



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
June 2011

# Psychology (Specification B) PSYB3

## Unit 3 Child Development and Applied Options

Friday 17 June 2011 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

### Time allowed

- 2 hours

### 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 PSYB3.
- Choose **three** topics only, **one** topic from **Section A**, and **two** topics from **Section B**.
- 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 12-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.

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## Section A Child Development

There are three topics in this section: Social Development, Cognitive Development and Moral Development.

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

Each topic carries 20 marks.

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### Topic: Social Development

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- 0 1** Outline **one** long-term consequence of privation. *(2 marks)*
- A psychologist decided to carry out an observational study of the effects of privation on social behaviour. She observed a 6-year-old child who had been isolated for most of his life and had grown up in harsh circumstances. The child was observed interacting with peers in a playroom. The psychologist devised a category system to record the child's social behaviours, then observed the child through a one-way glass for thirty minutes.
- 0 2** Explain why it was important that the psychologist could not be seen by the child during the observation. *(2 marks)*
- 0 3** The psychologist carried out this observation on her own. Suggest **one** way in which this investigation might have been improved. *(1 mark)*
- 0 4** Identify and briefly discuss **one** case of extreme privation that has previously been investigated by psychologists. *(3 marks)*
- 0 5** Discuss the view that children's understanding of friendship is determined largely by age. Refer to evidence in your answer. *(12 marks)*

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**Topic: Cognitive Development**

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**0 6** State what Piaget meant by *assimilation* and *accommodation*. (2 marks)

In a study based on Piaget's research, a psychologist shows children a set of wooden bricks, 10 red ones and 5 yellow ones. The psychologist wants to find out whether children can understand the difference between whole (general) categories and sub-categories.

**0 7** Name the cognitive ability or characteristic that the psychologist is investigating in this study. (1 mark)

**0 8** Using your knowledge of Piaget's research, suggest **two** questions that the psychologist should ask to determine whether or not a child can understand the difference between whole (general) categories and sub-categories. (2 marks)

**0 9** 'Piaget's methods of investigation sometimes confused children.' Briefly discuss this view. (3 marks)

**1 0** Describe and evaluate the information processing approach to children's cognition.

In your answer, you should explain how the information processing approach differs from **at least one** other approach to cognitive development. (12 marks)

**Section A continues on the next page**

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**Topic: Moral Development**

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| 1 | 1 |
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 Eisenberg used short stories involving dilemmas to investigate pro-social reasoning in children. What is the dilemma for the person in the type of story used by Eisenberg? (2 marks)
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
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 'The type of dilemma used in Eisenberg's investigations is a better test of moral reasoning than the type of dilemma used by Kohlberg in his research.'  
Briefly discuss this view. (3 marks)
- As part of a study, a psychologist interviews two teenage boys about making moral decisions. Both boys are asked about shoplifting and stealing small amounts of money.
- Jack says, 'Yes. I've done it a few times. It doesn't really matter because I will not get caught.'
- Andy says, 'I couldn't do it. I would be so worried that my mum would be disappointed in me.'
- |   |   |
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| 1 | 3 |
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 With reference to Kohlberg's stages of moral reasoning, identify the stage of reasoning shown by Jack and the stage of reasoning shown by Andy. (2 marks)
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 4 |
|---|---|

 One ethical issue in relation to the interviews carried out with Jack and Andy is confidentiality. Briefly explain why confidentiality is an issue in this study. (1 mark)
- |   |   |
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| 1 | 5 |
|---|---|

 Describe and evaluate Piaget's theory of moral development. In your answer, you should explain how Piaget's theory differs from **at least one** other theory of moral development. (12 marks)

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## Section B Applied Options

There are five topics in this section: Cognition and Law, Schizophrenia and Mood Disorders, Stress and Stress Management, Substance Abuse and Forensic Psychology.

Choose **two** topics from this section. Answer **all** questions on the topics you choose.

Each topic carries 20 marks.

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### Topic: Cognition and Law

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- 1 | 6** Distinguish between sequential and simultaneous line-up procedures. Explain how the type of line-up procedure used might affect eye-witness identification. (4 marks)
- 1 | 7** What is meant by a *flashbulb memory*? Explain how such memories might differ from ordinary memories. (4 marks)
- 1 | 8** Discuss psychological explanations of face recognition. Refer to evidence in your answer. (12 marks)
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### Topic: Schizophrenia and Mood Disorders

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- 1 | 9** Identify **two** behaviours typically shown by a person in the manic phase of bipolar disorder. (2 marks)
- 2 | 0** Briefly discuss **at least one** problem involved in the use of drugs to treat bipolar disorder. (4 marks)
- 2 | 1** People who experience seasonal affective disorder (SAD) usually suffer depression in the winter months when there is little natural light. Briefly outline **one** explanation for seasonal affective disorder. (2 marks)
- 2 | 2** Outline and evaluate cognitive explanations for schizophrenia. Refer to **at least one** other explanation in your evaluation. (12 marks)

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**Topic: Stress and Stress Management**

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**2 | 3**

A psychologist studied the effects of social support on coping with stress. She asked people about the social support that they had experienced in their lives. Comments taken from the interviews appear below.

- A** “My friend is always there to listen to me. It is so good to have a shoulder to cry on.”
- B** “I don’t know what I would have done without him. There’s no way I could have restored the house on my own in time.”
- C** “I was so relieved when my friend told me I could apply for a grant.”
- D** “I always feel so much better about myself when I am with her.”
- E** “She helps me understand when I’m stressed and helps me deal with it.”

Choose **two** of the comments (**A, B, C, D** or **E**) and name the type of social support that best describes **each** of the comments you have chosen. Label your answers clearly.

*(2 marks)*

**2 | 4**

Give **one** reason why social support may not always have a positive effect on a person’s ability to cope with stress.

*(1 mark)*

**2 | 5**

Describe **one** behavioural technique used by psychologists to help manage stress.

*(4 marks)*

**2 | 6**

Briefly outline **one** problem with the technique that you have described in your answer to

**2 | 5**.

*(1 mark)*

**2 | 7**

Discuss what psychologists have discovered about the relationship between stress and illness. Refer to evidence in your answer.

*(12 marks)*

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**Topic: Substance Abuse**

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- 2 | 8** Outline Prochaska's model of behaviour change. *(4 marks)*
- 2 | 9** A recent health campaign on television aimed to reduce the abuse of ecstasy, which is a stimulant. The campaign showed a graphic and distressing visual image of a heart beating excessively fast and becoming exhausted.
- Identify the prevention technique being used in this campaign and briefly discuss the effectiveness of this technique. *(4 marks)*
- 3 | 0** 'People who engage in substance abuse are suffering from an illness with a biological cause.'
- Discuss this view. Refer to empirical evidence in your answer. *(12 marks)*
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**Topic: Forensic Psychology**

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- 3 | 1** Farrington (2006) found that criminal behaviour is associated with social and environmental factors such as poor parenting and low school achievement.
- Suggest **two** ways in which learning theory could explain Farrington's findings. *(4 marks)*
- 3 | 2** Outline and briefly evaluate social skills training as a treatment programme for offending. *(4 marks)*
- 3 | 3** Two police officers were talking in the staff canteen.
- Mario says, "I don't know why we bother with offender profiling. It's a complete waste of time."
- Robbie says, "I'm not so sure. Sometimes it can be quite helpful and if there is any benefit then we should try it."
- Discuss Mario's view that offender profiling is 'a waste of time'. Refer to empirical evidence in your answer. *(12 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**