on criterion-related validity. This study will investigate the effect of contextualisation on the construct validity of the SAPI, by adding a specific frame of reference, hereafter referred to as FOR, to each line item of the inventory. Each line item received an "in the workplace" tag, i.e. I am happy "*in the workplace*".

¹"The South African Personality Inventory (SAPI) project aims to develop an indigenous personality measure for all 11 official languages in South Africa. Participants are Byron Adams (University of Johannesburg and Tilburg University, the Netherlands), Carin Hill (University of Johannesburg), Leon Jackson (North-West University), Deon Meiring (University of Pretoria), Alewyn Nel (University of Pretoria), Ian Rothmann (North-West University), VelichkoFetvadjiev (University of Pretoria), and Fons van de Vijver (North-West University, Tilburg University, the Netherlands, and University of Queensland, Australia)."

- ^o **Research design, approach and method:** A quantitative, descriptive, cross-sectional research design was followed. The sample was determined through the use of a convenient non-probability sampling technique, used to administer the SAPI within a large Retailer operating in all nine provinces of South Africa. The respondents are both based in offices as well as working in stores and functioning at administrative, junior management and senior management levels. Two parallel inventories were distributed amongst participants and randomly assigned to complete either the contextualised inventory (n = 144) or the non-contextualised inventory (n = 193). Through the use of exploratory factory analysis (EFA) and Cronbach alpha coefficients the researcher matched the pattern of the contextualised inventory to the pattern of the non-contextualised inventory to the pattern of the non-contextualised inventory to the pattern of the non-contextualised inventory.
- Practical/managerial implications: The SAPI has been designed specifically for South Africa and has through research proved to be a valid, reliable measurement of personality. The instrument should assist South African organisations to foster and create a workforce measured by an instrument that is truly culturally unbiased. Personality types can be matched to specific positions as the instrument can be used for both selection as well as developmental purposes.
- Contribution/value-add: By expanding knowledge on the conceptualisation of the FOR effect on personality inventories this study added value to both the theoretical as well as practical aspects of the research on the SAPI. The study will contribute on a practical level by means of analysing the effect that FOR have on the construct validity and reliability to the SAPI specifically.
- Keywords: Contextualisation, Non-Contextualisation, Frame-of-Reference, Reliability Construct validity, Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)

INTRODUCTION

South Africa is a diverse country. It has 11 official languages (isiXhosa, isiZulu, Afrikaans, Tshivenda, isiNdebele, Sepedi, Setswana, Southern Sotho, siSwati and Xitsonga) and four cultural groupings, namely African, Indian, Coloured and White (Stats SA, 2014). The African population is further sub-categorised into Nguni, Sotho, Shangaan-Tsonga and Venda. Therefore, it is unsurprising that South Africa is referred to as the 'Rainbow Nation' (Bornman, 2010). Organisations face daily challenges with regard to managing diversity within the workplace. One of these challenges is conducting behavioural assessments within a richly diverse country (Foxcroft & Roodt, 2010).

For decades, personality researchers investigated and researched the use of personality inventories as a performance predictor of certain job functions (Barrick & Mount, 1991; Barrick, Mount & Judge, 2001; Bauer & Hammer, 2003; Hunthausen, Truxillo, Mount, Barrick & Stewart, 1998 Hough, 1992; Hurtz & Donovan, 2000, Salgado & Tauritz, 2012, Tett, Rothstein & Jackson, 1991 and Vinchur, Schippman & Switzer, 1998.). Due to the increase in the application of personality inventories during the prospective employees' selection processes, researchers started to investigate different techniques to increase the validity of personality inventories. One of these techniques investigated includes using Frame-of-Reference Consistency (FOR), to standardise the context within which respondents' complete personality inventories (Holtz, Ployhart, & Dominguez, 2005).

In previous studies, a substantial amount of attention was paid to predictive validity by adding FOR. In this study, FOR will be applied to the South African Personality Inventory (SAPI) and its effect on the construct validity will be tested. The SAPI project aims to create a South African personality inventory that will cater for a multi-lingual, multi-cultural South Africa. It is possible that various positions and the application of FOR might have different effects on the validation and application of context in inventories (Hunthausen *et al.*, 2003). For example, a customer services manager at a store should show high levels of extraversion, whereas an IT specialist might show low ratings of extraversion. This could leave the FOR effect open to interpretation, as the researcher might indicate that the 'in the workplace' tag had a negative effect on the construct extraversion.

By using SAPI and contextualising the inventory by adding the 'in the workplace' tag to each line item, the researcher will contribute to the SAPI project's corpus of data. These insights could add to the construct validity and findings in relation to the former nine-factor structure and the recently adapted six-factor structure. De Raad *et al.* (2008) noted that certain line items in a personality inventory require contextualisation. However, this is not relevant to all line items. When inventories are being contextualised, the construct validity will need to be tested. De Raad *et al.* (2008), further stated that, should the assumption indicate that all constructs in a personality questionnaire need to be contextualised, it could cause problems when creating new personality inventories. Since personality inventories are used for various purposes, respondents can apply any situation to statement to the inventory. As such, the statement remains open for interpretation. However, where FOR is applied to the inventory's line items, it provides context and all respondents complete the inventory with the same FOR (Bing, Whanger, Davidson, & Van Hook, 2004).

Personality inventories are used in a range of applications: from selection to developmental purposes. However, there is still some concern that respondents can fake personality inventories. A concern when using personality inventories in selection is that respondents might complete the inventory with the 'ideal candidate' in mind (McFarland, Ryan, & Ellis, 2002). Kunda & Sanitiosa (1989) suggest that an alleged desirability of possessing certain attributes influences a person's self-concept. Various situations determine how a person will react and behave and what personality traits will be exhibited. Different procedures have been advocated in order to minimise the effect of faking. Some of the suggested procedures include informing respondents of a lie scale (Doll, 1971), possible verification of answers (Lautenschlager, 1994) and randomisation of items (Anastasi, 1976).

When line items of different constructs are placed at random, respondent take longer to respond to the questions. The retrieval process takes longer than where line items are listed according to measured constructs. In the latter case, respondents should be able to answer more quickly since the memories and experiences have already been accessed cognitively (McFarland *et al.*, 2002). Cilliers (2015) recently conducted a study on randomised and block item sequencing within the SAPI. The author noticed minor differences and she concluded that whether the line items have been randomised or not, had no effect on the construct validity of the SAPI. A similar logic should apply to the contextualisation of inventories than the randomisation of line items in a personality inventory. When a FOR of 'in the workplace' is added to each line item across the personality inventory, the respondent would not need to rely on different memories and past experiences to answer the questions. The specific FOR should contextualise the respondent's response to the line items. This study focuses on contextualising the line items of the SAPI and validating to which extent construct validity affects a contextualised SAPI, versus that of a non-contextualised SAPI. This research will contribute to the SAPI Project and therefore has both practical and academic significance. The justification of this study was to investigate the effect of adding a specific FOR to the construct validity on the six-factor SAPI. Foxcroft & Roodt (2010) stated that, given South Africa's history, diversity and Employment Equity Act (No. 55 of 1998) regulations, the role and the effectiveness of psychometric assessments have a pivotal function when used within local organisations. South African legislation require, as specified in the Employment Equity Act (No. 55 of 1998), that psychological instruments must be culturally fair, valid and reliable before it can be utilised (Mahembe & Engelbrecht, 2014). Notably, it is personality researchers' responsibility to minimise bias, yet ensure that the construct validity and reliability of the inventory remains unchanged.

Research purpose and objectives

Many scholarly articles investigated and made reference to the use of FOR in personality inventories (see De Raad *et al.*2008., Holtz *et al.*, 2005, 2008; Lievens *et al.* and Schaffer & Postlethwaite, 2012). These scholarly articles refer to how FOR affects predictive validity (Reddock, Biderman, & Nguyen, 2011). In turn, the purpose of this research is to investigate and report on the effect that item contextualisation with a specific FOR has on the construct validity and reliability of the SAPI. The researcher selected this topic, as there is limited research on how contextualisation affects personality inventories' construct validity. As mentioned earlier, South Africa is a multi-cultural nation and South African legislation manages and mitigates assessments in the workplace. It is therefore important that all personality assessments developed by researchers are fair and non-biased.

Based on these arguments, the following research questions (RQ) were constructed:

- RQ1: How does literature conceptualise the contextualisation of personality inventories and the effect it has on the construct validity and reliability of the inventory?
- RQ2: What is the construct validity and reliability of the non-contextualised inventory after performing exploratory factor analysis (EFA)?
- RQ3: What is the construct validity and reliability of the contextualised inventory after performing exploratory factor analysis (EFA)?

• RQ4: What recommendations (research and practice) can be made for future use relating to the contextualisation of the SAPI?

The general objective, specific research objectives and the study's contributions will be outlined and reviewed in the next three sub-sections. Thereafter, the literature review will follow.

General objective

The overall objective of this research study was to determine whether a contextualised inventory has higher reliability and construct validity than that of a non-contextualised inventory.

Specific research objectives

- To conceptualise how FOR affects construct validity in the SAPI, in accordance to literature.
- To determine the construct validity of the SAPI by performing exploratory factor analysis (EFA) on a contextualised inventory.
- To determine the construct validity of the SAPI by performing EFA on a noncontextualised inventory.
- To make recommendations for future research and practice.

The potential value-add of the study

The results of this study will contribute to the overall SAPI research project on various levels. Firstly, it will contribute on an academic level by expanding overall knowledge on conceptualising the FOR effect on personality inventories. Secondly, on a practical level, it will help analyse the effect FOR has on SAPI's construct validity and reliability.

This research will potentially assist with future research on the effect contextualisation has on the construct validity of the SAPI, as well as the need for line item contextualisation. Although this study does not focus on whether or not contextualisation is needed, it may assist future researchers to identify and answer this question. South African legislation require, as specified in the Employment Equity Act (No. 55 of 1998), that psychological instruments must be culturally fair, valid and reliable before it can be utilised (Mahembe & Engelbrecht, 2014). With the limited available research on how FOR affects personality inventories' construct validity, De Raad *et al.* (2008) explained that contextualisation could profoundly influence the use and development of personality inventories within South Africa.

