
A-level PSYCHOLOGY (7182/3)

Paper 3 Issues and Options in Psychology

2017

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book
- a calculator.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. **The Paper Reference** is 7182/3.
- In **Section A**, you should answer **all** questions.
- In **Section B**, choose **one** topic. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.
- In **Section C**, choose **one** topic. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.
- In **Section D**, choose **one** topic. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.
- 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 96.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A

Issues and debates in Psychology

Answer **all** questions in this section

0 1

Read the item and then answer the question that follows.

A researcher studied the effect of light intensity on visual memory. He carried out a controlled experiment. Participants in Group 1 viewed a drawing in extra bright light for 60 seconds then had to recall the details. Participants in Group 2 viewed the same drawing in normal light for 60 seconds then had to recall the details. The researcher recorded the number of details correctly recalled in the two conditions.

Referring to the item above, explain what is meant by the scientific emphasis on causal explanations.

[3 marks]

0 2

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Dr Grant and Dr Austin both study people with depression. Dr Grant carries out experimental research to investigate the brain chemistry of people with depression. Dr Austin carries out unstructured interviews with people with depression to find out about their symptoms and various aspects of their lives, including their general behaviour and their relationships.

0 2

. 1

Referring to the item above, explain what is meant by holism and reductionism.

[4 marks]

0 2

. 2

Suggest **one** way in which Dr Austin might take account of ethical considerations when carrying out the interviews.

[1 mark]

0 3

Discuss the nature-nurture debate in psychology. Refer to **at least two** topics you have studied in your answer.

[16 marks]

Section B

Relationships or Gender or Cognition and development

Choose **one** topic from **Section B**. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Topic: Relationships

0 4

Name and outline **one** stage of Duck's phase model of relationship breakdown.

[3 marks]

0 5

Maria has lots of friends on Facebook and spends most of her time in her bedroom chatting on internet sites.

Explain how Maria's self-disclosure during her use of social media might differ from her self-disclosure in face-to-face encounters.

[4 marks]

0 6

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

In a study of parasocial relationships a researcher studied male and female attachments to their favourite film star. An overall attachment score was calculated on the basis of answers to a questionnaire. A high score indicated a strong attachment and a low score indicated little attachment.

The scores are shown in **Table 1** below.

Table 1

Males	Females
4	5
6	6
2	6
2	7
3	2
3	4
3	5
8	9
1	5
1	2
Median score 3	Median score 5

0 6

1

Explain why the data in **Table 1** is primary data and not secondary data.

[2 marks]

0 6 . **2** Explain **one** strength of primary data.

[3 marks]

0 6 . **3** The researcher decided to extend the study by using an inferential test to see if there was a significant difference between the two sets of scores.

Suggest an appropriate inferential test which the researcher could use. Justify your choice.

[4 marks]

0 7 Outline and evaluate the social exchange theory of relationships.

[8 marks]

Topic: Gender**0 8**

Name and briefly outline **one** syndrome associated with an atypical sex chromosome pattern.

[3 marks]**0 9**

Patrick works as a head baker in a bakery. As part of a work appraisal he has just completed the Bem Sex Role Inventory. His score shows that he is highly androgynous.

Explain how Patrick's high level of androgyny might be demonstrated in his behaviour at work.

[4 marks]**1 0**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

In a study of gender schema a researcher studied the way in which boys and girls understood gender. An overall understanding score was calculated on the basis of answers to a questionnaire. A high score indicated a very fixed understanding and a low score indicated a flexible understanding.

The scores are shown in **Table 2** below.

Table 2

Girls	Boys
4	5
6	6
2	6
2	7
3	2
3	4
3	5
8	9
1	5
1	2
Median score 3	Median score 5

1 0

. **1** Explain why the data in **Table 2** is primary data and not secondary data.

[2 marks]**1 0**

. **2** Explain **one** strength of primary data.

[3 marks]**1 0**

. **3** The researcher decided to extend the study by using an inferential test to see if there was a significant difference between the two sets of scores.

Suggest an appropriate inferential test which the researcher could use. Justify your choice.

[4 marks]**1 1**

Outline and evaluate Freud's explanation of gender development.

[8 marks]

Topic: Cognition and development

1 2

Katie is three years old and likes to play with her toy medical kit. Her mother plays with her. Katie's mother helps Katie to bandage her doll's leg and talks through the different stages if she is struggling.

