

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Level Examination



PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION A)

PYA4

**Unit 4 Social Psychology, Physiological Psychology,
Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology
and Comparative Psychology**

Tuesday 22 January 2008 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.
- 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 76.
Four 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.

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.

SECTION A: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 1 Outline and evaluate **one or more** theories of the origins of prejudice. (24 marks)
 - 2 Discuss research into 'understudied relationships', such as gay and lesbian relationships, and mediated (eg Internet and text) relationships. (24 marks)
 - 3 (a) Outline **two** social psychological theories of aggression (eg social learning theory, deindividuation). (12 marks)
(b) Evaluate **one** of the social psychological theories of aggression that you have outlined in part (a). (12 marks)
-

SECTION B: PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 4 Discuss the organisation of language in the brain. (24 marks)
 - 5 Discuss research relating to the nature of dreams (eg content, duration, type of dream). (24 marks)
 - 6 Outline and evaluate **one or more** theories of motivation. (24 marks)
-

SECTION C: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 7 Discuss explanations of pattern recognition (eg template and feature detection theories). (24 marks)
- 8 With reference to explanations of perceptual development, discuss the nature-nurture debate in perception. (24 marks)
- 9 Describe and evaluate research into problem-solving. (24 marks)

SECTION D: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 10 (a) Outline **two** theories of cognitive development. (12 marks)
- (b) Evaluate **one** of the theories of cognitive development that you have outlined in part (a). (12 marks)
- 11 Discuss explanations for the development of gender identity **and/or** gender roles. (24 marks)
- 12 Discuss **one or more** explanations of adjustment to old age (eg social disengagement theory). (24 marks)
-

SECTION E: COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 13 Discuss **one or more** evolutionary explanations of the behaviour of non-human animals. (24 marks)
- 14 Outline and evaluate the use of **two or more** signalling systems in non-human animals. (24 marks)
- 15 (a) Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations of depression. (12 marks)
- (b) Outline and evaluate **one or more** evolutionary explanations of anxiety disorders. (12 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page