The next section of the study will focus on current literature relating to personality psychology and assessments. More specifically, it will investigate contextualised and non-contextualised inventories, as well as to which extent contextualisation influences an inventory's reliability and construct validity. This will be followed by a section on methodology that includes the research design, paradigm, procedures and statistical analysis used in the study. The results will be followed by a discussion that addresses the respective research questions. In conclusion, the limitations, recommendations and practical implications will be presented based on the research results.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Personality psychology

Traditionally, personality psychology was embedded in trait, situational and cognitiveaffective systems theory. Trait theorists suggest that a specific situation is not a key determiner in personality measurement (Steyer, Schmidt & Eid, 1999). However, Pervin (1994) suggest that there is consensus around the personality structure with specific reference to the 'Big Five', namely openness to experience, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness and neuroticism). Situational theory focuses on the argument that individuals' behaviour is influenced by the environment they find themselves in at that specific point in time (Mischel, 1968). Lastly, cognitive affective theory focuses on different dispositions inherent to a person that affect behaviour across various situations (Mischel & Shoda, 1995; Funder, 2007, and Wagerman & Funder, 2009).

According to Murtha, Kanfer & Ackerman (1996), trait and situational theorists have reached a contextual deadlock, as neither party can substantiate that its theory is better than the other. To try to resolve this deadlock, researchers have tried to incorporate these theories to a situational interaction. As such, they attempted to create three different personality taxonomies for responses, researchers used the similarity in kind of response, the similarity of the situation and the similarity of both the situation and the type of response.

In the past theorists, have also debated over the total number of personality traits and identifying the most common traits (Laher, 2008). According to Donnellan & Robins (2010), social psychology and personality tend to look at similar facets. Yet, linking these theories seems to fill researchers with apprehension. Areas such as emotion, self-esteem and relationship harmony are factors that link the two areas. However, the procedures, methods and assumptions ultimately differ from each other (Tracey, Robins & Sherman, 2009). This study is based on the conditional dispositions theory (Shaffer & Postlethwaite, 2012). This is linked to Wright & Mischel's (1987) notion that different personality traits present themselves at different times. As such, personality traits are being conditional to the situation in which individuals find themselves.

Personality assessments were used to investigate predictive, descriptive and explanatory personality structures (Asendorpf, Borkenau, Ostendorf & Van Aken, 2001) and were generally used to determine a candidate's organisational fit. However, the research focus has shifted to administrating personality inventories to determine career success and job fit (Seibert

& Kraimer, 2001). Organisations use competency models to determine career success and job fit. In turn, personality inventories have a supporting function to test for the required competencies for a specific position. Commonly used personality inventories, such as the 16PF and the NEO-PI, were developed and tested on Western populations and based on Western theories (Cheung, Cheung & Fan, 2013). The Big Five model was used to test the dimensions of agreeableness, extraversion, emotional stability, intellectual stability and conscientiousness (Goldberg, 1981).

Personality assessments in a South African context

Personality and performance in the workplace has been divided into task and contextual performance (Bornman & Motowidlo, 1993). According to Small & Diendendorf (2006), task performance assists a person to complete his/her job function, while contextual performance are activities that help enhance effectiveness, such as conscientiousness when completing a task at hand. Ability tests are used as predictors for task performance where personality inventories are utilised to predict contextual performance (McMannus & Kelly, 1999). The following sections will discuss the background to personality assessments and test fairness from a cross-cultural perspective. Thereafter, the researcher will discuss the contextualisation of inventories, validity and reliability.

Background

Bedell, Van Eeden and Van Staden (1999) stated, in South Africa, the testing of the African ethnic group developed into a more systematic and empirically orientated approach from 1920. During the 1940s and 1950s, there was a focus on the educability and trainability of South Africa's African cultural group. During these early years, researchers found that the cultural differences among respondents influenced the testing outcomes. During the 1970s and 1980s, researchers started recognising how culture affected testing results. Notably, researchers found that culture influences behaviour, which influences the constructs of the personality inventories used. Due to the Apartheid regime in South Africa, limited research was done from the 1960s to the to mid-1980s (Claasen, 1997 and Owen, 1992). According to Van de Vijver and Rothman (2004), in the 1980s, there was an interest in using cognitive tests for cross-cultural

comparisons. Meiring, Van de Vijver, Rothman and Barrick (2005) stated that, during this time, there was a greater focus on areas such as bias, fairness and discriminatory practices.

In more recent studies, researchers found that there are different influential factors to test development and use personality inventories. Some of these influences include social, political and economic conditions (Oakland 2004). In a study conducted on the use of psychometric inventories in South Africa, Patterson & Uys (2005) concluded that, even though not all inventories have been tested for cross-cultural applicability, administrators still make use of these tests. What is of concern is that if personality inventories fail to measure what they ought to measure, all results and conclusions from test results should be questioned (Wallis, 2004).

In South Africa, personality inventories are conducted on an on-going basis. In a study conducted by Valchev, Van de Fijver, Nel, Rothmann, Meiring & de Bruin (2011), it was concluded that personality could be conceptualised across different cultures. Cheung *et al.* (2013) stated that, although there is a need to measure personality in a multi-cultural setting, legislative requirements might stipulate non-discriminatory, culturally valid inventories.

As South Africa is characterised by multilingualism and cultural diversity, it is important to have a personality inventory that adheres to legislative requirements when assessing personality. Hambleton (1994) explains that due to the differences in such a diverse country, individuals across various cultures could interpret constructs such as linguistic context, cultural diversity, worldviews and traditions very differently. Foxcroft (2004) clarifies this concept by using the construct of intelligence as an example. Eastern cultures view intelligence as being reflective and thoughtful, while Western cultures view intelligence as the ability to provide swift responses and being sharp witted. Cross-cultural testing does not come without its challenges. As such, it is imperative to investigate how this influences personality, as well as whether race and gender might influence personality results (Costa, Terracciano, & McCrae, 2001). Hambleton, Swanepoel & Kruger (2011) takes this a step further by including the argument that individuals in South Africa might speak more than one official language. As such, they may be representing more than one cultural group, which could complicate the effect on constructs and personality testing.

It has been argued that the instruments imported to South Africa do not work well across the different language groups who mainly communicate in their native tongue (Hill *et al.*, 2013). These arguments and frustrations culminated the development of the SAPI, a South African personality inventory that caters for South Africa's different language and cultural groups.

Meiring (2007) explains that the Employment Equity Act of 1998 clearly indicates that South Africa needs an equitable personality inventory. The South African legislation requires personality measurements to be reliable, valid, unbiased and fair, and, as such, the SAPI was developed to fulfil these requirements (French, 2011).

Bedell *et al.* (1999) stated that the Employment Equity Act and the Professional Board of Psychology's policy place test developers under increased pressure to ensure fair practises when testing individuals. The development of the SAPI aimed to create a multi-cultural, emic personality inventory that can be used across all eleven official language groups in South Africa (Lotter, 2011). According to Van de Vijver & Leung (2001), construct equivalence has to be established before cross-cultural data can be compared. Thus, it is imperative to establish whether the characteristics being compared truly represent the different cultures being measured. The International Guideline for Test Use (ITC, 2001) states that, when multicultural respondents are being tested, the constructs must be meaningful to all cultural groups. In cross-cultural personality assessments, a notable methodological issue is whether personality structures can be compared across cultures (bias) and whether cross-cultural scores can be compared (equivalence) (Van de Vijver & Van Hemert, 2008).

Test fairness cross-culturally

Fairness relates to the equitable treatment of different minority groups when administering personality assessments and the interpretation and use of the results derived from the assessment. It further includes groups that consist of different ethnic origins, languages and ages, to name but a few (Huysamen, 2002). According to Cheung *et al.* (2013), personality traits were generally regarded as stable in nature with a biological base. Therefore, these traits could be applied consistently across cultures. However, the cultural variances were never considered. The fairness of a test reflects the philosophies and social values that underscore test use (Bedell *et al.*, 1999).

Personality inventories that are administered in South Africa are generally valid and reliable, but the application is mainly related to the group for which it was standardised (Owen, 1996). In the past, test developers focused on developing inventories for separate cultural and language groups (see Claasen, 1997; Foxcroft, 1997 and Meiring *et al.*, 2005). Patterson & Uys (2005) stated that the more test administrators became aware of the advantages of conducting

quality assessments, as well as the changes and improvements in inventory development ultimately lead to tests being implemented and applied fairly across cultures. Undeniably, internal and external influences affect the fairness of cross-cultural testing. Some of these influences include aspects such as language barriers, economic stance and educational levels. Not all the psychometric tests used in South Africa have been validated cross-culturally, which may affect the conclusions and inferences drawn from them.

Frame of reference and fakeability

Personality inventories are widely used with different applications varying from selection to developmental purposes. However, there remains some concern that respondents can fake personality inventories. One of the concerns relating to using personality inventories in selection is that applicants (respondents) will complete the inventory with the 'ideal candidate' in mind (McFarland, Ryan, & Ellis, 2002). Kunda & Sanitiosa (1989) suggest that a person's self-concept is influenced by an alleged desirability of having certain attributes. Various situations determine how a person will react and behave and which personality traits will be exhibited.

Different procedures have been advocated to minimise the effect of faking. Some of the suggested procedures include informing respondents of a lie scale (Doll, 1971); possible verification of answers (Lautenschlager, 1994); and randomisation of items (Anastasi, 1976). When line items of different constructs are placed randomly, the respondent takes longer to respond to the questions. In this instance, the retrieval process takes longer, as opposed to where line items are listed according to constructs being measured. In the latter instance, respondents should be able to answer more quickly, since memories and experiences have already been accessed cognitively (McFarland *et al.* 2002).

The same logic should be applicable to the FOR effect than with the randomisation of line items in a personality inventory. When a FOR is added across the personality inventory, the respondent would not need to rely on different memories and past experiences to answer the questions. Notably, the FOR should provide respondents with a context in which they should respond to the line items.

Often – especially in a self-report inventory – respondents tend to portray themselves more favourably, which is referred to as social desirability (Taylor, 2004). Notably, social

desirability differs from fakeability in that the person does not intentionally portray him/herself more favourably to be considered for a specific position (Lanyon & Goldstein, 1997). Since personality inventories are used for various purposes such as selection and development, respondents can apply any situation to the question being asked in the inventory. As such, the question is left open for interpretation. However, where FOR is applied to the inventory's line items, context is being provided and therefore respondents complete the inventory with the same FOR (Bing, Whanger, Davidson & Van Hook, 2004).

