
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 your answer 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.
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Section A

Issues and debates in Psychology

Answer **all** questions in this section

- 0 1** . **1** Which **two** of the following statements describe a strongly deterministic view? Write the letters of your chosen answers in your answer booklet.
- A People are always responsible for their own actions
 - B People behave in a random fashion
 - C People's behaviour always has a cause
 - D People exercise full choice over how they behave
 - E People have no choice about how to act
- [2 marks]**
- 0 1** . **2** Name **two** types of determinism.
- [2 marks]**
- 0 2** Briefly outline **one** problem associated with alpha bias in psychological research, **and one** problem associated with beta bias in psychological research.
- [4 marks]**
- 0 3** Briefly outline what psychologists mean by 'levels of explanation'.
- [2 marks]**
- 0 4** Read the item and then answer the question that follows.
- A prison psychologist used an idiographic approach to study offending. He asked two offenders to record their thoughts about their childhood and their offending behaviour in a journal over a period of four weeks.

Qualitative analysis of the journals showed that the offenders often thought about sad childhood events and believed that their childhood experiences had influenced their offending.

Findings from idiographic research like the study described above are often used as a basis for other investigations.
- Explain how the researcher might develop the above investigation through taking a nomothetic approach.
- [6 marks]**

0 5

What is meant by the 'nature-nurture debate' in psychology?

[2 marks]

0 6

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Researchers used a test to measure the mathematical reasoning ability of pairs of identical and non-identical twins. If both members of a pair had a similar score on the test, they were said to be 'concordant'. This type of study is known as a concordance study.

Table 1: Outcome of the research with the concordance rates expressed as a percentage

Genetic relationship group	Concordance rate for mathematical reasoning ability
Identical twins (100% shared genes)	58%
Non-identical twins (50% shared genes)	14%

0 6

. 1

Briefly explain the outcome of the study in relation to the nature-nurture debate.

[2 marks]

0 6

. 2

Some ways of establishing validity involve the use of a statistical test.

Outline how these researchers could have used a statistical test to establish **concurrent** validity of the mathematical reasoning ability test.

[4 marks]

Turn over for the next section

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 7 Investment is **one** feature of the investment model of relationships. Identify **one other** feature of the investment model of relationships. **[1 mark]**

0 8 Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist investigating the investment model of relationships, devised a self-report Investment Scale for use with a group of 100 female participants. The scale gave an investment score for each participant on a scale of 0–20, with 0 representing no investment in relationships and 20 representing extreme investment in relationships.

The psychologist calculated measures of central tendency for the investment scores. He found that the mean investment score was 8.6, the median investment score was 9.5 and the mode investment score was 13.

0 8 . 1 Sketch a graph to show the most likely distribution curve for the investment scores in this study. Label the axes of your graph and mark on it the positions of the mean, median and mode. **[3 marks]**

0 8 . 2 What sort of distribution does your graph show? **[1 mark]**

0 9 Explain **one** limitation of a self-report technique. **[2 marks]**

1	0
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Which **one** of the following sequences shows the correct order of Duck's phases of relationship breakdown? Write the letter of your chosen answer in your answer booklet.

- A Dyadic, intra-psychic, social, grave dressing
- B Intra-psychic, dyadic, social, grave dressing
- C Intra-psychic, social, dyadic, grave dressing
- D Social, dyadic, intra-psychic, grave dressing

[1 mark]

1	1
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Discuss evolutionary explanations for partner preferences.

[16 marks]

Section B continues on the next page

Topic: Gender

1 2

Explain what is meant by 'androgyny'.

[1 mark]

1 3

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

In a study of androgyny, a group of 100 18-year-old students completed a self-report sex-role inventory. The inventory gave two sets of scores: a femininity score and a masculinity score. Each set of scores was on a scale of 0–20, with 0 representing no masculinity or no femininity and 20 representing extreme masculinity or extreme femininity.

The researchers calculated measures of central tendency for the masculinity scores. They found that the mean masculinity score was 10.3, the median masculinity score was 9.5 and the mode masculinity score was 7.

1 3

1

Sketch a graph to show the most likely distribution curve for the masculinity scores in this study. Label the axes of your graph and mark on it the positions of the mean, median and mode.

[3 marks]

1 3

2

What sort of distribution does your graph show?

[1 mark]

1 4

Explain **one** limitation of a self-report technique.

[2 marks]

1 5

Which **one** of the following statements about Freud's psychoanalytic theory of gender development is **false**? Write the letter of your chosen answer in your answer booklet.

Freud suggested that little boys

- A are afraid of their father.
- B are jealous of their father.
- C are jealous of their mother.
- D come to internalise their father's views.
- E have a romantic attachment to their mother.

[1 mark]

1 6

Describe and evaluate Kohlberg's explanation of gender development.

[16 marks]

Topic: Cognition and development**1 7**

Which **one** of the following statements describes **one** feature of what Piaget meant by 'egocentrism'? Write the letter of your chosen answer in your answer booklet.

