

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
A2 GCE

G544/01

PSYCHOLOGY

**Approaches and Research Methods
in Psychology**

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014: Morning
DURATION: 1 hour 30 minutes
plus your additional time allowance

MODIFIED ENLARGED

Candidate forename		Candidate surname	
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Centre number						Candidate number				
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Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR SUPPLIED MATERIALS:

None

OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED:

None

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes on the front page. Please write clearly and in capital letters.

Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.

Answer ALL the questions in SECTION A and EITHER Question 8 OR Question 9 in SECTION B.

Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined page(s) at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

The total number of marks for this paper is 80.

Any blank pages are indicated.

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SECTION A

Your task is to answer questions about how a piece of research related to the passage below could be conducted.

Psychologists use a range of methods to collect their data including experiments and observations. Behaviourists believe that the subject matter of psychology should be observable behaviour and experiments can sometimes include the use of observational techniques. The presence of others can be studied experimentally by measuring what participants are doing rather than what they are thinking.

You must choose ONE of the options (a)–(g):

- (a) The effect of the presence of others on musical performance.**
- (b) The effect of the presence of others on sport performance.**
- (c) The effect of the presence of others on mathematical skill.**
- (d) The effect of the presence of others on acts of kindness.**
- (e) The effect of the presence of others on aggressive behaviour.**

- (f) The effect of the presence of others on food choices.**
- (g) The effect of the presence of others on face recognition.**

You must use an independent measures design experiment and plan to collect data which measures observable behaviour. It must be a practical project that could be conducted.

SECTION A

Answer ALL the questions in SECTION A in relation to your practical project.

State the option (a)–(g) you have chosen for your practical project _____

1 State the null hypothesis for your practical project.

[3]

13 marks are awarded for replicability and appropriateness, and 6 for the quality of the design and its feasibility. [13 + 6]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

3 Outline ONE advantage of using the experimental method in your practical project.

[3]

4 (a) Explain ONE strength of using the independent measures design in your practical project.

[3]

(b) Explain ONE weakness of using the independent measures design in your practical project.

[3]

5 State an appropriate inferential statistical test to analyse the data that would be collected in your practical project. Give reasons for your choice.

[3]

6 Briefly discuss ONE practical issue in relation to your practical project.

[3]

7 Suggest an alternative way of manipulating the independent variable in your practical project.

[3]

SECTION B

Answer EITHER Question 8 OR Question 9.

EITHER

- 8 (a) Briefly outline the psychodynamic perspective in psychology. [4]**
- (b) Describe TWO pieces of research that use the psychodynamic perspective in psychology. [8]**
- (c) Discuss the strengths and limitations of research that provides an individual explanation of behaviour. Use examples of psychological research to support your answer. [12]**
- (d) Compare the psychodynamic perspective with the physiological approach. Use examples of psychological research to support your answer. [8]**
- (e) Can individual explanations of behaviour be considered useful? [8]**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO ANSWER QUESTION 8, WRITE YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGES 15 TO 23.

OR

- 9 (a) Briefly outline TWO ethical issues relating to psychological research. [4]**
- (b) Describe TWO pieces of research in psychology that can be considered unethical. [8]**
- (c) Discuss strengths and limitations of using observation to investigate behaviour. Use examples of psychological research to support your answer. [12]**
- (d) Compare the observational method with any other research method. Use examples of psychological research to support your answer. [8]**
- (e) Discuss the ethics of the case study method in psychology. [8]**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO ANSWER QUESTION 9, WRITE YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGES 24 TO 31.

EITHER

8 (a) Briefly outline the psychodynamic perspective in psychology.

[4]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

(e) Can individual explanations of behaviour be considered useful? [8]

OR

- 9 (a) Briefly outline TWO ethical issues relating to psychological research.**

[4]

- (b) Describe TWO pieces of research in psychology that can be considered unethical. [8]**

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

ADDITIONAL ANSWER SPACE

If additional answer space is required, you should use the following lined pages. The question number(s) must be clearly shown in the margins.

[illegible]

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