Contextualisation of personality assessments

With the increased use of personality inventories in the selection process of prospective employees, different techniques have been investigated to bolster validity. One of the techniques identified was the use of FOR (Holtz, Ployhart, & Dominguez, 2005). Funder (2010) stated that, although personality is mainly assessed through self-reporting, it is important that data be collected through a standardised situation.

The *Oxford Dictionary* (2010) defines context as the "circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement or idea". Personality inventories are generally developed and structured for individuals to indicate general behaviour, emotions and attitudes in a questionnaire that adds no context to the questions (Robie *et al.*, 2000). When a respondent answers line items in a personality inventory, depending on the question, s/he accesses past experiences, memories, behaviours and feelings from various life stages (McFarland, Ryan, & Ellis, 2002 and Lievens, De Corte & Schollaert, 2008). Respondents tend to present inaccurate self-images, as they rate their self-perceptions differently depending on the situation (Kunda & Sanitioso, 1989) and because they are tested for selection purposes (Schmit *et al.*, 1995). Roberts & Donahue (1994) also found that, depending on the situation, people have different views of themselves and as personality inventories are a form of self-presentation, their responses may vary according to the type of self they would like to portray (Schmit *et al.*, 1995 and Small & Diedendorf, 2006).

In a meta-analytic investigation, Shaffer & Postlethwaite (2012), noted that there are two independent dimensions for personality inventories namely FOR, thus, contextualised and non-contextualised inventories and developmental inventories. In other words, general personality inventories versus workplace-specific inventories. For example, inventories that were specifically designed for general use have been used to conduct validity studies and subsequently changed to indicate a work-related FOR.

Small & Diendendorf (2006) stated that by adding a work-related FOR to a personality inventory's line items, the participant is asked to describe his/her personality at work. Conducting a personality inventory without contextualisation might present a problem with regard to the inventory's predictive validity. According to the self-presentation theory, inventories without a specific context may affect the accuracy of a respondent's self-presentation, as s/he may use the incorrect FOR when answering the line item (Hogan, 1991).

The theory of personality-item response indicates that there is considerable evidence to support using line items with a work-related context (Schmit *et al.*, 1995). Holtz *et al.* (2004) followed a 'justice framework' approach to investigate multiple ways to improve the use of personality inventories. The well-known NEO – five-factor inventory was used. By using N = 345, the administered inventory was changed by adding a work-based FOR. The results showed the inventory to have inconsistent responses. There was a change in relation to the applicant's job-related perceptions. It appears that respondents adjusted their responses when context was added to the inventory.

Notably, the contextualisation of line items increase predictive validity with regard to certain constructs such as conscientiousness and emotional stability (see Barrick & Mount, 1991 and Tett, Jackson & Rothstein, 1991). However, how does contextualisation affect the construct validity of an inventory? De Raad *et al.*, 2008 state that certain line items in a personality inventory need contextualisation. However, this is not relevant to all line items. The authors state that, when one assumes that all constructs in a personality questionnaire requires FOR, it might cause problems when creating new personality inventories. Schmit *et al.*, (1995) state that item content manipulation could have psychometric implications. The authors explain that a multi-factor inventory could be changed to a one-factor inventory, which could result in questionable scale integrity.

Participants often comment that the answer to a specific construct depends on the situation (De Raad, Sullot & Barends, 2008). Lievens, De Corte & Schollaert (2008) propose adding context to the inventory to help participants formulate a FOR to render results that are more accurate.

Researchers started to investigate contextualised inventories to improve personality inventories' criterion validity. The relationship between personality and predictive validity has been researched extensively (see Barrick & Mount, 1991; Tett, Jackson, & Rothstein, 1991; Salgado, 1998 and Hurtz & Donovan, 2000). These researchers conducted a meta-analysis to determine which constructs display a correlation of nonzero to job performance (Small &

Diedendorf 2006). According to Hogan & Holland (2003), a theory linking performance and assessment, based on individual differences and effectiveness at work, would increase predictive validity. A study conducted by Shaffer & Postlethwaite (2012) found that the criterion validity of the contextualised inventory was higher than that of a non-contextualised inventory.

By adding context to the line items of a personality inventory, the participant will only retrieve relevant experiences that will increase the construct validity of the inventory. Lievens *et al.* (2008) explain that when respondents' complete personality inventories with generic line items, some will answer the line items with a specific FOR in mind, while others use a different FOR across all the items. Alker (1972) explain that it is possible for an individual to answer different line item options with different circumstances as FOR. Pace & Brannick (2010) explained this phenomenon by stating that a person's work environment could possibly be substantially different to the same person's recreational or home environment, which might influence one's persona and their responses to the personality inventory.

In the critical appraisal of the Five Factor Model, McAdams (1992), states that adding context seems to be important for better understanding, making provision of a more detailed description and to assist with an accurate prediction. Bing *et al.*, (2004) explains that FOR line items can be clarified and might reduce error in measurement. Notably, respondents do not answer all line items with different context specificity. In addition, the line items that actually showed differences in the context specificity did not necessarily display errors in the variances (Robie *et al.*, 2000). The purpose of adding a FOR is to ensure consistency relating to a relevant situation, as opposed to showing responses across different situations (Holtrop, Born, De Vries & De Vries, 2014). According to Robie *et al.* (2000), people tend to display consistent behaviour in similar situations. As such, personality researchers should research FOR and the specific types of this approach before implementing it in any inventory.

Methods of inventory contextualisation

A personality inventory is contextualised when a specific context is applied to each line item within the inventory. Gilliland (1993) states that adding FOR to an inventory helps improve the respondent's reaction, as the line item help the respondent relate to a specific situation that will increase the overall perception of fairness. Three methods are commonly applied when

contextualising inventories. The first method is that of instructional contextualisation, the second is tagged contextualisation and the third is complete contextualisation (Holtrop *et al.*, 2014)

With instructional contextualisation, a group of participants are being instructed to think of a specific situation when completing a personality inventory, such as their work environment. This method is commonly applied to South African organisations (Holtrop *et al.*, 2014). The typical approach is that before starting the process, the administrator will instruct participants on how to complete the inventory. Hereafter, the administrator will inform participants to consider how they would typically behave in a work environment when answering the line items (Holtrop *et al.*, 2014).

With tagged contextualisation, a line item merely receives an additional tag, such as 'in the workplace'. For example, the line item 'I pray for others' is tagged to read 'I pray for others in the workplace'. According to Holtrop *et al.* (2014) the tagged contextualisation method is used most often. This adds to the researchers' findings that a tagged inventory better supports the current research than that of instructional contextualisation. Contrary to Gilliland (1993) who found that participants prefer tagged inventories, Holtrop *et al.* (2014) found that respondents who participated in their study preferred generic to tagged inventories. Some reasons for respondents disliking tagged items, as suggested by Holtrop *et al.* (2014), included that tagged line items seemed artificial, was boring to complete and some respondents felt that it restricted their response options. Pace & Brannick (2010) measured the predictive validity of a work-specific FOR to the construct openness to experiment against the same construct, by using generic line items. The authors found that contextualised items perform better than merely instructional inventories.

With complete contextualisation, a line item is changed and redesigned completely to match a specific context. For example, 'I pray for others' gets redesigned to read 'I pray for the people that work with me'. According to Lievens *et al.* (2008), a personality inventory's line items should be adapted to a completely contextualised item, as opposed to a mere tag. In their study, Holtrop *et al.* (2014) found that complete contextualisation has a greater FOR effect than tagged inventories.

Even though the tagged approach seems appropriate when adding FOR to various line items, evidence in research conducted by de Raad *et al.* 2008 shows that it is better to follow a complete contextualised approach. However, this approach is more time consuming and

requires considerable input and research to ensure that validity remains intact (De Raad *et al.* 2008).

Validity and Reliability

Criterion, content and construct validity are the three areas of validity that researchers focus on (Maree, 2012 and Cronbach & Meehl, 1955). According to Laher (2010), for psychometric inventories to be reliable, valid and fair, it is important to determine the construct validity, reliability and internal consistency. Where a new psychometric instrument is being developed, different scale techniques can be used to determine the construct validity of studies. It is important to validate inventories, as these validation studies underline the credibility of inventories measuring different constructs (Hopwood & Donnellan, 2010).

Construct validity and reliability

Where constructs measure differently across cultures, specifically with a non-standardised inventory, the use of cross-cultural tests can be discriminatory (Van der Vijver & Rothman, 2004). The test developer is responsible for ensuring that the same constructs are being measured cross-culturally, as well as across various language groups (Patterson & Uys, 2005). Huysamen (2002) states that psychometric theories such as fairness, bias, reliability and validity evolve and change as test theories develop. Retief (1988) supported this and stated that personality tests hardly ever retain their reliability, as validity is affected when it is applied across different cultures.

As this research aims to add the context of 'in the workplace' to each line item of the SAPI, it is important to note the statement made by Bredell *et al.* (1999). According to the authors, changing the wording of a line item can affect a personality inventory's construct validity, as well as the predictive and score validity.

According to Maree (2007), construct validity is to ensure standardisation and to test to which extent the constructs are covered by the inventory used. In a study by Worthington & Whittaker (2006) the authors state that EFA, confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) and structural equation modelling (SEM) can be used as scale techniques. Hopwood & Donnellan (2010) explain that if CFA is performed first, the inventory often shows low measures of validity. As such, they

recommended that researchers use different scale techniques (Hopwood & Donnellan, 2010). The CFA is used to test for convergent of discriminant validity. Convergent validity focuses on to which extent multiple methods of measuring a variable will render a similar result, while discriminant validity focuses on to which extent different latent variables are unique (O'Leary-Kelly & Vokurka, 1998). The researcher aims to attain convergent validity, as it will indicate greater construct validity for the SAPI.

When developing a new inventory, the researcher must adhere to the following steps: establishing exactly what it is that needs to be measured; compiling items and grouping these items according to the constructs being measured; and determining the measurement format. Furthermore, the item groupings need to be reviewed by experts; validation items need to be considered for inclusion; the researcher must pilot the items to a group of respondents; the results of the pilot must be assessed; and the length of the inventory must be optimised (Worthington & Whittaker, 2006). As mentioned earlier, criterion validity (predictive validity) has been researched over the years to test job- person fit in organisations.

