

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



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

Tuesday 10 June 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 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 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 Discuss social and cultural influences on perception of the social world. *(24 marks)*
 - 2 (a) Outline **two or more** theories of the formation **and/or** maintenance of relationships (eg reward/need satisfaction, social exchange theory). *(12 marks)*
(b) Evaluate **one** of the theories of the formation **and/or** maintenance of relationships that you have outlined in your answer to part (a). *(12 marks)*
 - 3 Outline and evaluate research relating to media influences on pro-social behaviour. *(24 marks)*
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SECTION B: PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 4 Discuss the functional organisation of the cerebral cortex. *(24 marks)*
 - 5 (a) Describe research into biological rhythms (eg circadian, infradian, ultradian). *(12 marks)*
(b) Consider the consequences of disrupting biological rhythms (eg shift work, jet lag). *(12 marks)*
 - 6 Discuss research relating to the role of brain structures in motivational states. *(24 marks)*
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SECTION C: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 7 Outline and evaluate **one or more** explanations of selective (focused) attention. *(24 marks)*
- 8 Discuss explanations of **one or more** aspects of perceptual organisation (eg depth, movement, perceptual constancies, visual illusions). *(24 marks)*
- 9 Discuss the relationship between language and thought. *(24 marks)*

SECTION D: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 10 Discuss the role of genetics in the development of measured intelligence. (24 marks)
- 11 Describe and evaluate social learning as an explanation of personality development. (24 marks)
- 12 ‘Events such as marriage, divorce and parenthood may have considerable effects on the individual, but these effects may vary with an individual’s gender and culture.’

Discuss research into the effects on the individual of **one or more** of the following:

- marriage
- divorce
- parenthood.

(24 marks)

SECTION E: COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 13 Describe and evaluate studies relating to the role of social learning in the behaviour of non-human animals. (24 marks)
- 14 Outline and evaluate **two or more** explanations of how animals navigate. (24 marks)
- 15 Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations of parental investment in humans (eg sex differences, parent-offspring conflict). (24 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page