

General Certificate of Education  
January 2006  
Advanced Level Examination



**PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION A) PYA4**  
**Unit 4 Social Psychology, Physiological Psychology,  
Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and  
Comparative Psychology**

Monday 23 January 2006 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 16-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

**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 PYA4.
- Answer **three** questions in total. These must be taken from **at least two** different Sections.
- Do all work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.
- Where the term **research** appears in a question, you may refer to theories and/or studies as appropriate.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 76.  
4 of these marks will be awarded for the Quality of Written Communication.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

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Answer **three** questions in total. These must be taken from **at least two** different Sections.

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

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### SECTION A – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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- 1 Discuss **two or more** errors and/or biases in the attribution process. *(24 marks)*
  
  - 2 (a) Outline **two** theories relating to the formation and/or maintenance of relationships (eg social exchange theory, reward and/or need satisfaction). *(12 marks)*  
  
(b) Evaluate **one** of the theories of the formation and/or maintenance of relationships you have outlined in (a). *(12 marks)*
  
  - 3 Outline and evaluate **two** social psychological theories of aggression (eg social learning theory, deindividuation). *(24 marks)*
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### SECTION B – PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

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- 4 Discuss research relating to hemisphere asymmetries of function in the cerebral cortex. *(24 marks)*
  
  - 5 (a) Outline **two** theories of dreaming. *(12 marks)*  
  
(b) Evaluate **one** of the theories of dreaming that you have outlined in (a). *(12 marks)*
  
  - 6 Critically consider **one or more** theories of motivation. *(24 marks)*
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### SECTION C – COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

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- 7 Discuss research into controlled **and** automatic processing. *(24 marks)*
  
- 8 Discuss research into perceptual organisation. *(24 marks)*
  
- 9 Describe and evaluate research into decision-making. *(24 marks)*

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**SECTION D – DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

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- 10** Describe and evaluate **one** theory of the development of moral understanding and/or pro-social reasoning. *(24 marks)*
- 11** ‘Relationships with parents and peers have been an important focus of psychological research into adolescence.’  
Discuss research into relationships during adolescence. *(24 marks)*
- 12** Discuss research into the existence of crises and transitions in early and/or middle adulthood. *(24 marks)*

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**SECTION E – COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY**

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- 13** Critically consider **one or more** biological explanations of apparent altruism in non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 14** Discuss research into the use of different signalling systems in non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 15** Discuss evolutionary factors in the development of human intelligence. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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