

General Certificate of Education
June 2003
Advanced Level Examination



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

Thursday 12 June 2003 9.00 am to 10.30 am

In addition to this paper you will require:
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, from at least **two** different Sections.
- 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 76.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- In addition to the mark allocations indicated within the paper, you will be awarded up to 4 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.

Answer **three** questions, from at least **two** different Sections.

SECTION A – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 1 Outline and evaluate **two** explanations relating to the reduction of prejudice **and/or** discrimination. *(24 marks)*
 - 2 Discuss research (theories **and/or** studies) relating to the dissolution of relationships. *(24 marks)*
 - 3 (a) Outline **two or more** explanations of media influences on anti-social behaviour. *(12 marks)*
(b) To what extent do research studies support the view that the media are responsible for anti-social behaviour? *(12 marks)*
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SECTION B – PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 4 Discuss the functional organisation of the cerebral cortex. *(24 marks)*
 - 5 (a) Outline and evaluate **one** neurobiological theory of dreaming (e.g. Hobson and McCarley, Crick and Mitchison). *(12 marks)*
(b) Outline and evaluate **one** psychological theory of dreaming (e.g. Freud, Webb, Cartwright). *(12 marks)*
 - 6 Critically consider the role of brain structures in emotion. *(24 marks)*
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SECTION C – COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 7 Discuss research (theories **and/or** studies) into automatic processing. *(24 marks)*
- 8 (a) Outline **two or more** studies into the development of perceptual abilities. *(12 marks)*
(b) To what extent do such studies contribute to the nature-nurture debate in perception? *(12 marks)*
- 9 Describe and evaluate research (theories **and/or** studies) into problem-solving. *(24 marks)*

SECTION D – DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

- 10** Describe and evaluate Piaget's theory of cognitive development. *(24 marks)*
- 11** Discuss research (theories **and/or** studies) into relationships with parents **and/or** peers during adolescence. *(24 marks)*
- 12** Discuss psychological insights into how people cope with bereavement. *(24 marks)*
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SECTION E – COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

- 13** Discuss evidence for intelligence in non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 14** Outline and evaluate **two** different signalling systems used by non-human animals. *(24 marks)*
- 15** (a) Outline and evaluate **one** explanation of depression from an evolutionary perspective. *(12 marks)*
- (b) Outline and evaluate **one** explanation of anxiety disorders from an evolutionary perspective. *(12 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS