

General Certificate of Education  
June 2005  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

**PYA2**

Thursday 26 May 2005 Afternoon Session

**In addition to this paper you will require:**  
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.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 62.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- 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.

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**SECTION A – PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Answer **one** question from this Section.

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

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

- (a) (i) Outline the General Adaptation Syndrome. *(3 marks)*
- (ii) Give **one** criticism of the General Adaptation Syndrome. *(3 marks)*
- (b) Outline findings **and/or** conclusions of research into life changes as a source of stress (e.g. Holmes and Rahe). *(6 marks)*
- (c) Outline and evaluate research (theories **and/or** studies) into the way in which personality **and/or** gender modify the effects of stressors. *(18 marks)*

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

- (a) Outline findings **and/or** conclusions of research into workplace stressors. *(6 marks)*
- (b) Describe the findings and conclusions of **one** study of the relationship between stress and physical illness. *(6 marks)*
- (c) Outline and evaluate **one or more** psychological methods of stress management (e.g. stress-inoculation training, increasing hardiness). *(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.

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

- (a) (i) Outline the “failure to function adequately” definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (ii) Outline **one** limitation of the “failure to function adequately” definition of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (b) Describe **one or more** assumptions of the behavioural model in relation to the treatment of abnormality. (6 marks)
- (c) “Eating disorders may be caused by psychological factors. Examples include exposure to media stereotypes of the ideal body and family problems during development.”

Outline and evaluate **one or more** psychological explanations of eating disorders. (18 marks)

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

- (a) (i) Outline **one or more** assumptions of the biological (medical) model in relation to the causes of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (ii) Outline **one or more** assumptions of the psychodynamic model in relation to the causes of abnormality. (3 marks)
- (b) Describe the findings and conclusions of **one** study of anorexia nervosa. (6 marks)
- (c) “Psychological abnormality can be defined in various ways, such as statistical infrequency or deviation from ideal mental health; each has its strengths and weaknesses.”

Outline and evaluate **two or more** definitions of psychological abnormality. (18 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE**