

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	
9	
10	
11	
12	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2010

Psychology (Specification A)

PSYA2

**Unit 2 Biological Psychology, Social Psychology
and Individual Differences**

Thursday 21 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 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 10 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 10, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



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PSYA2

SECTION A: BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

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

Total for this question: 3 marks

1 Outline the main features of the pituitary-adrenal system.

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(3 marks)

3

Total for this question: 4 marks

2 Sandy and Vandita play for the same netball team. Two weeks ago, while playing in a competition, they both grazed their elbows. Vandita’s wound is healing well, but Sandy’s wound is taking much longer to heal. Sandy is very worried about the plans for her wedding and her forthcoming house move.

Using your knowledge of psychology, explain why Sandy’s wound is taking longer to heal than Vandita’s.

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(4 marks)



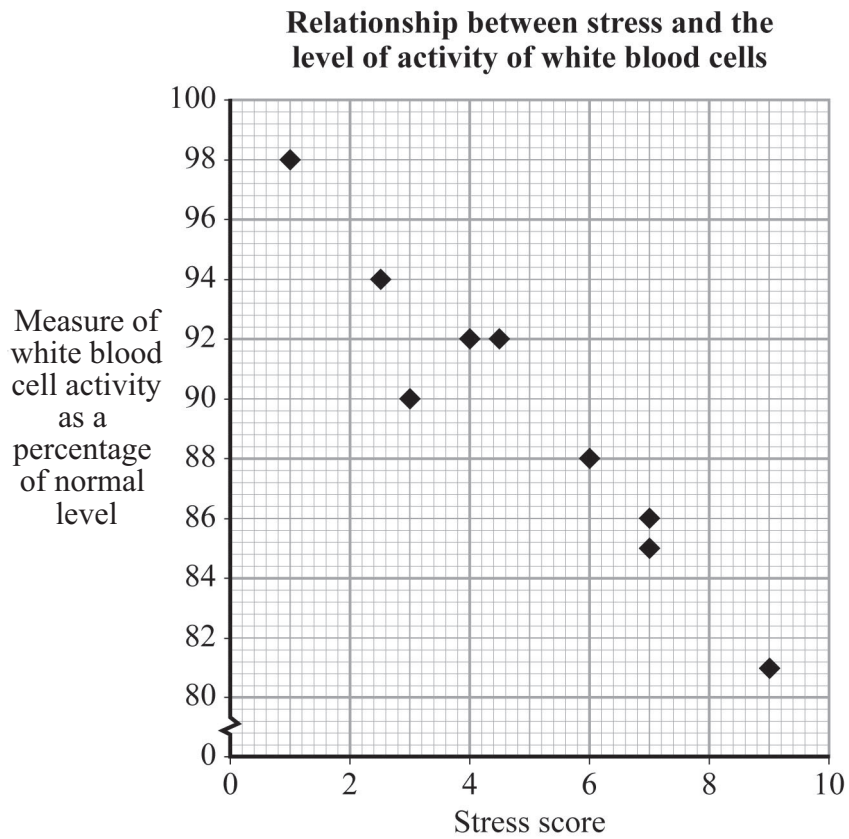
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4

Total for this question: 6 marks

- 3 (a) One measure of the functioning of the immune system is the level of activity of white blood cells.

What does the graph below tell you about the relationship between stress and the level of activity of white blood cells?



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(2 marks)

Turn over ▶



3 (b) Outline **one** strength **and one** weakness of using correlations in stress research.

Strength

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Weakness

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(4 marks)

6

Total for this question: 5 marks

4 Describe personality factors that have been shown to influence the way people respond to stress.

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(5 marks)

(Extra space)

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SECTION B: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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

Total for this question: 4 marks

6 (a) Explain what is meant by *internalisation* in the context of conformity.

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6 (b) Explain what is meant by *compliance* in the context of conformity.

