



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Level Examination

Psychology (Specification A)

Unit 3 Topics in Psychology

PSYA3

Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards

This question paper uses the [new numbering system](#) and [new AQA answer book](#)

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 PSYA3.
- Answer **three** topics. Answer **all** questions on the topics you choose. Where appropriate, refer to theories and/or studies, approaches, issues and debates in your answer.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets
- The maximum mark for this paper is 75.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Choose **three** topics.

Answer **all** questions on the topics you choose.

Each topic carries 25 marks.

Where appropriate, refer to theories and/or studies, approaches, issues and debates in your answer.

Topic: Biological Rhythms and Sleep

0	1
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 Discuss the role of endogenous pacemakers **and** exogenous zeitgebers in the sleep/waking cycle and at least **one** other biological rhythm. *(9 marks +16 marks)*

Topic: Perception

0	2
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 Describe and evaluate Gibson's bottom up/direct theory of perception. *(9 marks +16 marks)*

Topic: Relationships

0	3
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 Outline **one or more** theories relating to the formation and/or maintenance of relationships. *(9 marks)*

0	4
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 Evaluate **one** of the theories outlined in

0	3
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 with particular emphasis on the nature of relationships in different cultures. *(16 marks)*

Topic: Aggression

0	5
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 Outline and evaluate **one** social psychological and **one** biological explanation of human aggression. *(9 marks + 16 marks)*

Topic: Eating Behaviour

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 Outline factors influencing attitudes to food and eating behaviour. (5 marks)

0	7
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 Outline and evaluate **one or more** psychological explanations of **one** eating disorder. (4 marks + 16 marks)

Topic: Gender

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 "As children branch out to social relationships with their peers, gender development continues in very powerful ways - in the games they play, the relationships they form, and how they react to each other's behaviours."

Discuss the **influence** of social context on gender development. (9 marks + 16 marks)

Topic: Intelligence and Learning

0	9
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 Describe **one** theory of intelligence. (9 marks)

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 Evaluate the role of genetic factors in intelligence test performance. (16 marks)

Topic: Cognition and Development

1	1
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 Describe and evaluate research studies into the development of perspective taking in children. (9 marks + 16 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page