Referring to Katie and her mother, explain what is involved in scaffolding.

[4 marks]

1 3

Name and outline **one** of Selman's levels of perspective taking.

[3 marks]

1 4

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

In a study of social cognition a researcher studied perspective-taking in children aged 5 years and 9 years. An overall perspective-taking score was calculated on the basis of answers to a questionnaire. A high score indicated good perspective taking and a low score indicated poor perspective-taking.

The scores are shown in **Table 3** below.

Table 3

5-year-olds	9-year-olds
4	5
6	6
2	6
2	7
3	2
3	4
3	5
8	9
1	5
1	2
Median score 3	Median score 5

1 4

. 1

Explain why the data in **Table 3** is primary data and not secondary data.

[2 marks]

1 4

. 2

Explain **one** strength of primary data.

[3 marks]

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 4 |
|---|---|

 .

3

 The researcher decided to extend the study by using an inferential test to see if there was a significant difference between the two sets of scores.

Suggest an appropriate inferential test which the researcher could use. Justify your choice.

[4 marks]

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 5 |
|---|---|

 Outline and evaluate Piaget's research into object permanence.

[8 marks]

Turn over for the next section

Section C

Schizophrenia or Eating behaviour or Stress

Choose **one** topic from **Section C**. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Topic: **Schizophrenia**

1 **6**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Two years ago Jenny was diagnosed with schizophrenia. She has been taking a typical antipsychotic drug and there have been improvements in her positive symptoms. However she still suffers negative symptoms and side effects. Her psychiatrist wants to change her medication from typical antipsychotics to one of the atypical antipsychotics and has also suggested cognitive behavioural therapy.

1 **6**

. **1**

Outline **one** negative symptom of schizophrenia.

[2 marks]

1 **6**

. **2**

With reference to the item above, explain why Jenny's psychiatrist wants to move her on to one of the atypical antipsychotics.

[4 marks]

1 **6**

. **3**

Briefly explain **one** advantage of cognitive behavioural therapy in the treatment of schizophrenia.

[2 marks]

1 **7**

Outline and evaluate **one or more** psychological explanations for schizophrenia.

[16 marks]

Topic: Eating behaviour

1 8

Outline **one** irrational belief associated with anorexia nervosa.

[2 marks]

1 9

Nicky has been trying to diet for several years. She is sometimes successful in losing weight, but over the following months puts the weight back on again. Whenever she overeats she sees herself as a failure, but she does not want to use drugs or surgery. She is still desperate to lose weight.

Suggest **one or more** strategies that might help Nicky to lose weight and to maintain the weight loss.

[4 marks]

2 0

Explain **one** strength of the family systems theory of anorexia nervosa.

[2 marks]

2 1

Outline and evaluate **one or more** biological explanations for obesity.

[16 marks]

Section C continues on the next page

Topic:**Stress****2 2**

Outline **one** difference between the functions of the hypothalamic pituitary-adrenal system and the sympathomedullary pathway.

[2 marks]**2 3**

Outline **one** limitation of the general adaptation syndrome as a model for the physiology of the stress response.

[2 marks]**2 4**

Sadiq has a stressful job, a young family, and a mother who has recently had a fall and been hospitalised. Sadiq visits her whenever he can. Although he feels he is coping with the stress in his life his blood pressure has risen dangerously in the last six months. Sadiq feels that he needs to manage his stress.

From your knowledge of managing and coping with stress, explain how Sadiq could deal with his stress.

[4 marks]**2 5**

Discuss individual differences in responses to stress.

[16 marks]

Section D

Aggression or Forensic Psychology or Addiction

Choose **one** topic from **Section D**. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Topic: **Aggression**

2 **6**

What are innate releasing mechanisms?

[2 marks]

2 **7**

Discuss media influences on aggression.

[8 marks]

2 **8**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist was investigating the effect of prison conditions on institutional aggression.

He selected a sample of 12 prisoners and counted the number of aggressive acts of each prisoner over one day in the exercise yard.

The prison conditions were then changed, such that the number of prisoners per cell was reduced and regular exercise periods introduced.

After three months of these new conditions the psychologist observed the same 12 prisoners and again counted the number of aggressive acts of each prisoner over one day in the exercise yard.