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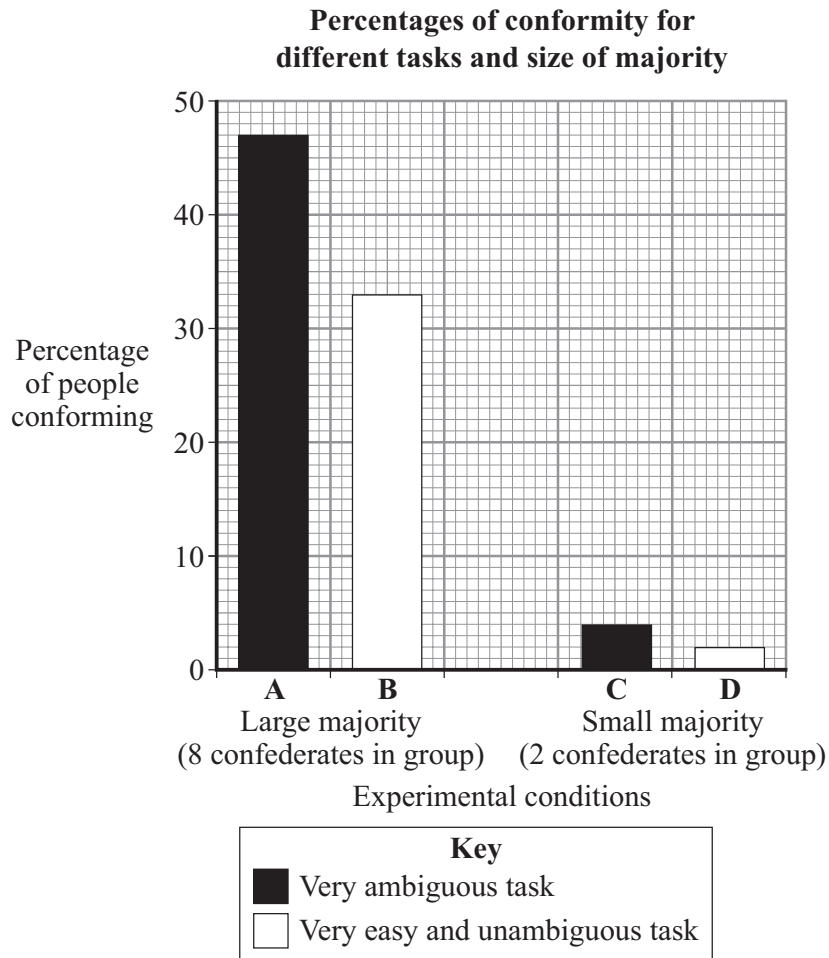
(2 marks + 2 marks)

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4



Total for this question: 6 marks

7 In an experiment into conformity, an experimenter varied both the number of confederates (stooges) and the ambiguity of the task. The bar chart below shows the findings.



7 (a) What does the bar chart show about conformity?

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(4 marks)

Turn over ▶



(Extra space)

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7 (b) Most research into conformity takes place in a laboratory. Outline **one** strength of conducting research into conformity in a laboratory.

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(2 marks)

6



Total for this question: 8 marks

8 Three students, George, Petra and Dan, have just started in the sixth form. Dan is a confident person who thinks that his fate lies firmly in his hands. By the end of the first week, Dan has put himself forward to be nominated as the class representative. Petra has also put her name forward to be nominated. She believes it is just luck whether or not she will be selected and feels that there is not much she can do about it. George did not put his name forward because his father told him not to.

8 (a) (i) What type of locus of control does Petra's behaviour show?

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8 (a) (ii) What type of locus of control does Dan's behaviour show?

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8 (a) (iii) George did not put his name forward as the class representative. Use your knowledge of social influence research to explain this.

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(1 mark + 1 mark + 2 marks)

Question 8 continues on the next page

Turn over ►



8 (b) Which **one** of the three students is most likely to resist pressures to conform? Use your knowledge of psychology to explain your choice.

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(4 marks)

(Extra space)

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SECTION C: INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

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

Total for this question: 12 marks

- 10** “Abnormality is very difficult to define. It can be hard to decide where normal behaviour ends and abnormal behaviour begins.”

Discuss **two or more** definitions of abnormality.

You may use this space to plan your answer

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Total for this question: 6 marks

11 Identify and outline key features of **two** psychological approaches to psychopathology.

Approach 1

Key features

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Approach 2

Key features

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(6 marks)

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6

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ▶



Total for this question: 6 marks

- 12** Hamish has a phobia of heights. This phobia has now become so bad that he has difficulty in going to his office on the third floor, and he cannot even sit on the top deck of a bus any more. He has decided to try systematic de-sensitisation to help him with his problem.

Explain how the therapist might use systematic de-sensitisation to help Hamish to overcome his phobia.

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(6 marks)

(Extra space)

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END OF QUESTIONS

