

Teacher Resource Bank

GCE Psychology B

Additional Sample Questions: PSYB1



ADDITIONAL SAMPLE QUESTIONS: PSYB1

Please note that the questions in each topic are intended as stand-alone practice questions. There has been no attempt to provide complete units.

Approaches

1 Below are three definitions:

- A a person's characteristics that are determined solely by the environment
- B a person's genetic make-up
- C a person's characteristics that are determined by genetics and the environment.

In your answer book, write down which of the above is a definition of:

- (i) a genotype;
- (ii) a phenotype. *(2 marks)*

2 Identify **two** functions of the parasympathetic branch of the autonomic nervous system. *(2 marks)*

3 Identify **two** methods that are used to investigate localisation of function (cortical specialisation) in the brain. *(2 marks)*

4 Shelby had a new set of crayons. However, rather than use them in her colouring book, she scribbled all over the wallpaper. Shelby's mother was very angry and sent her to her bedroom. When Shelby was left alone again, she crayoned in her book, rather than on the wallpaper.

Identify **two** features of the behaviourist approach and say how they might explain Shelby's change in behaviour. *(4 marks)*

5 Describe and discuss **at least two** features of the psychodynamic approach. *(10 marks)*

Gender development

1 Identify **one** atypical sex chromosome pattern and outline how it might affect an individual. (3 marks)

2 Below are statements made by three children.

- “My name is Michael. I have long, brown hair.”
- “My name is Valerie. When I grow up, I am going to be a mummy.”
- “My name is Kate and I am a girl.”

In your answer book, write down the statement which illustrates the concept of:

- (i) gender identity;
- (ii) gender stability. (2 marks)

3 Describe **one** study in which the development of gender identity was investigated. Indicate in your answer why the study was conducted, the method used, the results obtained and the conclusion drawn. (4 marks)

4 Discuss the social learning theory explanation of gender. (10 marks)

Research methods

1 A psychologist conducted an experiment to investigate whether sleep deprivation disrupts participants' problem solving.

A stratified sample of twenty participants was selected to take part in the study.

In the experiment, participants were presented with six different mathematical problems.

In one condition, ten participants were each required to solve six problems, having been deprived of sleep for twenty-four hours prior to the study.

In the control condition, the remaining ten participants, who had not been deprived of sleep, were each required to solve the same problems.

Participants were allowed five minutes to solve each problem.

The total number of mathematical problems solved by each participant is given in **Table 1**.

Table 1 The total number of mathematical problems solved by each participant in the sleep-deprivation condition and control condition

Participant Sleep-deprivation condition	Number of mathematical problems solved	Participant Control condition	Number of mathematical problems solved
1	2	11	4
2	1	12	5
3	3	13	3
4	4	14	6
5	3	15	5
6	2	16	3
7	2	17	4
8	1	18	6
9	1	19	6
10	1	20	6
Total	20		48

- (a) Using the values given in **Table 1**,
- calculate the mean score for the sleep-deprivation condition **and** for the control condition;
 - give the mode for the sleep-deprivation condition **and** for the control condition.
- Label your answers clearly. (4 marks)
- (b) What do the total scores indicate about the effects of sleep deprivation? Justify your answer. (2 marks)
- (c) Prior to the experiment, the psychologist conducted a pilot study. Outline why the psychologist chose to do this. (2 marks)
- (d) Explain **one** problem that might have arisen if the psychologist had chosen to use a repeated measures design in **this** study. (3 marks)
- (e) (i) The psychologist used stratified sampling to select the twenty participants.
- Outline what is meant by *stratified sampling*. (2 marks)
- (ii) Identify **one** strength and **one** limitation of stratified sampling. (2 marks)
- (f) Identify and explain **one** ethical issue that the psychologist should have taken into account in **this** study. (3 marks)
- (g) Identify **one** strength and **one** limitation of the experimental method in psychology. (2 marks)