O'Leary-Kelly & Vokurka (1998) describe construct validity as a process consisting of multiple facets. It is explained that the first step aims to identify a group of items that has to be measured. The second step involves a process where the researcher has to establish to which degree the items measure the construct. The last step aims to determine to what extent the construct relates to others. Researchers generally agree that when describing personality, there should be a minimum of five factors, commonly known as the 'Big Five'. Goldberg (1992) and Schmit *et al.* (1995) raised concern that the contextualisation of an inventory might affect factors. However, after performing a series of factor analyses, it was found that including the 'at work' context influences neither the structure nor the psychometric properties.

As South Africa is characterised by cultural and language differences, the question needs to be asked, whether adding FOR would influence the reliability and validity of respondents' scores.

The FOR effect takes place when the way respondents respond to personality scales, and how the validity of the scales are affected by adding a specific context to the line items (Shaffer & Postlethwaite, 2012). Lievens *et al.* (2008) provide two explanations for the FOR effect. The first is the 'traditional' explanation, while the second is the 'alternative' explanation. The traditional explanation of the FOR is that, when answering the inventory, that the between-

person difference is reduced since all the respondents have the same reference in mind when completing the inventory. It is explained that the traditional approach is 'person-centred', as the inventory results are grouped according to individuals' scores. Furthermore, the assumption has been made that between-person variability raises the reliability of inventories with a FOR, which, in turn, leads to an increase in validity.

The alternative explanation, as indicated by Lievens *et al.* (2008), is that the between-person variability and within-person inconsistency is reduced when a FOR is introduced in an inventory. The alternative explanation assumes that the criterion-related validity will increase, since the FOR will be applied consistently across the inventory, i.e. using the correct FOR while completing the inventory.

Heller, Watson, Komar, Min & Perunovic (2007) state that the effect of FOR could cause challenges in the validity of personality studies, as inventories that are designed to assess non-contextualised personality might not have the same validity for contextualised, behaviour specific outcomes. There is limited research that compares the validity of contextualised and non-contextualised inventories and the research conducted has mainly been on students (see Bing *et al.* 2004; Lievens *et al.*, 2008 and Robie *et al.*, 1995). Notably, these studies mainly focused on its effect on predictive rather than on construct validity. Lievens *et al.*, (2008) states that contextualised inventories show higher levels of internal reliability than non-contextualised inventories. Again, a reason for this is that respondents refer to different situations when answering a generic, non-contextualised personality inventory.

Table 1 provides a summary of previous research conducted on contextualised and noncontextualised inventories and its effect on reliability, derived from Schaffer & Postlethwaite (2012).

	TABLE 1:	FOR	effect or	reliability
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Researcher	Content of the study	Contextualised inventory	Non- contextualised inventory
Schmit <i>et al.</i> , (1995)	Testing four of the Big Five traits (excluding openness)	Lower error variance	Higher error variance
Robie <i>et al.</i> , (2000)	Testing facet level measures of conscientiousness	Lower error variance	Higher error variance
Lievens <i>et al.</i> , (2008)	Testing all Big Five traits	Lower error variance	Higher error variance
Source: Schaffer & Po	stlethwaite 2012		

Table 1 on the FOR effect on reliability highlights that more research needs to be conducted in this field. However, at this point, evidence seems to support the view that contextualised inventories may have a higher validity because the internal reliability measures are higher.

From this literature review, it is clear that the conditional dispositions theory may present problems when measuring personality, as test takes might interpret the line items of noncontextualised inventories differently (Lievens et al., 2004). Both multilingual and crosscultural testing, and the challenges thereof, was discussed briefly. The research indicated that South Africa has grown in terms of personality testing, not only among all cultural groups, but also in recognising that personality testing should be conducted fairly, as stated in the Employment Equity Act. Personality inventories are used interchangeably in South Africa, regardless of whether they are suitable. Another interesting finding was that of Swanepoel and Kruger (2011), who stated that one individual might represent more than one cultural and linguistic group in South Africa. Notably, personality researchers need to take cognisance of this. Measuring personality across different cultures is already a challenge in itself. Adding different dimensions, such as using inventory, a general or work-specific context and adding contextualisation brings about more challenges for personality researchers.

It is also evident that researchers spent considerable time on researching the effect of FOR on predictive validity. However, more research is required to establish how tagging and complete contextualisation affects an inventory's construct validity. A lot still needs to be done in terms of personality testing, as well as with regard to developing a valid, reliable measure across different groups. Notably, the SAPI aims to do just this.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The study followed a quantitative, positivist paradigm for the research problem, as this paradigm explains that true events can be observed and explained through logical statistical analysis. In other words, social phenomena can be investigated or researched from an objective truth (Leitch, Hill & Harrison, 2010). Research designs and methods provide different ways to gather and analyse data (Saunders, Lewis, & Thornhill, 2012). It is described as a plan to address research questions. Struwig & Stead (2007) describe quantitative studies as a structured research process that includes large representative samples and data collection procedures.

The research design followed Mouton's (1996) instructions and guidelines in measuring the construct validity of SAPI's contextualised and non-contextualised inventories. Hopkins (2008), explains that, when conducting quantitative research, the design can either be descriptive or experimental. This study will be descriptive, as the subjects will only be measured once and furthermore, there will be a specific focus on establishing associations between variables.

The aim of this study is to explore how FOR affects the construct validity of SAPI. Literature suggest that adding FOR to personality inventories increases construct and criterion validity specifically relating to selection purposes (Robie, Schmit, Ryan, & Zickar, 2000 and Van der Merwe, 2005). Construct validity is a measurement used to ensure that the inventory is measuing what it was set out to measure. Trochim & Donnelly (2007:58) refer to construct validity as 'pattern matching'. This implies that the researcher matches observed pattern with the theoretical pattern when measuring construct validity. For the purpose of this study, the researcher will therefore match the pattern of the contextualised inventory to the pattern of the non-contextuallised inventory.

Additionally the researcher followed a cross-sectional developmental design. Cross-sectional research focusses on a single point in time (Welman *et al.*, 2012 and Du Plooy, 2002). These studies help provide the researcher with information when s/he investigates a point in time and data collection is also established at a certain point in time (Salkind, 2009). As this design is not geographically bound, the researcher was able to get participants to complete the survey in different regions of South Africa. An advantage of conducting a cross-sectional design is that it is easy to administer, inexpensive and not as time consuming as other possible methods (Welman *et al.*, 2012).

Research paradigm and approach

Maree (2012) describes a research paradigm as the filter or principles through which one can interpret true reality. In addition, the author states that these paradigms include aspects of a worldview, such as belief systems and fundamental principles. When selecting a paradigm, Mills, Bonner & Francis (2006) suggest that researchers choose a paradigm that is consistent with their own beliefs about reality. According to Creswell & Plano (2007), some of the most popular paradigms include post-positivism, pragmatism, constructivism and advocacy.

When considering an applicable research paradigm, Wahyuni (2012) states that the following aspects should be considered: a) ontology (type of reality), b) epistemology (what is seen as acceptable knowledge), c) axiology (values of the researcher) and d) research methodology.

The study used a positivist paradigm for the research problem, as it explains that true events can be observed and explained through logical, statistical analysis. In other words, social phenomena can be investigated or researched from an objective truth (Leitch, Hill & Harrison, 2010).

Positivism can be described as a scientific method and is based on rationalistic, empiricist philosophies (Maree, 2012). As the primary data will be gathered via a developed personality inventory, the researcher will need to interpret the obtained data using a scientific perspective.

Ontologically, the positivism paradigm establishes causal and statistical relationships. Therefore, the processes and procedures will be transparent, so that the study can be replicated in future. Epistemologically, it mirrors beliefs of objective realities (Maree, 2012). For example, it is assumed that all respondents understand different line items in the SAPI the same way. At an axiological level, the positivist paradigm will be judged by the generalisation capability of results to the wider population. Therefore, the inquiry strategy and research design was adapted to a positivist philosophical approach. Wildemuth & Barbara (1993) state that the positivist approach is associated with quantitative confirmatory studies. As such, it would suit the purpose of this study.

Research strategy

Two surveys were administered to test the effect of FOR on SAPI. The first survey consisted of non-contextualised line items and the second inventory was contextualised with an 'in the workplace' tag. The surveys were administered electronically, as this is indicated to be a more convenient approach to reaching a wider audience across an organisation. According to Cook, Heath & Thompson (2000), it is widely recognised that there is a continuous increase in the use of the Internet, with the number of users doubling annually (Cobangoglu, Warde & Moreo, 2001). During the 1990s, the Internet was introduced as a way of administering surveys to participants (Cook *et al.*, 2000). Some benefits of computer-based surveys include relatively limited costs, the ability to reach a wide target population in different geographical locations and that technology is easy to use. According to Sills & Song (2002), disadvantages include bias, non-response or various demographic factors, such as race and gender.

To ensure that this study was conducted successfully, it was decided that a computer-based administration method would be the most appropriate option. Due to the nature of its business, the organisation has a wide geographical scope. Therefore, it would be more beneficial for employees to complete the survey when they are not pressured for time. Qualtrix, the web-based system that was used to collect data, was populated with the contextualised and non-contextualised versions of the survey. Respondents were sent a link, at which point the system randomised the surveys between users. The participants were asked to complete an inventory with two different scenarios. The one questionnaire was non-contextualised while the other questionnaire had a FOR (in the workplace) listed after each line item.

Sampling

In order to select a diverse sample across different geographical locations in South Africa, the researcher selected a large retailer that operates in all nine provinces of South Africa. Although the retail chain has stores in all provinces, operating offices are only located in five of the nine provinces, namely KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, the Western Cape, Free State and the Eastern Cape.

For this study, a convenience sampling technique was used to obtain participants. It is not as time consuming, costly and labour intensive but the downside to this is that it could lead to poor data quality. The study focused on non-proportional sampling, as the actual proportion of the population was not important for the purpose of this study. Shortly after compiling the sampling plan, the researcher attained ethical clearance from the retailer, as well as from the University of Pretoria (UP) in order to commence with the study. Written permission was received from respondents and the sample size was determined. A sample size of 400 (N = 400) respondents was identified, regardless of their gender or ethnicity, as this was not an important factor in conducting this research.

