

General Certificate of Education
January 2004
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 2 Physiological Psychology and Individual Differences

PYA2

Friday 9 January 2004 Morning Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Σ Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Σ Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is PYA2.
- Σ In Section A answer **one** question. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.
- Σ In Section B answer **one** question. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.
- Σ Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- Σ The maximum mark for this paper is 62.
- Σ Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- Σ In addition to the mark allocations indicated within the paper, you will be awarded up to 2 marks for your ability to organise and present information, ideas, descriptions and arguments clearly and logically. Account will be taken of your use of grammar, punctuation and spelling and the legibility of your handwriting.

SECTION A – PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **one** question from this Section.

You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.

1**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- (a) (i) Outline **one** physiological approach to stress management (e.g. drugs, biofeedback).
(3 marks)
- (ii) Give **one** strength of this physiological approach. (3 marks)
- (b) Give **two** criticisms of Selye's General Adaptation Syndrome. (3 marks + 3 marks)
- (c) "There is now evidence from a number of different studies that factors in the workplace can be stressful."
Outline and evaluate research (theories **and/or** studies) into the workplace as a source of stress. (18 marks)

2**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- (a) Outline **two** ways in which gender may modify the effects of stressors. (3 marks + 3 marks)
- (b) Describe the procedures and findings of **one** study of the effects of stress on the immune system. (6 marks)
- (c) Outline and evaluate **one or more** psychological approaches to stress management (e.g. stress-inoculation, increasing hardiness). (18 marks)

SECTION B – INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Answer **one** question from this Section.

You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.

3**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- (a) (i) Outline **one** assumption of the psychodynamic model in relation to the causes of abnormality. *(3 marks)*
- (ii) Outline **one** assumption of the biological (medical) model in relation to the causes of abnormality. *(3 marks)*
- (b) Describe the findings and conclusions of **one** study of the biological causes of bulimia **and/or** anorexia nervosa. *(6 marks)*
- (c) Outline **two or more** attempts to define psychological abnormality and consider limitations associated with these attempts. *(18 marks)*

4**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- (a) (i) Explain what is meant by the “failure to function adequately” definition of abnormality. *(3 marks)*
- (ii) Give **one** limitation of this definition. *(3 marks)*
- (b) Describe assumptions of the cognitive model in relation to the treatment of abnormality. *(6 marks)*
- (c) “Evidence suggests that eating disorders can be caused by both psychological and biological factors.”
- To what extent do biological approaches successfully explain eating disorders? *(18 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS