

Centre Number						Candidate Number				
Surname										
Other Names										
Candidate Signature										

For Examiner's Use	
Examiner's Initials	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
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11	
12	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2011

Psychology (Specification A) PSYA2

Unit 2 Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences

Wednesday 19 January 2011 9.00 am to 10.30 am

You will need no other materials.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- Question 12 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 12, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



J A N 1 1 P S Y A 2 0 1

Section A Biological Psychology

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Total for this question: 8 marks

1 (a) The following are examples of stress in everyday life, some are life changes and some are daily hassles. From the list, select **two** examples of life changes and **two** examples of daily hassles.

- A** Divorce
- B** Household chores
- C** Room temperature
- D** Retirement from work
- E** Traffic jams
- F** Getting married
- G** Changing school
- H** Missing the bus

Life changes: select two from the list above and write one letter in each box.		
Daily hassles: select two from the list above and write one letter in each box.		

(4 marks)

1 (b) Explain what psychological research has shown about the stressful impact of **either** life changes **or** daily hassles.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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8



Total for this question: 4 marks

2 (a) Questionnaires have been used by psychologists to investigate stress.

Explain **one** possible ethical issue that might arise when using questionnaires in this area of psychology.

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2 (b) Apart from ethics, explain **one other** problem of using questionnaires to investigate stress.

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

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Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Total for this question: 6 marks

3 (a) What is meant by a problem-focused approach to coping with stress?

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3 (b) What is meant by an emotion-focused approach to coping with stress?

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(3 marks + 3 marks)

6



Total for this question: 6 marks

- 4** Karen has been feeling extremely stressed for several months. She has recently been promoted at work and is worried that she is not able to do the job properly in spite of praise from her managers. She also finds it very difficult to say “no” when colleagues ask for assistance. Her health is suffering and she decides to try Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) to help manage her stress.

Explain what is involved in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and how it could be used to help Karen.

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(6 marks)

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Section B Social Psychology

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Total for this question: 6 marks

5 (a) Explain what is meant by informational social influence.

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5 (b) Explain what is meant by normative social influence.

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(3 marks + 3 marks)

6



Total for this question: 4 marks

6 Some research into obedience has been carried out in laboratories. Other studies into obedience have been carried out in the real world, including field experiments and observations.

6 (a) Outline **one** advantage of conducting obedience research outside a laboratory setting.

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6 (b) Outline **one** limitation of conducting obedience research outside a laboratory setting.

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

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Total for this question: 8 marks

7 Discuss **one or more** explanations of independent behaviour, for example, how people resist pressures to conform or obey.

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(8 marks)

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Total for this question: 6 marks

8 Mike and his grandfather were having a conversation about recycling. Mike explained that he always puts empty cans and plastic bottles in one box and newspapers and cardboard in another box and that his mum takes these to be recycled once a week. His grandfather said that when he was Mike’s age, people did not recycle. Mike said that everyone in his street recycles and that they have a big box at school especially for recycling.

Using your knowledge of the psychology of social change, explain why recycling is now behaviour carried out by a majority of people in this country.

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Section C Individual Differences

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Total for this question: 3 marks

9 Identify **one** definition of abnormality and explain **one** limitation associated with this definition.

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(3 marks)

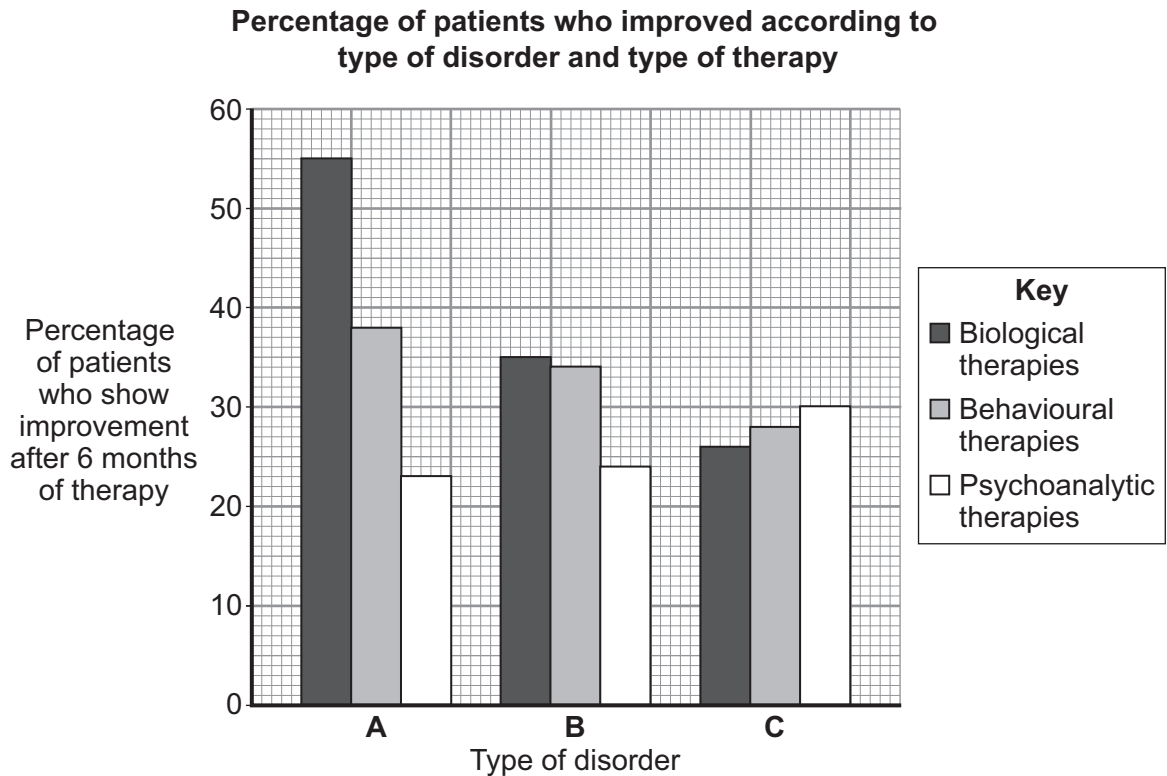
3



Total for this question: 4 marks

10

A psychologist collected data on the effectiveness of three types of therapies for different types of disorders. The results are displayed in the bar chart below.



What conclusions about the effectiveness of different therapies can you draw from the bar chart?

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(4 marks)

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Turn over ►



Total for this question: 5 marks

11 (a) Describe systematic de-sensitisation as a method of treating abnormality.

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(3 marks)

11 (b) Explain **one** weakness of systematic de-sensitisation.

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(2 marks)

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Total for this question: 12 marks

12 'Freud's views on the origins of abnormal behaviour and ways of treating it had a great impact on psychology.'

Outline **and** evaluate the psychodynamic approach to abnormality.

You may use this space to plan your answer

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(12 marks)



There are no questions printed on this page

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED**

