

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	
TOTAL	



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2012

# Psychology (Specification A) PSYA1

## Unit 1 Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

Tuesday 10 January 2012 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.



J A N 1 2 P S Y A 1 0 1

**Section A Cognitive Psychology and Research Methods**

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

**Total for this question: 20 marks**

**1** A researcher carried out an experiment to investigate misleading information. Participants were shown a photograph in which a man and a woman were talking. The photograph was then taken away and the participants were asked questions about it. Participants were randomly allocated to condition one or condition two.

Participants in condition one were asked:

**Question A** "How old was the youth in the photograph?"

Participants in condition two were asked:

**Question B** "How old was the man in the photograph?"

**1 (a)** Why is **Question A** an example of misleading information?

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*(2 marks)*

**1 (b)** Name an appropriate experimental design which could be used in this experiment. Explain why a repeated measures design would be unsuitable to use in this experiment.

**Experimental design** .....

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**Explanation** .....

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*(1 mark + 3 marks)*

*Extra space* .....

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**1 (c)** Explain why it would be appropriate to use a pilot study as part of this experiment.

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(4 marks)

*Extra space* .....

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**1 (d)** In this experiment, participants were asked to look at a photograph rather than watch a live conversation. Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of carrying out the experiment in this way.

**Strength** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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**Limitation** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

**Question 1 continues on the next page**

**Turn over ►**



**1 (e)** Describe **at least one** other research study into misleading information. In your answer you should include details of what participants were asked to do and what results were found.

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(6 marks)

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<b>20</b>



**Total for this question: 4 marks**

**2** Jenny was standing at a bus stop talking on her mobile phone. The weather was wet and cold. Two men in the bus queue started arguing. One of the men was stabbed and badly injured. Later that day the police questioned Jenny, using a cognitive interview. They asked her to report everything she could remember about the incident even if it seemed unimportant.

Apart from 'report everything', explain how the police could use a cognitive interview to investigate what Jenny could remember.

In your answer you must refer to details from the passage above.

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(4 marks)

*Extra space* .....

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<b>4</b>

**Turn over for the next question**

**Turn over ▶**











**Turn over for the next question**

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ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED**

**Turn over ►**



**Section B Developmental Psychology and Research Methods**

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

**Total for this question: 16 marks**

- 4** A researcher investigated the effect of age of starting day care on levels of aggression. Four-year-old children attending a day nursery were used. Each child was assessed by the researcher and given an aggression score. A high score indicated a high level of aggression. A low score indicated a low level of aggression. The maximum score was 50.

**Table 1 Mean aggression scores for four-year-old children who had started day care before the age of two or after the age of two**

	Started day care before the age of two	Started day care after the age of two
Mean score	25	23

- 4 (a)** Identify the operationalised independent variable **and** the operationalised dependent variable in this study.

**Operationalised independent variable** .....

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**Operationalised dependent variable** .....

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*(2 marks + 2 marks)*

- 4 (b)** What do the mean scores in **Table 1** suggest about the effect of age at which children started day care on children’s aggression?

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*(2 marks)*

- 4 (c)** Name **one** measure of dispersion that the researcher could have used to describe the data.