The population group consisted of both males and females from different ethnic backgrounds and language groups that work in the various regions of the retailer across South Africa. The respondents are office based or work in stores and perform job functions at administrative, junior management and senior management levels.

The Qualtrix computer-based system created a link that was emailed to the participants, which they then selected in order to complete the online survey. The system randomly allocated different surveys to each participant and the sample size ultimately consisted of N = 338. Table 2 provides a summary of the data.

		Frequen	Percentage
		cy	
Valid	Non-Contextualised	193	57.1
	Contextualised	144	42.6
	Total	337	99.7
Missing	System	1	.3
Total		338	100.0

TABLE 2: Characteristics of participants (non-contextualised vs. contextualised) (N=338)

The data from Table 3 below highlights that more (55.7%) female respondents completed the non-contextualised inventory than the contextualised inventory (44.3%). The majority of the respondents were White (63.6%), while Indian respondents were in the minority (7.4%). Coloured respondents (16.1%) and African respondents (12.7%) also had a lower level of representation in the study. The majority of the respondents who completed the non-contextualised inventory equally possessed either a Grade 12 (13%) or a Diploma (13%), with the lowest qualification being Grade 9 (0.6%). In the case of the contextualised inventory, the majority of respondents possessed a Grade 12 (12%), with the highest educational level being

a Master's degree (3.4%) and the lowest Grade 12, respectively. The most representative language in the study is English (55.5%), followed by Afrikaans (31.2%) and isiXhosa at 3.0%. The ability to read English ranged from good (18.5%) to very good (79.87%), while five respondents indicated that their reading ability is poor (0.6%) and very poor (0.9%).

		Non- contextualised	Percenta ge	Contextualised	Percenta ge	Total
Gende	Male	71	55.0%	58	45.0%	129
r	Female	108	55.7%	86	44.3%	194
Total		179	55.4%	144	44.6%	323
Race	White	113	55.1%	92	44.9%	205
	African	20	48.8%	21	51.2%	41
	Indian	17	70.8%	7	29.2%	24
	Coloured	28	53.8%	24	46.2%	52
Total		178	55.3%	144	44.7%	322
Educatio	Grade 9	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	2
n	Grade 12	42	51.9%	39	48.1%	81
	Certificat	10	41.7%	14	58.3%	24
	e					
	Diploma	42	57.5%	31	42.5%	73
	Bachelor'	34	57.6%	25	42.4%	59
	S					
	Honours	35	64.8%	19	35.2%	54
	Master's	12	52.2%	11	47.8%	23
	Other	2	28.6%	5	71.4%	7
Total		179	55.4%	144	44.6%	323
Language	e Afrikaan s	50	49.0%	52	51.0%	102
	English	112	61.9%	69	38.1%	181
	isiNdebel	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	2
	e					
	isiXhosa	2	20.0%	8	80.0%	10
	isiZulu	2	22.2%	7	77.8%	9
	Sepedi	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1
	Sesotho	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	3
	Setswana	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	7
	Siswati	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1
	Tshivend	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1
	a					
	Xitsonga	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	5
	Other	2	20.0%	2	50.0%	4
Total		182	55.8%	144	44.2%	326
Literac	Very Poor	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	3
у	Poor	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	2
	Good	30	50.0%	30	50.0%	60

TABLE 3: Total demographical information of participants (N = 338)

	Very Good	148	57.4%	110	42.6%	258
Total		179	55.4%	144	44.6%	323

Research procedure and ethical consideration

The researcher made use of primary data to conduct the study. In order for the researcher to approach the organisation's employees, authorisation was obtained from its Human Resources (HR) Director. In addition, prior to data collection, ethical clearance was obtained from the Ethical Committee of the University of Pretoria. A letter was sent via email to employees, inviting them to participate in the study. The data was collected via an online survey approach. This method included links to email accounts that were sent out and followed an online completion of questionnaires. From the 400 emails sent out, only 338 responded and were deemed usable for analysis (84.5.9% response rate).

Noting the importance of an ethical approach, the respondents were asked to give consent to participate in the research by selecting a tick box stating that they agree. The letter of consent informed respondents of their rights as participants, such as confidentiality, the right to withdraw from the process and anonymity. The ethical consideration was used as a guideline to using and interpreting results (Foxcroft & Roodt, 2009), as well the way the research was conducted to prevent participants from being harmed (Orb, Eisenhauer, & Wynaden, 2000).

The ethical guidelines used and followed in this study are addressed and discussed briefly below:

- Informed consent: According to Flick, Von Kardoff & Steineke (2004), this is the most important ethical principle prior to conducting research. Participants must know their rights and give consent to participate in the research study. Electronic consent was received from all participants who completed the online survey. APPENDIX B provides an example of the informed consent forms.
- **Confidentiality:** Participants have the right to confidentiality and anonymity (Whiting, 2008) and no information is to be used for any purposes other than that of the research.

• Voluntary participation: Each respondent was informed that participation in this research is completely voluntarily, a principle that is supported by Leedy & Ormond (2013) and Shaw (2003).

Statistical analysis

The statistical analysis was conducted by using IBM SPSS (SPSS Inc., 2003). Descriptive statistics, factor analysis and Cronbach's alpha coefficient analysis was done. These analyses aimed to determine which of the inventories showed the highest construct validity and reliability. The data distribution data was analysed though standard deviation, mean, skewness and kurtosis for both the contextualised and non-contextualised inventories.

De Bruin (2009) developed a step-by-step SAPI analysis manual that was used to analyse the data statistically. As part of the data analysis, the criteria for extracting the factors and the method for rotation used will be described and explained in detail in the following sections. A table of the rotated factor loadings will be created and values above the criterion value will be indicated. Both the percentage of variance and the eigenvalue will be highlighted. Field (2009) recommends including a table of correlation and sample size.

The three steps followed to conduct the factor analysis included assessing the suitability of the data, factor extraction and factor rotation and interpretation (Pallant, 2013). As this study investigates whether adding FOR influences the constructs currently being measured, factor analysis provides the researcher with the needed information.

Step 1: Descriptive analysis

Descriptive statistics was used to summarise, analyse and explore the assumptions underlying the data analysis. The data quality is determined by calculating and including exclusions on the mean, standard deviation, skewness >2 and kurtosis >4 (DeCarlo, 1997).

Step 2: Factor analysis

Factor analysis was used to measure the latent variables, to understand the structure of a set of variables, and to ensure that the questions asked related to the construct being measured (Field

2009). The two possible approaches to factor analysis are exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis. In a study conducted by Worthington & Whittaker (2006), the authors state that EFA, CFA and SEM can be used as scale techniques. According to Pallant (2013), CFA is a sophisticated technique that researchers use to confirm specific theories or hypotheses of a structure that is fundamental to a set of variables. EFA is used to study the interrelationship between variables (Pallant, 2013).

For the purpose of this study, EFA was chosen as the analytical method to determine the factors within the constructs, as well as to investigate the statistical characteristics of these factors (Murphy & Davidshofer, 2005). Salgado & Moscoso (2003) explain that both the contextualised and non-contextualised inventories will only be seen as equivalent if there are equal underlying factors amounting to the same proportionate variances between the results.

Factor and item analysis needs to be performed to determine construct validity, (Maree, 2012) and thereafter the EFA. Maree (2012) explains that the reason for factor analysis is to determine which line items should be grouped together to measure similar factors. To identify loadings and communalities, principle component analysis (PCA) was performed. By using the PCA extraction method, the total number of factors for extraction was determined. Eigenvalues >1, as well as the Scree plot were analysed to indicate the factors (Maree, 2010 and Muca, Puka, Bani & Shahu, 2013). After the six factors were identified, the maximum likelihood (ML) extraction method was used to compare the model fit. Oblimin rotation methods were used for further interpretation, as correlations were found between factors. Thereafter, the pattern matrix was used to determine which factors were loaded inaccurately or double. The goodness-of-fit was applied to confirm communalities between the constructs. Commonalities aim to determine whether an item is a strong, reliable measure of the relevant factor. Hair, Black, Babin, Anderson & Tathum (2006) explain communalities as the total variances that a variable share inclusive of all other variables within the analysis. Larger communalities indicate higher quality measures. For the purpose of this study, it was decided to disregard coefficients below 0.20, as these coefficients generally indicate poor factorial congruence.

Step 3: Internal reliability analysis

Reliability had to be tested so that the researcher could indicate to which degree the scale is free from random error. According to Pallant (2013), test-retest reliability and internal

consistency are two of the most frequently used indicators of a scale's reliability. In order to measure internal reliability, the most commonly used coefficient is that of Cronbach's coefficient alpha α as the coefficient of reliability.

Pallant (2013:6) describes internal reliability as "...the degree to which the items that make up the scale are all measuring the same underlying attribute". Almehrizi (2013) also describes it as the most commonly used coefficient to measure internal reliability. According to Lumpur, Maizura, Masilamani & Aris (2009), the α coefficient ranges from 0 to 1. A high α value represents a more reliable scale and is recommended by Nunnally (1978) to be at a minimum level of .7.

RESULTS

The following section outlines the study's results. This section is structured in such a manner to first report on the descriptive results on the non-contextualised inventory. This will be followed by the results of the individualised contextualised inventory. Thereafter, during the exploratory factor analysis, a comparison between both inventories will be made, as well as when presenting the results of the reliability of the respective constructs.

