



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2012

Psychology (Specification B) PSYB2

Unit 2 Social Psychology, Cognitive Psychology and Individual Differences

Tuesday 29 May 2012 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 PSYB2.
- Choose **three** topics only, **one** topic from **Section A**, **one** topic from **Section B** and **one** topic from **Section C**.
- Answer **all** questions on the topics you choose.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The 10-mark questions should be answered in continuous prose. You are advised to plan your answers carefully. In these questions, you will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A Social Psychology

There are two topics in this section: Social Influence and Social Cognition.

Choose **one** topic from this section. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Each topic carries 20 marks.

Topic: Social Influence

A psychologist studying obedience conducted the following experiment.

A confederate (stooge) approached people in the street and instructed them to pick up a piece of litter and put it in a nearby bin. None of the people approached had dropped the litter.

There were two groups in the experiment.

Group A The confederate (stooge) was dressed in everyday clothing.

Group B The confederate (stooge) was dressed in a uniform.

The psychologist recorded how many people in each group obeyed the instruction of the confederate (stooge).

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 1 |
|---|---|

 Identify the experimental design that was used in this study. Briefly explain **one** advantage of using this experimental design in this study. *(3 marks)*
- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 2 |
|---|---|

 Identify the independent variable and the dependent variable in this experiment. *(2 marks)*
- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 3 |
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 Use your knowledge of research into obedience to explain the likely outcome of this experiment. *(3 marks)*
- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 4 |
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 Briefly outline **one** ethical issue that might have arisen in this experiment. *(2 marks)*
- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 5 |
|---|---|

 Discuss **at least two** factors that have been shown to affect conformity. Refer to evidence in your answer. *(10 marks)*

Topic: Social Cognition

A psychologist studying the primacy effect in impression formation conducted the following experiment.

Each participant was taken to the same room where they listened to a description of a person called 'Alex'. The participants were randomly allocated to one of two groups in the experiment. The psychologist gave each participant the same information about 'Alex', but the order of the information varied depending on the group.

Group A Five positive points about Alex's personality were followed by five negative points.

Group B Five negative points about Alex's personality were followed by five positive points.

After listening to the passage, each participant was asked to state whether they thought 'Alex' was a friendly person or not. The psychologist recorded how many participants in each group stated that Alex was 'friendly'.

0 | 6

Identify the type of experiment that was conducted. Select **one** option from the list below and write it in your answer book.

- Laboratory experiment
- Field experiment
- Quasi-experiment

(1 mark)

0 | 7

Briefly explain **one** advantage of the type of experiment that you have identified in your answer to **0 | 6**.

(2 marks)

0 | 8

Identify the independent variable and the dependent variable in this experiment.

(2 marks)

0 | 9

Identify the experimental design used in this study.

(1 mark)

1 | 0

Use your knowledge of research into the primacy effect in impression formation to explain the likely outcome of this experiment.

(3 marks)

1 | 1

A stereotype is a belief that all members of a group share the same characteristics.

Give an example of a stereotype that is based on the type of job that a person has.

(1 mark)

1 | 2

Discuss **at least two** explanations of prejudice. Refer to evidence in your answer.

(10 marks)

Turn over for the next section

Turn over ►

Section B Cognitive Psychology

There are two topics in this section: Remembering and Forgetting and Perceptual Processes.

Choose **one** topic from this section. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Each topic carries 20 marks.

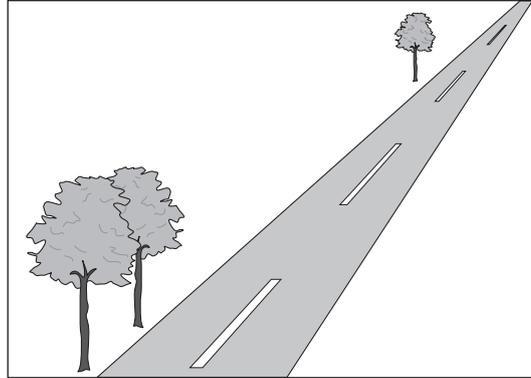
Topic: Remembering and Forgetting

- 1 | 3** Give **one** example of a semantic memory and **one** example of an episodic memory. Briefly explain **one** difference between these types of long-term memory. (3 marks)
- 1 | 4** In the context of explanations of forgetting, what is meant by *interference*? (2 marks)
- 1 | 5** Choose **one** study in which the effects of interference were investigated. Briefly outline what the participants had to do in the study. (2 marks)
- 1 | 6** Briefly discuss **one** limitation of interference as an explanation of forgetting. (3 marks)
- 1 | 7** Describe and evaluate the multi-store model of memory. Refer to evidence in your answer. (10 marks)

Topic: Perceptual Processes

- 1 | 8** Identify **two** monocular depth cues in **Figure 1** below. (2 marks)

Figure 1



- 1 | 9** Explain why all the trees in **Figure 1** are perceived to be of a similar size. (2 marks)
- 2 | 0** Identify **one** binocular depth cue and explain how it works. (3 marks)
- 2 | 1** Identify **one** distortion illusion. What would most people perceive if they were shown this illusion? Explain your answer. (3 marks)
- 2 | 2** Describe and evaluate Gregory's theory of visual perception. Refer to evidence in your answer. (10 marks)

Turn over for the next section

Turn over ►

Section C Individual Differences

There are two topics in this section: Anxiety Disorders and Autism.

Choose **one** topic from this section. Answer **all** questions on the topic you choose.

Each topic carries 20 marks.

Topic: Anxiety Disorders

- 2 | 3** What is meant by a *phobia*? (2 marks)
- 2 | 4** Outline a psychodynamic explanation of phobias. (2 marks)
- 2 | 5** Briefly discuss **one** limitation of psychodynamic explanations of phobias. (3 marks)
- 2 | 6** Anita has an obsession with security. She locks the door and windows of her house hundreds of times a day. Anita cannot sleep at night as she continually thinks she may have left the door unlocked.
- Explain how a cognitive therapist might treat Anita's obsession with security. (3 marks)
- 2 | 7** Describe and evaluate **two** explanations for obsessive-compulsive disorder. Refer to evidence in your answer. (10 marks)
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Topic: Autism

- 2 | 8** The 'Smartie tube' test has been used to demonstrate autistic behaviour in children. Outline how a psychologist would carry out this test with a child. (2 marks)
- 2 | 9** Identify **two** symptoms of autism. (2 marks)
- 3 | 0** How would a cognitive psychologist explain **at least one** symptom of autism? (3 marks)
- 3 | 1** Briefly discuss **one** limitation of the genetic explanation for autism. (3 marks)
- 3 | 2** Describe and evaluate **two** therapeutic programmes for autism. Refer to evidence in your answer. (10 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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