

Centre Number						Candidate Number				
Surname										
Other Names										
Candidate Signature										

For Examiner's Use	
Examiner's Initials	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

Psychology (Specification A)

PSYA1

Unit 1 Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

Wednesday 13 May 2009 9.00 am to 10.30 am

You will need no other materials.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Answers written in margins or on blank pages will not be marked.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- If you need extra paper, use the Supplementary Answer Sheets.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- Question 4 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 4, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



J U N 0 9 P S Y A 1 0 1

G/K44360 6/6/6/3

PSYA1

SECTION A: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODS

Answer **all** questions.

Total for this question: 6 marks

- 1** Cognitive interviews have been developed to improve witness recall. Identify and explain **two** techniques used in the cognitive interview.

Technique 1

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Technique 2

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(3 marks + 3 marks)

6



Total for this question: 6 marks

2 A brain scan shows that one area of the brain is more active when a person is doing a verbal task. However, when this person is doing a visual task, a different area of the brain is more active.

2 (a) Explain how this could relate to the working memory model. Refer to different parts of the working memory model in your answer.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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2 (b) Give an example of an appropriate verbal task and an appropriate visual task which could be used during the brain scan.

Verbal task

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Visual task

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(1 mark + 1 mark)

6

Turn over ▶



Total for this question: 12 marks

- 3 Some psychology students read about an experiment which suggested that organisation is a useful strategy for improving memory. The students carried out an experiment to investigate the effects of organisation on word recall. They made up a list of 50 items that could be bought in a supermarket. The participants were teachers at their school. One group of participants saw the words organised into categories such as fruit, vegetables, dairy products and cleaning materials. The other group saw the same words presented randomly.

The results are given in **Table 1** below.

Table 1 The number of words correctly recalled by participants who saw the organised list and participants who saw the random list

	Organised List	Random List
	20	15
	15	13
	18	19
	45	14
	24	20
	23	10
	28	21
	21	6
	25	22
	30	25
Measure of central tendency		
Measure of dispersion		

- 3 (a) Identify a suitable measure of central tendency that could be used with these data. Justify your answer.

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(2 marks)



- 3 (b) The psychology students decided to use a volunteer sample. Suggest **one** way in which this sample could be obtained.

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(2 marks)

- 3 (c) Suggest **one** possible extraneous variable in this study.

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(1 mark)

- 3 (d) Suggest **one** way in which the students could control for this extraneous variable.

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(2 marks)

Question 3 continues on the next page

Turn over ►



3 (e) The psychology students wanted to carry out an experiment to investigate the effectiveness of a different strategy for memory improvement.

For this further experiment, suggest the following:

3 (e) (i) an appropriate strategy for memory improvement;

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(2 marks)

3 (e) (ii) an appropriate experimental design;

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(1 mark)

3 (e) (iii) operationalised independent and dependent variables.

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(2 marks)

12



Total for this question: 12 marks

4 Outline and evaluate research into the effects of anxiety on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

You may use this space to plan your answer

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Turn over ►



SECTION B: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODS

Answer **all** questions.

Total for this question: 13 marks

5 A recent study recorded the amount of time that children spent in day care from birth to four years, and asked each child’s mother to rate her child for aggression and disobedience. The study found that, as the time spent in day care went up, the mothers’ rating of aggression and disobedience also went up.

5 (a) What kind of correlation is this research showing?

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(1 mark)

5 (b) Outline **one** strength and **one** weakness of using correlational research to investigate the effects of day care.

Strength

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Weakness

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(2 marks + 2 marks)



The researchers also found that children who experienced better quality day care had fewer behavioural problems than children who experienced lower quality day care.

5 (c) Outline **two** characteristics of high quality day care.

Characteristic 1

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Characteristic 2

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

5 (d) What have studies shown us about the effects of day care on peer relations?

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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Total for this question: 4 marks

6 (a) What is meant by the term *attachment*?

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(2 marks)

6 (b) Tick **two** of the boxes below to indicate which of the following statements relate to Bowlby's evolutionary theory of attachment.

A Attachment takes place during a critical period or not at all.

B Infants become attached to the person who feeds them.

C Infants are innately programmed to form an attachment.

D Attachments are based on the principles of classical and operant conditioning.

(2 marks)

4



Total for this question: 12 marks

7 Research has suggested that institutionalisation can have negative effects on children. In the 1990s, many children were found living in poor quality orphanages in Romania. Luca had lived in one of these orphanages from birth. When he was four years old, he was adopted and he left the orphanage to live in Canada. His development was then studied for a number of years.

7 (a) Outline possible negative effects of institutionalisation on Luca.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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Question 7 continues on the next page

Turn over ▶



7 (b) The scenario above is an example of a case study. Outline **one** strength and **one** limitation of this research method.

Strength

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Limitation

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

7 (c) Disruption of attachment can occur when children experience separation from their attachment figure during their early childhood.

Outline **one** study of the effects of disruption of attachment.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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Total for this question: 7 marks

8 By observing interactions between the infants and their mothers in a Strange Situation, Mary Ainsworth was able to identify different types of attachment.

8 (a) Describe possible demand characteristics in this research.

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(3 marks)

8 (b) How does the behaviour of securely attached infants differ from that of insecurely attached infants?

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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7

END OF QUESTIONS



There are no questions printed on this page

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED**

