

General Certificate of Education
June 2004
Advanced Level Examination



PSYCHOLOGY (SPECIFICATION B)
**Unit 5 Perspectives, Debates and Methods
in Psychology**

PYB5

Wednesday 23 June 2004 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a 16-page answer book.
- You may use a calculator.

Time allowed: 2 hours

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 PYB5.
- Answer **three** questions.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, **one** question from **Section B** and the **compulsory** question in **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.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- Questions carrying 12 marks should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of written communication will be assessed in these answers.
- In answers to questions carrying 12 marks, you will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

SECTION A: PERSPECTIVES IN PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **one** question from this Section.

Each question carries 20 marks.

- 1 (a) Gill and Harry are discussing their friend Madeleine and her acting ability.

Gill says, "She has always been good at acting. Even when we were in primary school she got all the big parts in plays. I think she is a born actress."

Harry comments, "Perhaps, but it might just be what she has been used to. Her mum is so dramatic about everything. Her older sister is much the same. Madeleine has been taken to the theatre since she was little."

- (i) Outline **one** aspect of the *biological* approach in psychology. Refer to the conversation between Gill and Harry in your answer. (4 marks)
- (ii) Outline **two** features of *observational learning*. (4 marks)
- (b) "Human behaviour is so complex that no one perspective can explain it all."

Discuss this statement. In your answer, refer to **at least one** topic area in psychology. (12 marks)

- 2 (a) Describe **two** features of **one** post-Freudian psychoanalytic theory. (4 marks)

- (b) Eighteen-year-old Ruth constantly chews her pen in class. At home she chews gum and, when she goes out, she smokes cigarettes.

Outline what Freud meant by *psycho-sexual stages* of development. With reference to **one** psycho-sexual stage, explain Ruth's behaviour. (4 marks)

- (c) Evaluate Freud's theory of psycho-sexual development. In your answer, make comparisons with **at least one** other theory of development. (12 marks)

SECTION B: DEBATES IN PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **one** question from this Section.

Each question carries 20 marks.

- 3 (a) Outline what is meant by *replication* in research and explain why it forms an essential part of the scientific approach. (4 marks)
- (b) Outline **two** reasons why many psychologists have adopted the scientific approach when investigating behaviour. (4 marks)
- (c) Discuss **at least two** reasons why it has been claimed that psychology is **not** a science. (12 marks)
- 4 (a) Using an example from psychology, explain what is meant by the *nature-nurture* debate. (4 marks)
- (b) Outline and briefly discuss **one** strength of the idiographic approach in psychology. (4 marks)
- (c) Describe and discuss the free will and determinism debate in psychology. Refer to the humanistic **and** psychoanalytic perspectives in your answer. (12 marks)

TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT SECTION

Turn over ►

SECTION C: METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Answer **all** parts of this compulsory question which carries 20 marks.

- 5 Whilst driving through her local area, a psychologist noticed that boys seemed to play on the road more than girls. She decided to carry out an observational study to test the hypothesis that boys aged 7 – 11 years differ from girls aged 7 – 11 years in their use of the street for play.

A category system was used for classifying “use of the street”. There were two categories.

- Playing on the road: this was considered to occur when a child was playing and had at least one foot on the road.
- Playing on the pavement: this was considered to be when a child was playing and had both feet on the pavement. This category also included playing on grass verges and entrances to driveways.

The psychologist conducted observations over a six-week period for a total of 20 hours. Observations always took place on dry afternoons, when children were outside after returning home from school. The observations were carried out at different locations. For each child observed “playing”, and estimated to be within the required age range, the psychologist noted the sex of the child and whether the child was “on the road” or “on the pavement”. Each child was placed in one category only.

The data obtained are shown in **Table 1** below.

	Number playing on the road	Number playing on the pavement
Boys	132	68
Girls	40	46

Table 1: The number of girls and boys aged 7 – 11 playing “on the road” and “on the pavement”

- (a) Outline what is shown by the data in **Table 1**. (2 marks)
- (b) (i) A *chi*-square test was used to analyse the data. The calculated value of *chi*-square (χ^2) was 8.7. Using **Table 2** below, explain whether or not the result is significant. (2 marks)

χ^2 must be **equal to or more than** the stated value to be significant.

	Level of significance for two-tailed test			
<i>df</i>	0.1	0.05	0.01	0.001
1	2.706	3.841	6.635	10.83

Table 2: Critical values of *chi*-square (χ^2)

- (ii) On the basis of the results of the χ^2 test, what decision should be made in relation to the alternative (research) hypothesis? (1 mark)
- (c) Identify **two** reasons why it was important for the psychologist to define the categories of “playing on the road” and “playing on the pavement”. (2 marks)
- (d) The psychologist carried out the observation on her own.
- (i) Outline **one** methodological problem that might have arisen as a result of her working alone. (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain how the problem you have identified in (d)(i) might have been overcome. (2 marks)
- (e) The psychologist used opportunity sampling to select the boys and girls.
- (i) Give **one** advantage of opportunity sampling. (1 mark)
- (ii) What is meant by *generalisation of results*? (2 marks)
- (iii) Explain why the psychologist should not generalise her results to all boys and girls. (2 marks)
- (f) The method used by the psychologist was naturalistic observation.
- Identify and discuss **one** limitation of this method of research. (4 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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