

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Level Examination



PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION A) PYA4
**Unit 4 Social Psychology, Physiological Psychology,
Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology
and Comparative Psychology**

Tuesday 22 January 2008 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 16-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

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 PYA4.
- Answer **three** questions in total. These must be taken from **at least two** different sections.
- Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 76.
Four of these marks will be awarded for using good English, organising information clearly and using specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.

Answer **three** questions in total. These must be taken from **at least two** different sections.

Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.

SECTION A: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 1 Outline and evaluate **one or more** theories of the origins of prejudice. *(24 marks)*
 - 2 Discuss research into ‘understudied relationships’, such as gay and lesbian relationships, and mediated (eg Internet and text) relationships. *(24 marks)*
 - 3 (a) Outline **two** social psychological theories of aggression (eg social learning theory, deindividuation). *(12 marks)*
(b) Evaluate **one** of the social psychological theories of aggression that you have outlined in part (a). *(12 marks)*
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SECTION B: PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 4 Discuss the organisation of language in the brain. *(24 marks)*
 - 5 Discuss research relating to the nature of dreams (eg content, duration, type of dream). *(24 marks)*
 - 6 Outline and evaluate **one or more** theories of motivation. *(24 marks)*
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SECTION C: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 7 Discuss explanations of pattern recognition (eg template and feature detection theories). *(24 marks)*
- 8 With reference to explanations of perceptual development, discuss the nature-nurture debate in perception. *(24 marks)*
- 9 Describe and evaluate research into problem-solving. *(24 marks)*

SECTION D: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 10 (a) Outline **two** theories of cognitive development. *(12 marks)*
- (b) Evaluate **one** of the theories of cognitive development that you have outlined in part (a). *(12 marks)*
- 11 Discuss explanations for the development of gender identity **and/or** gender roles. *(24 marks)*
- 12 Discuss **one or more** explanations of adjustment to old age (eg social disengagement theory). *(24 marks)*
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SECTION E: COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 13 Discuss **one or more** evolutionary explanations of the behaviour of non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 14 Outline and evaluate the use of **two or more** signalling systems in non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 15 (a) Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations of depression. *(12 marks)*
- (b) Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations of anxiety disorders. *(12 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page