

General Certificate of Education  
January 2007  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

**PYA2**

Thursday 11 January 2007 9.00 am to 10.00 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or 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 PYA2.
- In Section A, answer **one** question. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.
- In Section B, answer **one** question. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.
- Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 62.  
Two of these marks will be awarded for using good English, organising information clearly and using specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.

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**SECTION A: PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Answer **one** question from this section. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.

Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.

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**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- 1** (a) Outline findings of research into the effects of stress on the immune system. *(6 marks)*
- (b) Outline the role of personality in modifying the effects of stressors. *(6 marks)*
- (c) ‘Drugs and biofeedback are two ways of helping people who suffer from stress.’

Outline and evaluate **one or more** physiological approaches to managing stress.  
*(18 marks)*

**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- 2** (a) (i) Outline **one** psychological method of managing stress. *(3 marks)*
- (ii) Outline **one** limitation of this method. *(3 marks)*
- (b) Describe the procedures and findings of **one** study of the workplace as a source of stress.  
*(6 marks)*
- (c) Discuss research into the relationship between stress and cardiovascular disorders.  
*(18 marks)*

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**SECTION B: INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**

Answer **one** question from this section. You should attempt **all** parts of the question you choose.

Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.

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**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- 3** (a) Outline clinical characteristics of anorexia nervosa. (6 marks)
- (b) (i) Explain the *statistical infrequency* definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (ii) Outline **one** limitation of this definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (c) ‘The behavioural model assumes that abnormal behaviour is the result of learning.’
- Outline and evaluate the behavioural model of abnormality. (18 marks)

**Total for this question: 30 marks**

- 4** (a) Outline **one or more** assumptions of the biological model of abnormality. (6 marks)
- (b) (i) Abnormality can be defined as *deviation from ideal mental health*. Explain this definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (ii) Outline **one** limitation of this definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (c) ‘The media often portray people, particularly women, as unrealistically slim and beautiful. These images may play a role in eating disorders.’
- Outline and evaluate psychological explanations of anorexia nervosa **and/or** bulimia nervosa. (18 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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