

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 1 Introducing Psychology

PYB1

Thursday 25 May 2006 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book

You may use a calculator.

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 PYB1.
- Answer **three** questions.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, the **compulsory** question in **Section B** and **one** question from **Section C**.
- 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 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. Questions carrying 10 marks should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in these answers.

SECTION A: APPROACHES

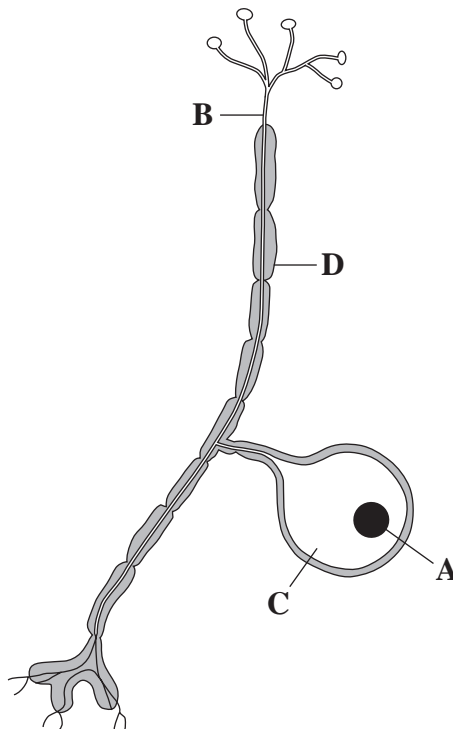
Answer **one** question from this section.

Each question carries 20 marks.

- 1 (a) Briefly describe **one** feature of the psychodynamic approach in psychology. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain **one** way in which Wundt influenced the development of psychology. (3 marks)
- (c) Sunita is eight years old and suffers from a medical condition which means she often has to go into hospital. Each time she goes into hospital, the treatment makes her feel sick. One day, Sunita's mother took her to visit her grandmother in hospital. When they arrived at the hospital, Sunita complained to her mother that she felt sick.
- Referring to features of the behaviourist approach, explain why Sunita felt sick when she went to visit her grandmother in hospital. (4 marks)
- (d) Discuss the humanistic approach in psychology. Refer to **at least one** other approach in your answer. (10 marks)
- 2 (a) Identify **two** methods that are used to investigate localisation of function (cortical specialisation) in the brain. (2 marks)
- (b) Below is a diagram of a sensory neuron (**Figure 1**). It is labelled **A**, **B**, **C** and **D**.

Figure 1

Sensory Neuron



Write in your answer book which letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**, matches each of the structures below:

- (i) cell body;
- (ii) myelin sheath;
- (iii) nucleus;
- (iv) axon.

Label your answers clearly.

(4 marks)

- (c) Molly is walking home late at night. Suddenly, she is startled by the sound of footsteps behind her. She feels her heart pounding and her mouth goes dry. When Molly arrives home, she tries to relax by watching the television. Soon her breathing slows down and she begins to feel hungry.

From the description above,

- (i) identify **two** actions of the parasympathetic division of the autonomic nervous system;
- (ii) identify **two** actions of the sympathetic division of the autonomic nervous system.

(4 marks)

- (d) Describe and discuss how **two** of the following methods are used by psychologists to investigate the genetic basis of behaviour:

- twin studies;
- adoption studies;
- selective breeding.

Refer to empirical evidence in your answer.

(10 marks)

Turn over for the next section

SECTION B: RESEARCH METHODS

Answer **all** parts of the compulsory question in this section.

This question carries 20 marks.

- 3** A psychologist wanted to investigate whether mood had an effect on the recall of information. She expected that participants who rated themselves as ‘happy’ would recall more words from a list than participants who rated themselves as ‘unhappy’.

Fifty people, selected by opportunity sampling, were asked to complete a mood state questionnaire. From these 50 people, the psychologist selected ten participants who had rated themselves as ‘happy’ and ten participants who had rated themselves as ‘unhappy’.

The 20 participants were required to learn a list of words such as ‘pencil’, ‘door’, ‘necklace’ and ‘thermometer’.

The mean number of words recalled by both groups is given in **Table 1** below.

Table 1: The mean number of words recalled by participants rating themselves as ‘happy’ and participants rating themselves as ‘unhappy’

	Participants who rated themselves as ‘happy’	Participants who rated themselves as ‘unhappy’
Mean number of words recalled	15.3	7.4

- (a) (i) What do the mean scores indicate about the recall of words by these two groups of participants? Justify your answer. *(2 marks)*
- (ii) The mean is a measure of central tendency.
- Name **two other** measures of central tendency. *(2 marks)*
- (iii) Name **one** measure that the psychologist could use to find out about the spread of scores in each group. *(1 mark)*
- (b) (i) Identify the type of experimental design used in **this** study. *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Explain **one** disadvantage of the experimental design that you have identified in your answer to (b)(i). *(2 marks)*

- (c) (i) Outline what is meant by the term *extraneous variable*. (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain why the psychologist used the same word list with both groups of participants. (2 marks)
- (d) The psychologist used opportunity sampling, rather than random sampling, to select the original 50 people for this study.
- (i) Outline what is meant by *random sampling*. (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain why random sampling might be a better technique to use than opportunity sampling. (2 marks)
- (e) The questionnaire used to measure mood state contained both closed and open questions.
- (i) Write **one** closed question that might be used to obtain information about a person's mood state. (1 mark)
- (ii) Write **one** open question that might be used to obtain information about a person's mood state. (1 mark)
- (iii) Outline **one** disadvantage of using questionnaires in psychological research. (2 marks)

Turn over for the next section

SECTION C: PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER

Answer **one** question from this section.

Each question carries 20 marks.

4 (a)

Figure 2



- (i) State what is meant by a *sex-role stereotype*. (1 mark)
- (ii) Briefly describe how the birthday card above (**Figure 2**) might influence a five-year-old girl's understanding of gender roles. (2 marks)
- (b) Distinguish between the terms *sex* and *gender*. (3 marks)
- (c) Billy is having a conversation with his sister, Sadie. Billy says that he is much better than her at playing football because he is a boy. Sadie disagrees. She says, "It's nothing to do with you being a boy. It's because you go to football training every Saturday morning."

State what is meant by *nature* and *nurture* in relation to gender. Refer to Billy and Sadie's conversation in your answer. (4 marks)

- (d) Describe and discuss the use of content analysis to investigate gender. Refer to empirical evidence in your answer. (10 marks)

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- 5 (a) Name **one** sex hormone and give an example of how this hormone might affect a person's behaviour. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Outline **two** criticisms of the psychoanalytic explanation of gender development. *(4 marks)*
- (c) Victoria is five years old and she is different from other girls of her age. She is smaller in height and has a webbed neck. At school, her teachers have commented that she has good verbal skills but her mathematical skills are poor. Medical tests have revealed that Victoria has a sex chromosome pattern XO.
- (i) Name the atypical sex chromosome syndrome described above. *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Identify how Victoria's sex chromosome pattern differs from that of most girls. *(1 mark)*
- (iii) Explain how studying people like Victoria can contribute to our understanding of gender. *(2 marks)*
- (d) Describe and discuss the cognitive explanation of gender development. Refer to **at least one** study in your answer. *(10 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page