

Centre Number						Candidate Number				
Surname										
Other Names										
Candidate Signature										

For Examiner's Use	
Examiner's Initials	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
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10	
11	
12	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

Psychology (Specification A)

PSYA2

Unit 2 Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences

Friday 15 May 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

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. Answers written in margins or on blank pages will not be marked.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- If you need extra paper, use the Supplementary Answer Sheets.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- Question 8 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 8, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



J U N 0 9 P S Y A 2 0 1

SECTION A: BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **all** questions.

Total for this question: 3 marks

1 The following are features of the pituitary-adrenal system and the sympathomedullary pathway.

Tick the boxes next to **three** features of the sympathomedullary pathway.

Noradrenaline

Pituitary gland

Adrenal cortex

Adrenal medulla

Sympathetic nervous system

(Tick three boxes only)

(3 marks)

3

Total for this question: 6 marks

2 Questionnaires have often been used in stress research to measure the impact of life changes on health.

Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using questionnaires in stress research.

One advantage

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SECTION B: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **all** questions.

Total for this question: 4 marks

5 Explain what is meant by locus of control.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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4

Total for this question: 2 marks

6 It is Ani's first day in a new job and he spends a lot of time watching to see what his colleagues are doing, so that he will fit in with them and be liked. Explain Ani's behaviour in terms of compliance.

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(2 marks)

2

Turn over ▶



Total for this question: 6 marks

7 (a) Outline **one** method that psychologists have used to study conformity.

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(2 marks)

7 (b) Explain **one** limitation of this method.

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(2 marks)

7 (c) Suggest an appropriate way of overcoming this limitation.

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(2 marks)

6



Total for this question: 12 marks

8 Outline and evaluate **one or more** explanations of why people obey.

You may use this space to plan your answer

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Turn over ▶



SECTION C: INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Answer **all** questions.

Total for this question: 6 marks

9 (a) Describe key features of the behavioural approach to psychopathology.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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9 (b) Outline **one** limitation of the behavioural approach to psychopathology.

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(2 marks)

6



Total for this question: 6 marks

10 One way of defining abnormality is to see whether or not someone meets the criteria for mental health. Ivan has high self-esteem and a strong sense of identity.

10 (a) Describe **two** other criteria that you would expect Ivan to display if he were psychologically healthy.

Criteria 1

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Criteria 2

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

10 (b) Outline **one** weakness of defining abnormality in terms of mental health.

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(2 marks)

6

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ▶



Total for this question: 8 marks

11 Sally often gets anxious for no apparent reason. She believes that people do not like her and becomes distressed when she has to meet strangers. She is very nervous when faced with new or unexpected situations. Sally has been referred to a therapist for psychoanalysis.

11 (a) Outline **two** techniques used in psychoanalysis.

Technique 1

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Technique 2

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

11 (b) Sally asks whether there are any problems with this therapy. What would you tell her?

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(2 marks)

11 (c) Cognitive Behavioural Therapy is another psychological therapy. Explain why this might be an appropriate therapy for Sally’s problems.

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(2 marks)

8



Total for this question: 4 marks

12 Describe the use of ECT (electro-convulsive therapy) in treating abnormality.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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4

END OF QUESTIONS



There are no questions printed on this page

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

