

Centre Number						Candidate Number				
Surname										
Other Names										
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For Examiner's Use	
Examiner's Initials	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
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6	
7	
8	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2010

Psychology (Specification A)

PSYA1

**Unit 1 Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology
and Research Methods**

Wednesday 13 January 2010 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 8 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 8, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



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

SECTION A: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODS

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Total for this question: 6 marks

1 (a) Tick **two** of the boxes below to indicate which of the following are features of the working memory model.

- A** Serial position curve
- B** Incidental learning store
- C** Central executive
- D** Phonological loop

(2 marks)

1 (b) Explain **one** strength **and one** weakness of the working memory model.

Strength

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Weakness

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(4 marks)

6



Total for this question: 10 marks

2 A case study was carried out on Peter whose brain was damaged in a motorcycle accident. Psychologists tested how many numbers he could hold in his short-term memory. They did this by reading him lists of numbers and asking him to recall the numbers immediately in the right order. He could recall a maximum of two items. The psychologists found that his long-term memory was normal.

2 (a) How was Peter’s short-term memory after the accident different from most adults’ short-term memory?

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(2 marks)

2 (b) Does this case study support the multi-store model of memory? Explain your answer.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space).....
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Turn over ►



2 (c) Identify **one** ethical issue associated with this case study of Peter. Suggest how psychologists could deal with this ethical issue.

Ethical issue

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How psychologists could deal with this ethical issue.....

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(4 marks)

10



Total for this question: 16 marks

3 A psychologist carried out a field experiment to investigate the accuracy of eyewitness testimony. The participants were pupils and parents attending a school concert. Just before the concert began, two professional actors had an argument on the stage. During the argument, one actor pushed the other actor. Both actors then left the stage. Some of the audience were approached as they left the concert and were asked to take part in an experiment. Those who agreed were taken to a quiet room and were asked some questions about the argument. For some participants, the questions included, “Did you see the man in glasses push the other man?” In fact, neither man was wearing glasses.

The participants were then asked to describe the argument in their own words.

3 (a) What is a field experiment?

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(2 marks)

3 (b) Other than ethical issues, outline **one** weakness of using a field experiment in this investigation.

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(2 marks)

3 (c) Suggest why the psychologist included the question about the man in glasses.

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(2 marks)

Turn over ►



3 (d) The psychologist applied content analysis to each participant’s description of the argument. One behavioural category the psychologist selected was “pushing”. Suggest **one other** relevant behavioural category the psychologist could select. Explain how the content analysis could be carried out.

Behavioural category

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Explanation of how the content analysis could be carried out

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(1 mark + 3 marks)



Total for this question: 4 marks

4 Psychologists have suggested various strategies for memory improvement.

Outline **one or more** ways to improve memory.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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SECTION B: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODSAnswer **all** questions in the spaces provided.**Total for this question: 7 marks**5 (a) What is meant by the term *attachment*?

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*(2 marks)*5 (b) Tick **two** of the boxes below to indicate which statements best describe the behaviour of a **securely attached child in the Strange Situation**.

A Exploration of the environment is limited because the infant has difficulty moving away from the caregiver.

B The infant explores a strange environment, plays happily with toys and uses the caregiver as a safe base.

C The infant goes to the caregiver when she returns and is easily soothed.

D The infant goes to the caregiver when she returns but is difficult to comfort.

*(2 marks)***Question 5 continues on the next page****Turn over ►**

5 (c) Outline how Ainsworth studied types of attachment.

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(3 marks)

7



Total for this question: 11 marks

6 A psychologist investigated the effect of different forms of day care on children’s later social development. She selected two different types of day care:

- child minders
- day nurseries.

The children had been in one of these types of day care full-time for at least a year before they started primary school.

Each child’s mother was asked to complete a questionnaire.

6 (a) Identify **one** sampling technique and explain how it could be used to select the children.

Sampling technique

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Explanation of how it could be used to select the children

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(1 mark + 2 marks)

6 (b) The questionnaire given to the mothers included questions about the way their children’s social behaviour changed over time.

Explain what is meant by children’s social behaviour.

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(2 marks)

Turn over ►



6 (c) Write **one** suitable question which could be used in the questionnaire to produce **quantitative** data.

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(2 marks)

6 (d) Write **one** suitable question which could be used in the questionnaire to produce **qualitative** data.

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(2 marks)

6 (e) Give **one** weakness of using questionnaires in this research.

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(2 marks)

11



Total for this question: 6 marks

7 Simon, a two-year-old boy, was left by his parents in a residential nursery for nine days. His mother did not see him during this time because she was in hospital. He was looked after by many different carers who gave him good physical care.

7 (a) Explain how Simon’s behaviour might change as a result of disruption of attachment.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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7 (b) Suggest **one** way in which Simon’s experience when his mother went into hospital could have been improved.

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(2 marks)

6

Turn over ▶



Total for this question: 12 marks

8 Failure to form attachments is known as privation.

Outline and evaluate research into privation.

You may use this space to plan your answer

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