

General Certificate of Education  
June 2005  
Advanced Level Examination



**PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION A)**  
**Unit 5 Individual Differences; Perspectives:  
Issues and Debates; Approaches**

**PYA5**

Wednesday 22 June 2005 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

**In addition to this paper you will require:**  
a 16-page answer book.

Time allowed: 2 hours

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or 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 PYA5.
- In Section A answer **one** question.
- In Section B answer **one** question.
- In Section C answer **one** question. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 94.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- In addition to the mark allocations indicated within the paper, you will be awarded up to 4 marks for your ability to organise and present information, ideas, descriptions and arguments clearly and logically. Account will be taken of your use of grammar, punctuation and spelling and the legibility of your handwriting.

---

**SECTION A – INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**

Answer **one** question from this Section.

In your answer to the question, you will be assessed on your ability to relate the given content to other areas of Psychology.

---

- 1 Critically consider the DSM **and** the ICD as classification systems for psychological abnormality. *(30 marks)*
  
  - 2 (a) Outline clinical characteristics of **one** anxiety disorder. *(5 marks)*  
(b) Outline and evaluate **two or more** explanations of **one** anxiety disorder. *(25 marks)*
  
  - 3 Describe and evaluate **two or more** biological (somatic) therapies. *(30 marks)*
- 

**SECTION B – PERSPECTIVES: ISSUES AND DEBATES**

Answer **one** question from this Section.

In your answer to the question, you will be assessed on your ability to relate the given content to other areas of Psychology.

---

- 4 Discuss the ethics of socially sensitive research. *(30 marks)*
  
- 5 Discuss the use of non-human animals in psychological research. *(30 marks)*
  
- 6 Discuss the free will and determinism debate in psychological research. *(30 marks)*
  
- 7 Discuss psychology as a science. *(30 marks)*

---

**SECTION C – PERSPECTIVES: APPROACHES**

Answer **one** question from this Section.

You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.

In your answer to the question, you will be assessed on your ability to relate the given content to other areas of Psychology.

---

- 8** A team of psychologists carried out a study on behalf of an insurance company into people who take part in potentially dangerous sports. These include white-water canoeing, free-fall parachuting, rugby and boxing. Some of the sports are team games (such as rugby) and some are solo activities, but all of them carry the risk of personal injury. The psychologists were interested in finding out why some people take part in potentially dangerous sports and others do not.
- (a) Describe how **two** approaches might try to explain why some people take part in potentially dangerous sports. *(6 marks + 6 marks)*
  - (b) Assess **one** of these explanations of why some people take part in potentially dangerous sports, in terms of its strengths and limitations. *(6 marks)*
  - (c) How would **one** of these approaches investigate why some people take part in potentially dangerous sports? *(6 marks)*
  - (d) Evaluate the use of this method of investigating why some people take part in potentially dangerous sports. *(6 marks)*
- 9** Billy is very popular in the office where he works because he makes people laugh. He regards himself as a bit of a comedian. He goes out of his way to learn jokes and he does unexpected things which make people laugh. He also does imitations of other people. He has a light-hearted, humorous approach to life generally. How might this be explained?
- (a) Describe how **two** approaches might try to explain why some people take a humorous approach to life. *(6 marks + 6 marks)*
  - (b) Assess **one** of these explanations of why some people take a humorous approach to life, in terms of its strengths and limitations. *(6 marks)*
  - (c) How would **one** of these approaches investigate why some people take a humorous approach to life? *(6 marks)*
  - (d) Evaluate the use of this method of investigating why some people take a humorous approach to life. *(6 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE**