

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	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2011

Psychology (Specification A) PSYA1

Unit 1 Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

Wednesday 25 May 2011 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. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- Question 3 should be answered in continuous prose. You may use the space provided to plan your answer. In Question 3, you will be assessed on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



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PSYA1

Section A Cognitive Psychology and Research Methods

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

Total for this question: 8 marks

1 (a) **A, B and C** relate to memory. Write the appropriate letter in the box below. The first one has been done for you.

A 7 ± 2

B Up to 30 seconds without rehearsal
Write letter **B** in the appropriate box below.

C Mainly acoustic
Write letter **C** in the appropriate box below.

	Short-term memory	Long-term memory
Encoding		
Capacity	A	
Duration		

(2 marks)

1 (b) Outline the working memory model.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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1 (c) Explain **one** limitation of the working memory model.

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(2 marks)

8

Total for this question: 16 marks

2 A psychologist carried out an experiment using an independent groups design. The psychologist wished to investigate the effectiveness of a strategy for memory improvement. In one condition, participants were taught a memory improvement strategy. In the other condition, participants were not taught this memory improvement strategy. All participants were asked to memorise 10 pictures of familiar objects. For example, the first was a doll, the second was an apple. All participants were then given 50 pictures each, and asked to select the original 10.

The psychologist did a pilot study before carrying out the experiment. The results of the experiment are shown in **Table 1** on page 5.

2 (a) Write a directional hypothesis for this experiment.

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(2 marks)

2 (b) Explain what is meant by an independent groups design.

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(1 mark)

Question 2 continues on the next page

Turn over ►



2 (c) Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of using an independent groups design.

Strength

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Limitation

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

2 (d) Explain why the psychologist did a pilot study.

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(3 marks)



Table 1 The mean number of pictures correctly identified and standard deviations for participants with the memory improvement strategy and without the memory improvement strategy

	With memory improvement strategy	Without memory improvement strategy
Mean	8	7
Standard Deviation	2.80	0.29

2 (e) What do the standard deviations in **Table 1** tell us about the performance of the two groups?

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(2 marks)

2 (f) Outline **one** strategy for memory improvement which the psychologist could have taught the participants in this experiment.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Section B Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

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

Total for this question: 6 marks

4 Anya has a 10-month-old son called Ben. Anya sometimes ignores Ben and does not respond when he cries. However, when Anya feels like playing with Ben, she wakes him up, even if he is soundly asleep.

4 (a) What type of attachment is Ben likely to show? Explain your answer.

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(3 marks)

4 (b) Explain how a psychologist could investigate Ben’s attachment type using Ainsworth’s Strange Situation.

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(3 marks)

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Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Total for this question: 4 marks

5 Outline what research has shown about cultural variations in attachment.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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4



Total for this question: 8 marks

6 Psychologists sometimes use case studies to study children. One example was of a boy who was discovered at the age of six. He had been kept in a darkened room and had had almost no social contact with people.

6 (a) How could a psychologist maintain confidentiality when reporting a case study?

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(2 marks)

6 (b) Psychologists use a range of techniques to gather information in case studies.

Outline **one** technique which the psychologist could use in this case study.

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(2 marks)

Question 6 continues on the next page

Turn over ►



6 (c) Apart from ethical issues, explain **one or more** limitations of using case studies.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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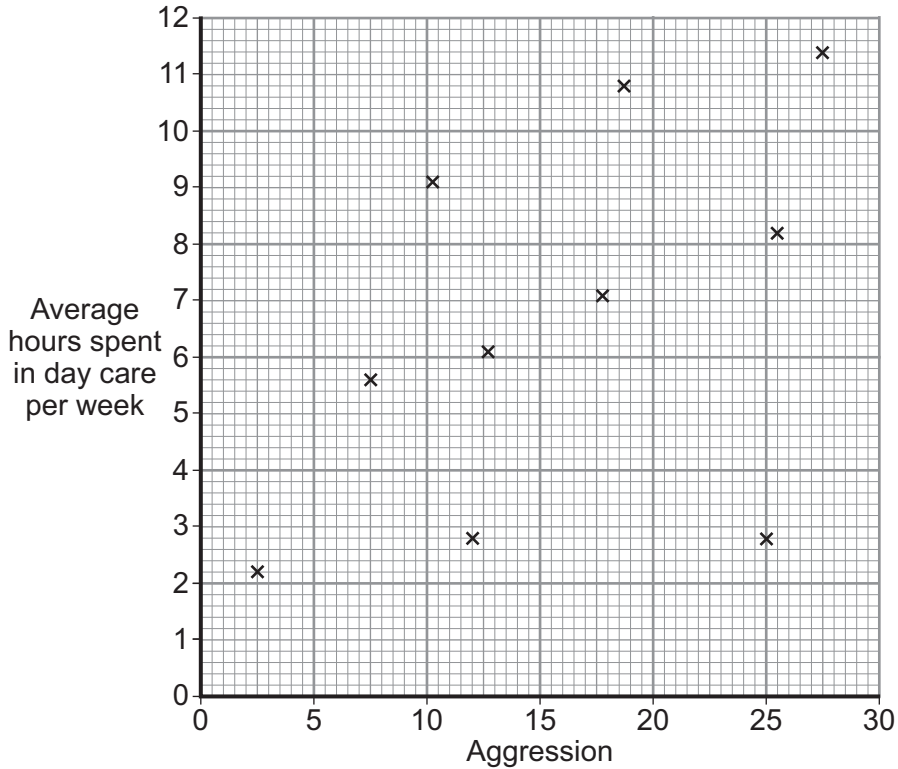
8



Total for this question: 6 marks

- 7** Some research has suggested that there is a relationship between the time children spend in day care and their aggressive behaviour. Researchers selected a group of school children who had been in day care. They asked the children’s mothers to estimate how many hours a week their children had spent in day care. They measured the same children’s aggression.

Relationship between average hours spent in day care and aggression



- 7 (a)** How many children are represented in this scattergram?

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 (1 mark)

- 7 (b)** Suggest **one** way in which the children’s aggression could be measured.

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 (2 marks)

Question 7 continues on the next page

Turn over ►



7 (c) In the media, it was claimed that the results showed spending time in day care caused the children to become aggressive.

Explain why this claim may be untrue.

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(3 marks)

6

Total for this question: 4 marks

8 Describe **one or more** studies of the effects of day care on peer relations.

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(4 marks)

Extra space

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4



There are no questions printed on this page

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

