



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
January 2012

# Psychology (Specification A) PSYA3

## Unit 3 Topics in Psychology

Thursday 19 January 2012 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 16-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.
- Choose **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 your answer 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.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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Choose **three** topics.

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

Each topic carries 24 marks.

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

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**Topic: Biological Rhythms and Sleep**

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**0 | 1** Outline **one** explanation for narcolepsy. *(4 marks)*

**0 | 2** Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations for the functions of sleep. *(4 marks + 16 marks)*

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**Topic: Perception**

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**0 | 3** Discuss research into perceptual development. *(8 marks + 16 marks)*

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**Topic: Relationships**

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**0 | 4** Discuss research into the breakdown of romantic relationships. *(8 marks + 16 marks)*

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**Topic: Aggression**

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**0 | 5** Outline research into institutional aggression. *(4 marks)*

**0 | 6** Discuss **one or more** evolutionary explanations of group display in humans. *(4 marks + 16 marks)*

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**Topic: Eating Behaviour**

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**0 | 7** Discuss neural mechanisms involved in the control of eating behaviour. *(8 marks + 16 marks)*

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**Topic: Gender**

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**0 8** Describe research into social influences on gender. *(8 marks)*

**0 9** Assess the importance of social influences on gender. *(16 marks)*

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**Topic: Intelligence and Learning**

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**1 0** Outline key features of classical conditioning. *(8 marks)*

**1 1** Consider what research has shown about intelligence in non-human animals. *(16 marks)*

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**Topic: Cognition and Development**

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**1 2** Discuss the development of children's understanding of others. *(8 marks + 16 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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