Descriptive statistics

Non-contextualised inventory

TABLE 4: Descriptive statistics for the non-contextualised SAPI

Item	Mean	Std Deviation	Skewness	Kurtosis
C_C_Achiev01_1	3.88	.891	-1.155	1.786
C_C_Achiev04_1	4.25	.669	765	1.038
C_C_Achiev05_1	4.17	.647	950	2.402
C_C_Achiev06_1	4.24	.604	606	1.362
C_C_Achiev08_1	4.18	.696	704	.882
C_C_Achiev09_1	4.47	.663	-1.262	1.999
C_C_Achiev10_1	4.32	.552	060	619
C_C_Order02_1	4.19	.689	648	.587
C_C_Order08_1	4.12	.629	307	.162
C_C_Order09_1	4.33	.599	359	486
C_INTEG_Integ05_1	4.34	.644	-1.219	<u>4.135</u>
EX_EX_Play04_1	3.78	.839	395	.326
EX_EX_Play05_1	4.15	.646	152	630
EX_EX_Play06_1	3.08	.975	040	335
EX_EX_Sociab02_1	3.47	.996	217	565
EX_EX_Sociab04_1	3.92	.719	482	.453

EX_EX_Sociab06_1	3.60	.953	313	434
IO_INTEL_Intel04_1	4.37	.540	520	1.251
IO_O_Epist01_1	4.50	.580	783	209
IO_O_Epist03_1	4.43	.527	361	495
IO_O_Epist07_1	4.49	.573	671	410
IO_O_Epist08_1	4.39	.538	146	772
N_ES_Negat02_1	2.93	1.076	.090	526
N_ES_Negat03_1	2.82	1.117	.168	689
N_ES_Negat04_1	3.53	.975	288	239
N_ES_Negat09_1	2.98	1.019	.294	360
SRNeg_INTEG_Deceit03_1	1.62	.690	1.017	1.134
SRNeg_SH_HostEg01_1	1.88	.797	1.447	3.626
SRNeg_SH_HostEg04_1	2.45	.891	.437	.242
SRNeg_SH_HostEg07_1	1.57	.585	1.220	3.485
SRNeg_SH_HostEg09_1	1.68	.829	1.228	1.328
SRNeg_SH_HostEg11_1	1.69	.773	1.464	3.419
SRPos_FC_Facil01_1	4.16	.621	504	.966
SRPos_FC_Facil02_1	3.97	.614	300	.740
SRPos_FC_Facil03_1	4.22	.584	392	.751
SRPos_FC_Facil04_1	3.61	.655	.183	030
SRPos_FC_Facil05_1	4.09	.577	457	1.674
SRPos_FC_Facil06_1	3.81	.703	.016	311
SRPos_FC_Facil09_1	3.88	.764	348	026
SRPos_RH_IntRel09_1	3.97	.608	817	2.409
SRPos_SH_WarmH10_1	3.97	.488	040	1.283

Table 4 includes the means, standard deviations, skewness and kurtosis of the 41 items used. When analysing each item's skewness and kurtosis values, Table 4 shows that only one item was not distributed normally. This item showed a kurtosis > 4.00. As a result, this item was excluded from further data analysis. All other items showed a skewness < 2.00 and a kurtosis of < 4.00 and will therefore be included in further analysis. Of the initial 41 items, 40 items were retained after this process. When looking at the mean scores of the non-contextualised personality inventory, it was found that it had an average mean of 3.63. This indicates that with most items, the test-takers tended to choose the 'agree' or 'strongly agree' option. This is an indication that most items had a positive response rate.

Exploratory factor analysis

Factor	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	10.060	24.537	24.537
2	3.108	7.581	32.117
3	2.594	6.326	38.443
4	2,224	5.423	43.867
5	1.875	4.574	48.441
6	1.649	4.021	52.462
7	1.569	3.827	56.288
8	1.236	3.016	59.304
9	1.080	2.634	61.938
10	.990	2.415	64.353
11	.937	2.286	66.639

TABLE 5: Eigenvalues and Total Variance explained of the non-contextualised SAPI

12	.875	2.133	68.772
13	.854	2.084	70.856
14	.791	1.929	72.785
15	.744	1.814	74.599
16	.731	1.784	76.383
17	.704	1.716	78.100
18	.677	1.651	79.750
19	.659	1.608	81.358
20	.617	1.506	82.864
21	.592	1.443	84.306
22	.555	1.353	85.659
23	.526	1.283	86.942
24	.510	1.245	88.187
25	.468	1.143	89.329
26	.432	1.055	90.384
27	.403	.982	91.366
28	.387	.945	92.311
29	.367	.895	93.206
30	.344	.838	94.044
31	.323	.788	94.832
32	.298	.727	95.559
33	.267	.650	96.209
34	.263	.642	96.851
35	.246	.600	97.451
36	.224	.545	97.996
37	.195	.477	98.473
38	.186	.453	98.926
39	.160	.391	99.317
40	.154	.377	99.694
41	.125	.306	100.000

Table 5 includes the eigenvalues, percentage of variance and the cumulative percentage of variance for the non-contextualised inventory. The number of factors was extracted according to the maximum likelihood estimation ML extraction method with an oblimin rotation. The results in Table 5 highlights that nine eigenvalues were >1. It is therefore recommended to extract a total of nine factors. A total of 61.93% of the variance is explained and accounted for by the first nine constructs. The eigenvalues of the first nine factors were above 1 (Factor 1 = 10.060; Factor 2 = 3.108; Factor 3 = 2.594; Factor 4 = 2.224; Factor 5 = 1.875; Factor 6 = 1.649; Factor 7 = 1.569; Factor 8 = 1.236; Factor 9 = 1.080).



Figure 1: Scree plot of Eigenvalues for the non-contextualised SAPI

The Scree plot, Figure 1, suggests that six factors should be extracted, as a clear change can be observed after the sixth factor. The first six factors can explain more of the variance than all the remaining factors. There is a difference between Table 5, where nine factors are being recommended and Figure 1. De Koster (1998) theoretically supports the recommended six factors and it can therefore be utilised in the study. Interestingly, given the history of the SAPI, nine constructs were identified originally but further research suggests six factors to be the norm (Fetvadjiev *et al.*, 2015).

TABLE 6: Goodness-of-fit

Goodness-of-fit Test				
X^2	df	Sig.	X²/df	
816.662	589	.000	1.387	

Table 6 indicates the Chi-square (X^2), degrees of freedom (df) and normed chi-square (X^2 /df) to assess goodness-of-fit for the six-factor non-contextualised inventory. As indicated in the table, the chi-square and degrees of freedom yielded values of 816.662 and 589, respectively, and a statistical significant value of 0.000. The calculated value of the normed chi-square indicated a total of 1.387.

TABLE 7: Factor loadings, Communalities	(h^2)	\mathbf{O}) and \mathbf{O}	Cronbach Al	pha	Coefficients	(α))
------------------------------------------------	---------	---------------------------------	-------------	-----	--------------	------------	---

Item	Factor loadings						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	h^2
C_C_Achiev01_1	.113	081	075	142	.096	.290	.255
C_C_Achiev04_1	.030	120	172	049	.190	.466	.473
C_C_Achiev05_1	.016	100	081	132	.281	.357	.405
C_C_Achiev06_1	.219	263	092	.063	.194	.163	.342
C_C_Achiev08_1	058	024	123	238	.173	.531	.509
C_C_Achiev09_1	018	002	.095	136	.012	.557	.346
C_C_Achiev10_1	.073	084	.033	015	.271	.386	.375
C_C_Order02_1	.072	020	.001	.058	086	.750	.561
C_C_Order08_1	.084	154	.061	.076	182	.515	.317
C_C_Order09_1	.075	.067	083	.168	.289	.553	.510
C_INTEG_Integ05_1	059	107	.072	076	.148	.462	.324
EX_EX_Play04_1	.107	.057	.041	718	082	.030	.547
EX_EX_Play06_1	.293	.219	.080	513	049	.003	.431
EX_EX_Sociab02_1	.111	115	.005	430	.088	119	.266
EX_EX_Sociab04_1	.157	106	109	517	.002	.091	.441
EX_EX_Sociab06_1	124	056	052	810	061	.074	.625
IO_INTEL_Intel04_1	.257	.006	024	.074	.045	.416	.319
IO_O_Epist01_1	016	.100	029	.039	.705	.166	.563
IO_O_Epist03_1	.168	.226	.006	031	.584	.051	.467
IO_O_Epist07_1	004	181	.126	081	.791	096	.682
IO_O_Epist08_1	.143	095	076	.023	.535	.029	.425
N_ES_Negat02_1	026	.068	.628	076	009	.003	.420
N_ES_Negat03_1	.032	.118	.684	.068	.064	.136	.496
N_ES_Negat04_1	.075	041	.745	.040	052	.004	.546

N_ES_Negat09_1	161	135	.755	.000	.061	021	.596
SRNeg_INTEG_Deceit03 _1	.171	.506	.159	.167	038	136	.399
SRNeg_SH_HostEg01_1	136	.488	.110	159	.115	082	.335
SRNeg_SH_HostEg04_1	142	.371	035	023	033	.011	.276
SRNeg_SH_HostEg07_1	085	.552	.057	111	079	.017	.356
SRNeg_SH_HostEg09_1	.121	.598	.015	.037	.016	089	.384
SRNeg_SH_HostEg11_1	.064	.694	021	.123	.071	152	.563
SRPos_FC_Facil01_1	.508	162	120	151	.195	019	.567
SRPos_FC_Facil02_1	.685	194	078	058	.157	072	.695
SRPos_FC_Facil03_1	.517	217	.003	048	.227	.024	.561
SRPos_FC_Facil04_1	.445	.056	061	200	.015	.100	.348
SRPos_FC_Facil05_1	.658	.070	093	045	.040	.242	.655
SRPos_FC_Facil06_1	.543	041	109	146	.044	.201	.576
SRPos_FC_Facil09_1	.741	.033	071	067	035	.015	.582
SRPos_RH_IntRel09_1	.165	327	.109	153	.074	032	.215
SRPos_SH_WarmH10_1	.532	047	.135	031	.087	.069	.382
α	.890	.728	.791	.769	.785	.838	

Table 7 provides the item loadings as well as the communalities on the six factors of each item. The ML extraction method and oblimin rotation method were used. The Pattern Matrix revealed acceptable loadings on all of the related factors which showed values of 0.300 and higher. Hair *et al*, (1995) states that loadings with a value of < 0.300 are acceptable. All items loaded except for C_C_Achiev01_1 and C_C_Achiev06_1, and two items loaded onto the wrong factor namely the Intellect-Openness item IO_INTEL_Intel04_1 that loaded to Conscientiousness, and Social Relational Positive item SRPos_RH_IntRel09_1 that loaded to Social Relational Negative. These items were omitted for reliability analysis. The factors were labelled, and the Cronbach Alpha Coefficient was calculated for each; Factor 1 (Social Relational Positive = .890), Factor 2 (Social Relational Negative = .728), Factor 3 (Neuroticism = .791), Factor 4 (Extraversion = .769), Factor 5 (Intellect – Openness = .785) and Factor 6 (Conscientiousness = .838).