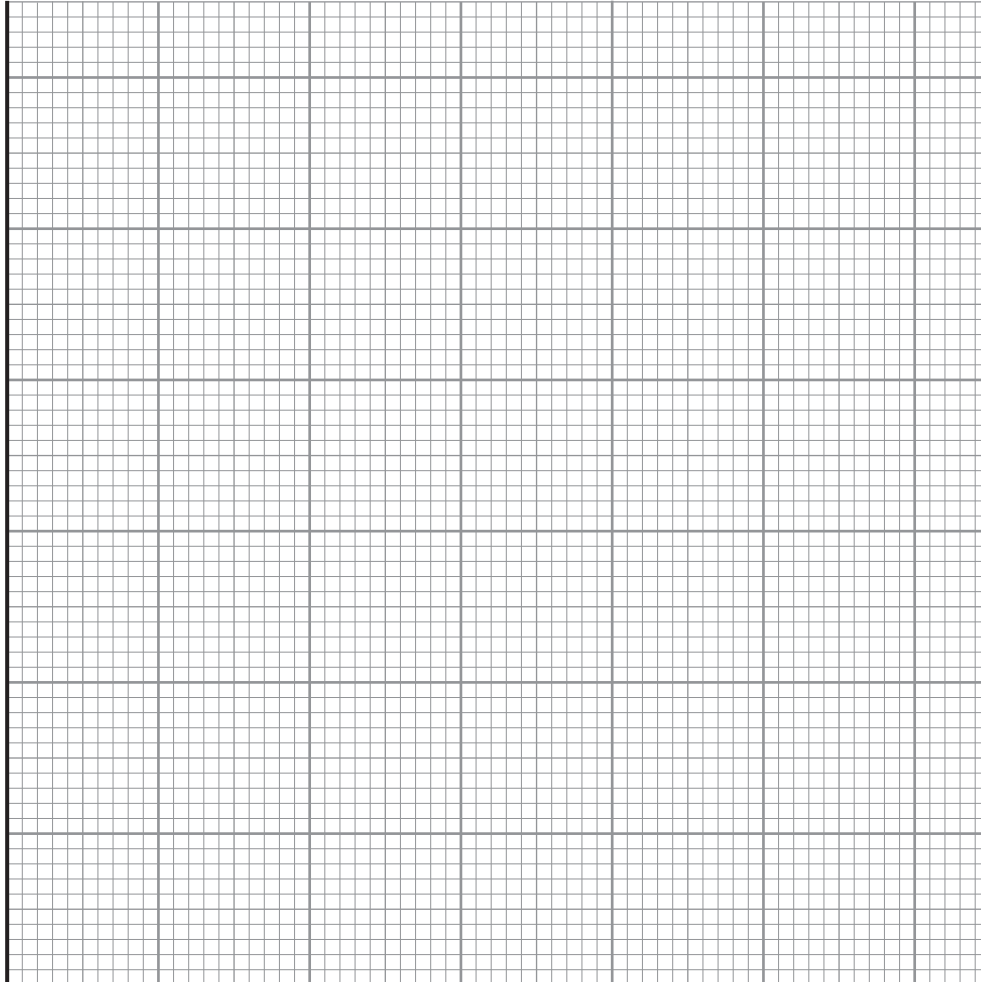
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*(1 mark)*



**4 (d)** Draw an appropriate bar chart to display the data presented in **Table 1**.  
Correctly label your bar chart.



(3 marks)

**4 (e)** State an appropriate directional hypothesis for this study.

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(2 marks)

**Question 4 continues on the next page**

**Turn over ►**



4 (f) Other research has shown that quality of care is important when considering the effects of day care on children. Outline **two** characteristics of high quality day care.

**Characteristic 1** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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**Characteristic 2** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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(2 marks + 2 marks)

<b>16</b>



**Total for this question: 8 marks**

**5** Sam and Dan are both twelve months old. They are observed separately in Ainsworth’s Strange Situation. Sam is slightly upset when his mother leaves, but Dan is very upset and cries loudly.

**5 (a)** In the table below, identify the type of attachment suggested by the behaviour of each child.

	Type of attachment
<b>Sam</b>	
<b>Dan</b>	

(2 marks)

**5 (b)** Sam’s and Dan’s behaviour was then observed when the mothers returned. Give **one** example of the behaviour that each child would be likely to show.

**Sam’s behaviour** .....

**Dan’s behaviour** .....

(2 marks)

**5 (c)** Apart from ethical issues, explain **one or more** limitations of using the Strange Situation to assess the type of attachment in young children.

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(4 marks)

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**Turn over ▶**





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**Total for this question: 4 marks**

**7** Psychologists have studied the effects of early experience on children’s later behaviour. This has included the effects of institutional care and privation.

Explain what is meant by the terms institutional care and privation. You may use examples in your answer.

**Institutional care** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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**Privation** .....

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*Extra space* .....

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*(2 marks + 2 marks)*

4

**END OF QUESTIONS**



**There are no questions printed on this page**

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