This study involves a repeated measures design.

2 **8** . **1**

Explain **one** advantage of using a repeated measures design in this study.

[2 marks]

2 **8** . **2**

The psychologist obtained the following results:

- For two of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts increased
- For eight of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts decreased
- For two of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts stayed the same

The psychologist decides to use a sign test to see if his data are significant.

What is the calculated value of the sign test statistic 'S'? Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

- 2 8 . 3** Look at the table of critical values of 'S' below and then answer the question that follows.

N	.10	.05	.025	.01
4	0			
5	0	0		
6	0	0	0	
7	1	0	0	0
8	1	1	0	0
9	2	1	1	0
10	2	1	1	0
11	2	2	1	1
12	3	2	2	1

To be significant, the calculated/observed value must be equal to or less than the critical/table value.

Using the table of critical values of 'S' above, state whether the findings of the study are significant at $p < 0.05$. Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

2 9

Outline and evaluate the role of neural and/or hormonal mechanisms in aggression.

[8 marks]

Topic: Forensic Psychology**3 0**

Outline what is meant by geographical profiling in forensic psychology.

[2 marks]**3 1**

Discuss psychodynamic explanations of offending behaviour.

[8 marks]**3 2**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist wanted to see if a combination of behaviour modification and anger management would be effective in reducing levels of aggression in people given custodial sentences.

She selected a sample of 12 prisoners immediately after sentencing and counted the number of aggressive acts of each prisoner over one day.

The prisoners were then given one month of daily sessions of behaviour modification combined with anger management.

At the end of this month, they were again observed, and the number of aggressive acts of each prisoner was recorded over one day.

This study involves a repeated measures design.

3 2**. 1**Explain **one** advantage of using a repeated measures design in this study.**[2 marks]****3 2****. 2**

The psychologist obtained the following results:

- For two of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts increased
- For eight of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts decreased
- For two of the prisoners the number of aggressive acts stayed the same

The psychologist decides to use a sign test to see if her data are significant.

What is the calculated value of the sign test statistic 'S'? Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

- 3 2** . **3** Look at the table of critical values of 'S' below and then answer the question that follows.

N	.10	.05	.025	.01
4	0			
5	0	0		
6	0	0	0	
7	1	0	0	0
8	1	1	0	0
9	2	1	1	0
10	2	1	1	0
11	2	2	1	1
12	3	2	2	1

To be significant, the calculated/observed value must be equal to or less than the critical/table value.

Using the table of critical values of 'S' above, state whether the findings of the study are significant at $p < 0.05$. Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

- 3 3** Discuss restorative justice programmes as a way of dealing with offending.

[8 marks]

Topic: Addiction

3 4

What is meant by the term psychological dependence in relation to addiction?

[2 marks]

3 5

Outline and evaluate **one or more** explanations for nicotine addiction.

[8 marks]

3 6

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist wanted to see if even a brief period of aversion therapy would help smokers reduce their level of smoking. A group of 12 volunteers who smoked regularly recorded the number of cigarettes smoked over a one week period.

The psychologist then exposed them to aversion therapy for one week.

The participants were then allowed to smoke freely recording the number of cigarettes smoked during the week following therapy.

This study involves a repeated measures design.

3 6 . 1

Explain **one** advantage of using a repeated measures design in this study.

[2 marks]

3 6 . 2

The psychologist obtained the following results:

- For two of the volunteers the number of cigarettes smoked increased
- For eight of the volunteers the number of cigarettes smoked decreased
- For two of the volunteers the number of cigarettes smoked stayed the same

The psychologist decides to use a sign test to see if the data are significant.

What is the calculated value of the sign test statistic 'S'? Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

- 3 6** . **3** Look at the table of critical values of 'S' below and then answer the question that follows.

N	.10	.05	.025	.01
4	0			
5	0	0		
6	0	0	0	
7	1	0	0	0
8	1	1	0	0
9	2	1	1	0
10	2	1	1	0
11	2	2	1	1
12	3	2	2	1

To be significant, the calculated /observed value must be equal to or less than the critical/table value.

Using the table of critical values of 'S' above, state whether the findings of the study are significant at $p < 0.05$. Explain your answer.

[2 marks]

- 3 7** Outline and evaluate the Prochaska model of behaviour change.

[8 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page