Results of the contextualised inventory

Descriptive statistics

	Mean	SD	Skewness	Kurtosis
C_C_Achiev01_1	3.9035	.76840	-1.735	<u>5.098</u>
C_C_Achiev04_1	4.1667	.85428	-1.293	2.255
C_C_Achiev05_1	4.1382	.76203	-1.618	<u>5.151</u>
C_C_Achiev06_1	4.1789	.65172	-1.578	<u>7.203</u>
C_C_Achiev08_1	3.9624	.94071	-1.255	2.029
C_C_Achiev09_1	4.4286	.73119	-1.814	<u>5.662</u>
C_C_Achiev10_1	4.2707	.77974	-1.489	<u>3.824</u>
C_C_Order02_1	4.1679	.68703	-1.518	<u>5.982</u>
C_C_Order08_1	4.1017	.65586	-1.457	<u>6.366</u>
C_C_Order09_1	4.2713	.69361	-1.550	<u>5.880</u>
C_INTEG_Integ05_1	4.2672	.68340	-1.709	<u>6.952</u>
EX_EX_Play04_1	3.6767	.81230	718	.941
EX_EX_Play06_1	2.7099	.94939	.240	103
EX_EX_Sociab02_1	3.3664	.96300	078	375
EX_EX_Sociab04_1	3.9268	.74030	-1.006	2.821
EX_EX_Sociab06_1	3.7068	.92754	537	.016
IO_INTEL_Intel04_1	4.1404	.68399	-2.123	<u>9.038</u>
IO_O_Epist01_1	4.3411	.75374	-1.973	<u>6.800</u>
IO_O_Epist03_1	4.2456	.64622	-1.947	<u>8.966</u>
IO_O_Epist07_1	4.4394	.69911	-1.941	<u>7.084</u>
IO_O_Epist08_1	4.3053	.71661	-1.668	<u>5.782</u>
N_ES_Negat02_1	2.4574	.97707	.394	270
N_ES_Negat03_1	2.4318	1.13614	.502	488
N_ES_Negat04_1	2.9624	1.00307	.076	709
N_ES_Negat09_1	2.2727	1.00823	.552	191
SRNeg_INTEG_Deceit03_1	1.3534	.55317	1.286	.711
SRNeg_SH_HostEg01_1	1.5748	.75398	1.785	<u>4.331</u>
SRNeg_SH_HostEg04_1	2.0526	.74714	.449	.178
SRNeg_SH_HostEg07_1	1.4153	.58162	1.756	<u>4.460</u>
SRNeg_SH_HostEg09_1	1.3664	.69855	<u>2.589</u>	<u>8.236</u>
SRNeg_SH_HostEg11_1	1.4167	.60355	1.377	1.911
SRPos_FC_Facil01_1	4.1102	.68786	-1.437	<u>5.509</u>
SRPos_FC_Facil02_1	3.8644	.65035	979	3.171
SRPos_FC_Facil03_1	4.1271	.64604	-1.034	3.942
SRPos_FC_Facil04_1	3.6850	.72510	735	1.907

TABLE 8: Descriptive statistics for the contextualised SAPI

SRPos_FC_Facil05_1	4.0175	.60280	-1.915	<u>9.404</u>
SRPos_FC_Facil06_1	3.6378	.83184	731	1.147
SRPos_FC_Facil09_1	3.7982	.75055	-1.111	2.611
SRPos_RH_IntRel09_1	3.9512	.67255	-1.296	<u>4.880</u>
SRPos_SH_WarmH10_1	3.9386	.59397	-1.042	<u>4.763</u>

The descriptive statistics of the contextualised SAPI indicate that the data quality is very poor. Poorly functioning items were indicated by mean of skewness values of > 2 and kurtosis values of > 4 (see DeCarlo, 1997). Subsequently, such items were excluded from further analysis.

Table 8 shows that 21 items proved to be problematic in terms of skewness and kurtosis values higher than >2 and >4, respectively, within the contextualised inventory. After investigating the descriptive statistics of the data, nineteen items were retained for further analysis. All retained items fell between the desired cut-off points for good item performance.

When looking at the mean scores of the remaining items of the contextualised personality inventory, it was found that it had an average mean of 3.13 which indicates that with most items the test-takers had a tendency to answer towards the "agree" or "I strongly agree" option.

Exploratory factor analysis

With the first exploratory factor analysis, one item showed low communalities (item SRNeg_SH_HostEg04_1). This implies that the factor fit with the other items that measure personality. As such this item was omitted for further analysis.

Factor		Initial Eigenvalues	
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	5.134	28.521	28.521
2	2.472	13.733	42.254
3	1.707	9.481	51.735
4	1.272	7.068	58.803
5	1.012	5.622	64.424
6	.885	4.917	69.341
7	.844	4.687	74.029
8	.696	3.865	77.894
9	.610	3.390	81.284
10	.601	3.338	84.622
11	.531	2.953	87.574
12	.459	2.550	90.124
13	.421	2.341	92.465
14	.372	2.066	94.531
15	.293	1.627	96.159
16	.271	1.508	97.666
17	.240	1.331	98.997
18	.181	1.003	100.000

TABLE 9: Eigenvalues of sample correlation matrix

Table 9 shows the eigenvalues, percentage of variance and the cumulative percentage of variance explained for the contextualised inventory. From the results presented in Table 9, it is clear that a total eight eigenvalues were >1. It is recommended that these factors be extracted and a total of 67.66% of the variance is explained and accounted for. The eight-factor structure explained a total of 67.66% of the variance. The eigenvalues of the first eight factors were above 1 (Factor 1 = 14.392; Factor 2 = 3.213; Factor 3 = 2.483; Factor 4 = 1.960; Factor 5 = 1.705; Factor 6 = 1.183; Factor 7 = 1.094; Factor 8 = 1.036).



Figure 2: Scree plot of Eigenvalues for the non-contextualised SAPI

The scree plot reflects a total of six factors to be extracted, as a clear dent can be viewed and observed after the sixth factor. The first six factors can explain more of the variance than all the remaining factors. As with the non-contextualised inventory, there is a difference between Table 9 that represents eight factors and Figure 2, but is consistent between both the contextualised and non-contextualised inventories, which are the ideal situation (De Koster, 1998).

TABLE 10: Goodness-of-fit

Chi-square	df	Sig.
77.284	60	.066

Table 10 indicates the Chi-square (X^2), Degrees of freedom (df) and Normed chi-square (X^2/df) to assess goodness-of-fit for the six-factor contextualised inventory. As indicated in the table, the Chi-square and Degrees of freedom yielded values of 77.284 and 60 respectively and a

statistical significant value of 0.066. The calculated value of the Normed chi-square indicated a total of 1.314.

	Factor								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	h^2		
C_C_Achiev04_1	002	.307	049	081	466	.432	.722		
C_C_Achiev08_1	034	021	.019	.004	.045	.834	.696		
EX_EX_Play04_1	.052	.106	.669	.019	054	.094	.561		
EX_EX_Play06_1	.112	.056	.655	167	.218	057	.502		
EX_EX_Sociab02_1	088	045	.480	.058	.121	.149	.311		
EX_EX_Sociab04_1	172	.318	.341	.044	274	.089	.534		
EX_EX_Sociab06_1	119	013	.788	.060	422	061	.791		
N_ES_Negat02_1	.073	.068	.056	.447	.264	026	.329		
N_ES_Negat03_1	.034	063	078	.700	143	073	.525		
N_ES_Negat04_1	093	.128	.018	.529	.026	.026	.299		
N_ES_Negat09_1	.174	168	028	.831	042	.061	.792		
SRNeg_INTEG_Deceit03	.410	019	.136	.156	.105	093	.295		
_1									
SRNeg_SH_HostEg11_1	.903	.025	092	037	138	.042	.999		
SRPos_FC_Facil02_1	042	.902	107	.000	.099	096	.901		
SRPos_FC_Facil03_1	.010	.778	025	.005	100	058	.583		
SRPos_FC_Facil04_1	.030	.567	.095	.046	.141	.168	.479		
SRPos_FC_Facil06_1	.005	.470	.174	061	090	.221	.500		
SRPos_FC_Facil09_1	007	.490	.159	.020	085	.163	.459		
α		.838	.761	0.725					

TABLE 11: Factor loadings, Communalities (h^2) and Cronbach's alpha (α)

Table 11, which provides the item loadings on the six factors and the communalities of each item, highlights that there is no clear pattern of the sub-factors and loadings on <300. It seems

that Factors 5 and 6 contain one or two items (both from Conscientiousness; C_C_Achiev04_1 and C_C_Achiev08_1). Factor 1 also contained only two items from Social Relational Negative (SRNeg_INTEG_Deceit03_1 and SRNeg_SH_HostEg11_1). Therefore, these factors and items were disregarded for reliability analysis. Only three factors were retained, which were subsequently labelled. This was followed by the calculation of the Cronbach's alpha coefficients; Factor 2 – Social Relational Positive (.838), Factor 3 – Extraversion (.761) and Factor 4 – Neuroticism (.725). All alphas fall above the guideline of 0.70.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the discussion is to present interpretations and findings of the results based on the research objectives. The general objective of this study was to determine the effect of FOR on the construct validity of the SAPI. The results and discussion from this research will assist the SAPI with future research relating to contextualisation. In addition, it could help other personality researchers to determine whether an inventory should be contextualised and to which extent the inventory should be contextualised. As previously mentioned, the literature review already addressed the first study objective. This section will address and discuss the empirically specific objectives. The discussion will simultaneously focus on both the noncontextualised and contextualised results.

After analysing the descriptive statistics of both the contextualised and non-contextualised inventory, it is clear that the non-contextualised inventory has considerably less discrepancies and variances than the contextualised inventory. The non-contextualised inventory has one item with a kurtosis of 4.135, where the contextualised inventory had a total of 20 items with a kurtosis <4.