- A The inability to understand abstract and hypothetical ideas
- B The inability to understand that people still exist when out of sight
- C The inability to understand things are the same even if they look different
- D The inability to understand things from different points of view

[1 mark]**1 8**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist investigating egocentrism interviewed 100 parents, each of whom had a four-year-old child. She asked each parent to rate his or her child's egocentrism on a scale of 0–10, with 0 representing no egocentrism and 10 representing extreme egocentrism.

The psychologist calculated measures of central tendency for the egocentrism scores. They found that the mean egocentrism score was 4.8, the median egocentrism score was 5 and the mode egocentrism score was 6.

1 8**1**

Sketch a graph to show the most likely distribution curves for the egocentrism scores in this study. Label the axes of your graph and mark on it the positions of the mean, median and mode.

[3 marks]**1 8****2**

What sort of distribution does your graph show?

[1 mark]**1 9**

Explain **one** limitation of asking parents to rate their own children.

[2 marks]**2 0**

Baillargeon studied early infant abilities by conducting violation of expectation studies. What is meant by 'violation of expectation'?

[1 mark]**2 1**

Describe and evaluate Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development.

[16 marks]

Section C

Schizophrenia or Eating behaviour or Stress

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

Topic: Schizophrenia

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Louise comes from a family with a history of schizophrenia, as both her grandfather and an aunt have been diagnosed with the disorder. Louise's father has recently died from cancer and she has just moved out of the family home to start a university course. Although she has always been healthy in the past, she has just begun to experience symptoms of schizophrenia, such as delusions and hallucinations.

2 2

Using your knowledge of schizophrenia, explain why Louise is now showing symptoms of schizophrenia.

[4 marks]

2 3

Briefly outline how cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) is used to treat schizophrenia **and** explain **one** limitation of using CBT to treat schizophrenia.

[4 marks]

2 4

Discuss biological explanations for schizophrenia.

[16 marks]

Topic: **Eating behaviour**

2 **5**

Briefly outline the role of ghrelin in the control of eating behaviour.

[2 marks]

2 **6**

Using your knowledge of the role of learning in food preference, outline how parents might encourage their children to eat a healthy diet.

[4 marks]

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Research has identified centres in the hypothalamus that are involved in the control of eating behaviour. Much of this research has used non-human animals, such as rats and mice.

2 **7**

Explain **one** limitation of using non-human animals to research the brain mechanisms of eating behaviour.

[2 marks]

2 **8**

Discuss psychological explanations for anorexia nervosa.

[16 marks]

Section C continues on the next page

Topic: Stress**2 9**

With reference to hardiness, outline what is meant by 'challenge'.

[2 marks]

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Mike recently started working for a bank. He works long hours and his manager is always asking him to take on new tasks. Mike has started feeling anxious and having sleepless nights. His doctor has just prescribed medication for his raised blood pressure.

3 0

Using your knowledge of workplace stress, explain why Mike may be experiencing these stress-related symptoms.

[4 marks]**3 1**

The Social Readjustment Rating Scale is widely used to measure stress.

Explain **one** limitation of the Social Readjustment Rating Scale.

[2 marks]**3 2**

Drug therapy, stress inoculation therapy and biofeedback are methods used to cope with stress. Discuss **two** of these methods of coping with 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**

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

News correspondents in inner cities have remarked upon how young males frequently carry weapons and engage in threatening behaviour.

3 **3**

Using your knowledge of evolutionary explanations of aggression, account for these high levels of aggression in young males.

[4 marks]

3 **4**

Briefly outline and evaluate the findings of **one** research study into genetic factors in aggression.

[4 marks]

3 **5**

Describe and evaluate the social learning theory of human aggression.

[16 marks]

Section D continues on the next page

Topic: Forensic Psychology

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

In the UK, it is against the law to have more than one wife or husband at the same time. Smacking children was not illegal before 2004 in the UK, but now can be a criminal offence.

3	6
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Referring to the statements above, explain **two** problems in defining crime.

[4 marks]

3	7
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Outline **one** cognitive distortion shown by offenders who attempt to justify their crime.

[2 marks]

3	8
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One method of offender profiling involves categorising offenders as either organised or disorganised offenders. Briefly explain **one** limitation of this method of offender profiling.

[2 marks]

3	9
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Discuss the psychological effects of custodial sentencing.

[16 marks]

Topic: Addiction

4 0

Briefly outline **one** method for reducing addiction **and** explain **one** limitation of this method.

[4 marks]

4 1

Read the item and then answer the question that follows.

Dave comes from a family of smokers. He began smoking at an early age. Now in his twenties, he has tried to stop smoking but finds it difficult, especially now that he has taken on more responsibility at work.

Briefly explain risk factors relevant to Dave's addiction to smoking.

[4 marks]

4 2

Discuss explanations for gambling addiction.

[16 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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