With kurtosis, it means that participants mostly answered items in the same way (West, Finch & Curren, 1995) and within a contextualised context, participants are more inclined to agree or disagree with items which may indicate a social desirable element in the context of study. The 20 items that showed kurtosis cannot be used for this context as the study was conducted in the participants workplace and alternative items will need to be developed to measure these concepts. It seems that nine items from Conscientiousness, all five items from Intellect-Openness, three items from Social Relational Negative, and four items from Social Relational Positive showed kurtosis. Concerning Conscientiousness, employees will most likely believe

they possess traits of Conscientiousness since most participants agree to strongly agree to these items (referring to mean scores). Therefore, it was not surprising to see so many items of Conscientiousness to show high kurtosis. Additionally, none of the Intellect-Openness items were retained based on their high kurtosis scores. It means social desirability may have played a role since most participants agreed with the items, rather than disagreeing with it. In the work place, intelligence and open-mindedness are desirable traits for employers, therefore, participants may agree more with these traits rather based it on their actual score. Half of the Social Relational Negative's items showed high skewness, and it seems most participants disagreed with the items. Showing negative behaviour and emotions in the workplace are not desirable, since professional conduct should be upheld. Therefore, participants would rather disagree with the items than to indicate they possess these negative traits.

Looking at the skewness of the data, the non-contextualised inventory had no skewness however, the contextualised inventory delivered one item with a skewness of 2.589. This Social Relational Negative item measured levels of hostility. With skewness we measure how random or inconsistent an item was answered by participants (West *et al.* 1995). With this particular item, it seems that a portion of the participants either agreed or disagreed with the item, so it means that too many variant responses were generated.

The mean scores for the contextualised inventory ranged between 1 and 4 with an average of M = 3.478. The non-contextualised inventory were also close to the centre of the seven-point Likert scale, with an average of M = 3.631. Where means are located at the extreme ends of the scales, it is possible that line items are worded incorrectly (De Villes, 2003), which happened to be the case with the contextualised version's Conscientiousness items. Personality can be stable across context and according to Steyer *et al.* (1999), if there is too much context, it becomes cumbersome and people start responding randomly to line items. In this study 21 items were disregarded from the contextualised version pertaining to the results of the descriptive statistics, therefore only 19 items were retained for further analysis.

The PCA extraction was executed. The suitability for both the 40-item contextualised as well as the retained 19-item non-contextualised were established. With the non-contextualised inventory, the PCA indicated a six-factor extraction. After the six factors were identified, the ML extraction method was used to compare the model-fit. Oblimin rotation methods were used for further interpretation, as correlations were found between factors. The contextualised version showed one item (from Social Relational Negative) with a low communality value with the first PCA. It meant that this item did not fit with the overall instrument and share little to none correspondence with the other items. This item was omitted and a second PCA was conducted with the retained 18 items that showed six factors can be extracted when viewing the scree plot, while five factors were found to have eigenvalues higher than 1. Since the SAPI measures six factors, six factors were analysed by using the Maximum Likelihood (ML) extraction method with an Oblimin rotation (Fetvadjiev *et al.* 2015).

The goodness-of-fit analysis (for both versions) found that the normed chi-square yielded a value of 1.387 for the non-contextualised inventory and 1.314 for the contextualised inventory. To establish an acceptable model-fit, the Chi-square goodness-of-fit should be <0.400 and preferably between 0.200 and 0.300 (Raykov & Marcoulides, 2000). The contextualised version's model was significant, with a p-value of 0.000. This implies that inferences based on this model may be questioned. The contextualised version showed that the Chi-square is non-significant which made it more valid to make further inferences. However, since it was still an exploratory analysis of both versions, inferences were made further pertaining to the factor loadings and reliability values.

Most items for the non-contextualised version showed acceptable factor loadings onto the correct factor. Only four items showed no loadings (less than .30) or wrong loadings (load onto another factor) and were omitted when continuing with the reliability analysis. As can be seen, the reliability analysis yielded acceptable values. With the non-contextualised version, it was found that all six factors of the SAPI can be measured. When reviewing the contextualised version, it did not yield as acceptable results concerning factor loadings. No items of the Intellect-Openness items were retained, while only two items of Conscientiousness and Social Relational Negative respectively were retained after the descriptive statistics analysis and communalities inspection. These four items loaded onto three factors (the two Conscientiousness items loaded onto the Conscientiousness factor, the Social Relational Negative items loaded onto the Social Relational Negative factor and one of the Conscientiousness items loaded onto its own factor). None of these three factors were viable for further analysis since reliability analysis cannot be conducted with two or less items per factor. These items and factors were disregarded. The factor and reliability analysis found that only three factors of the SAPI can be measured for the contextualised version, namely Extraversion, Neuroticism and Social Relational Positive. An inference can be made that the omitted factors, namely Conscientiousness, Intellect-Openness and Social Relational Negative cannot be valid and reliable measures for the work context.

Practical implications

The application of the study will be of value to researchers in the field of personality psychology, as well as organisations that use inventories for selection and developmental purposes.

Although this study mainly focused on the how contextualisation affects construct validity, future organisational use may include certain personality factors (in this case Extraversion, Neuroticism and Social Relational Positive) in contextualised inventories to align an individual's values to that of the organisation. This study may also help industrial and occupational practitioners to look into the personality factors (in this case Conscientiousness, Intellect-Openness and Social Relational Negative) that may be questioned when included in contextualised inventories. One cannot ignore the fact that certain dispositions inherent to an individual affect behaviour in different situations, as described and explained in cognitive affective theory. A non-contextualised inventory is interpreted to a contextualised environment (i.e. in the workplace). This may affect the predictive validity and reliability of results if they are not interpreted in an open context.

Personality researchers can use this study to further explore the impact of contextualised versus non-contextualised inventories. Although the researcher has a strong affiliation with the cognitive affective theorists, this research indicated that contextualising a personality inventory does not render the desired results on the inventory's construct validity. Contextualising all line items negatively affected the construct validity in the SAPI. One reason might be that the tag 'in the workplace' was merely added to the line item construction. There may be an opportunity to reword the line items more carefully to not affect the construct validity and start researching how contextualisation affects predictive validity and reliability in the workplace.

With personality inventories, the aim is for the participants not to lead and there should not be a condition to the line items, while the contextualised inventory does both leading as well as adding conditions to the inventory. As there is limited research on the effect of FOR on the inventory's construct validity, this study can aid researchers to re-consider using contextualisation to certain line items – and possibly not including contextualisation in all line items – to ascertain whether an individual's personal values align with an organisation's culture and values.

Limitations

The researcher acknowledges several limitations to the overall study.

Overall the study design should have had a more detailed approach. With the sample size being so small, the researcher was unable to use statistical methods such as CFA / SEM and therefore only EFA was used. The sampling technique may have posed a limitation in that the use of non-probability sampling techniques should be kept in mind when it comes to the generalisability of results across the population. The study can only apply to the context in which the sample was used and other contexts within the South African population may not be suitable for generalising findings. A stratified sample may have been a better decision as the sample would have been more controlled than that of a convenience sample.

Another factor concerning the research design was the application of the cross-sectional design. Welman *et al.* (2012) confirm the challenges of cross-sectional designs in terms of threats to internal validity, based on sufficient representation of groups and variables responsible for differences between participants (apart from age) that may have a relationship with the racial prejudice variable. This implies that the study did not take the causal variable in consideration when it came to the test-retest reliability factor of results, as participants' responses may change in future depending on their cultural context, work environments or cultural interactions or experiences. It would have been advantageous to have done a longitudinal design on order to detect variants in responses in time. Online delivered links tend to affect the response rate and the researcher should have rather conducted a pen and pencil assessment in order to get more responses.

The data analyses approach should also be considered, since it did not cover a detailed item analysis between the different groups and only tested item discrimination (skewness and kurtosis) in the general sample. The skewness and kurtosis analysis yielded variant results for both versions, but a differential item functioning (DIF) and comparison between demographic groups might provide different results or detect item bias, which in return may have an effect on the reliability of scores. Meyer (2014) confirms that item discrimination has an effect on item variance, since the idea of acceptable item discrimination values maximises item variance, which in return contributes to increase score reliability.

Recommendations

In order to improve findings and inference the researcher acknowledges that certain recommendations are needed for possible future expansion on this research:

As mentioned the research design should include a longitudinal design and making use of a stratified sample in order to increase the diversity of the participants. It is recommended that a pen and paper approach should be followed in conjunction with an online delivered link. It is the recommendation from the researcher that future research should not be limited to a specific industry as this will increase diversity amongst age, gender and other social considerations.

By adding context to the line items, the personality inventory is at risk that the construct could be changed. The implication is that the instrument would not measure across cultures as it was intended to. Although this study merely investigated the effect that FOR have on the construct validity of the SAPI, researchers will have to test the influence of FOR on the construct validity on all 11 official languages that the SAPI has been developed for. It is recommended for the study to be replicated using participants performing the same job function and possibly increase the participants across different organisations within the same sector. It is further recommended that a stratified sampling technique is used in order to ensure equal representation amongst both cultural as well linguistic groups within South Africa. It may even be helpful to narrow the research by merely conducting research on a specific construct such as Extraversion at a point in time in order to determine whether all line items need contextualisation, if any.

In order to further increase the value to the study, it would be the recommendation of the researcher to measure within-person consistency. In other words, have a participant complete the contextualised assessment and some weeks later have the same participant complete the non-contextualised inventory which will not only assist with the with-in person consistency but also the measurement of reliability to increase the indicator of the scale's reliability as it would be the recommendation of the researcher to look at the test-retest reliability.

It is important that more detailed reliability studies are being conducted. The Goodness-of-Fit should not be statistical significant which means that there is still factors in the SAPI that does not fit. It is recommended that the line items get analised and adjusted in order to add more value to the study. Furthermore, the recommendation is for future research to test

contextualisation on fakeability of personality inventories as well as social desirability needs to be assessed in the context of measurement. If the context is the workplace, certain behaviours and emotions are more acceptable than for instance in an informal setting (with family and friends). Therefore, the context should be considered before attempting to measure certain constructs, and careful inspection of items should be done

Conclusion

It seems that contextualising a questionnaire is not a valid and reliable measurement for all personality factors. The results showed that only a portion of the personality factors in SAPI can be measured in the workplace, therefore items need to be revised or omitted when contextualising an instrument. With personality measurement, it seems keeping it open-ended (non-contextualised) yield better results for the SAPI, therefore participants are more inclined to answer items honestly and consistently (as opposed to the contextualised version where items were answered inconsistently and with more social desirable intent). Although it seems SAPI is a valid and reliable instrument, it does show some gaps in the wording of items, and the concepts that are measured across contexts.

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