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I declare this is my own work.

## A-level PSYCHOLOGY

### Paper 1 Introductory topics in psychology

Friday 16 May 2025

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

#### Materials

For this paper you may use:

- a calculator.

#### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions. You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do **not** write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

For Examiner's Use	
Section	Mark
A	
B	
C	
D	
<b>TOTAL</b>	

#### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 96.
- Questions should be answered in continuous prose. You will be assessed on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.



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**Section A****Social influence**

Answer **all** questions in this section.

**0 | 1** What is meant by flexibility in the context of minority influence?

**[2 marks]**

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**0 | 2** Outline the Authoritarian Personality as an explanation for obedience.

**[4 marks]**

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**0 3** Outline **one** limitation of the Authoritarian Personality explanation for obedience.

**[2 marks]**

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**0 4** A parent-toddler group meets for a trip to a soft play centre. They choose to go to MiniWorld. Julie, one of the parents, thinks MiniWorld is overpriced and would rather go to Kids' Cave. She doesn't say anything though, as all the other parents seem keen on MiniWorld.

Anthony always used to take his twins to Kids' Cave. He has since joined the parent-toddler group. Anthony has heard the other parents talk about the play area at Miniworld as being better than the one at Kids' Cave. He now takes his twins to Miniworld on the days the group does not meet.

Discuss **two** explanations for conformity. Refer to Julie and Anthony in your answer.

**[16 marks]**

You may use this space to plan your answer.

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**Turn over ►**



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**Section B****Memory**Answer **all** questions in this section.Only **two** answers for each multiple-choice question are allowed.

For each question completely fill in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

CORRECT METHOD



WRONG METHODS



If you want to change your answer you must cross out your original answer as shown.



If you wish to return to an answer previously crossed out, ring the answer you now wish to select as shown.

**0 5** Which **two** of the following statements about types of long-term memory are **true**?Shade **two** boxes only.**[2 marks]****A** Episodic memories are sometimes referred to as 'action memories'. **B** Episodic memories do not require information about facts to be stored. **C** Procedural memories are often stored below the level of conscious awareness. **D** Semantic memories are more difficult to describe than procedural memories. **E** Semantic memories include knowing the rules of football. **Turn over for the next question****Turn over ►**

0 7

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0 6

Outline the procedure **and/or** findings of **one** study in which coding in memory was investigated.

[4 marks]

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0 | 7

One explanation of forgetting is retrieval failure.

Suggest **one** revision strategy based on retrieval failure that could be used to improve performance in an exam. Justify your answer.

**[2 marks]**



0 8 Another explanation for forgetting is interference.

Evaluate the interference explanation for forgetting.

**[6 marks]**

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In an investigation into the accuracy of eyewitness testimony, 40 participants were shown the same film of a car crash.

Following the film, they were randomly allocated to one of two conditions. Each participant was interviewed separately and was asked one critical question.

In **Condition A**, 20 participants were asked: 'Did you see **the** set of traffic lights, Yes or No?'

In **Condition B**, the other 20 participants were asked: 'Did you see a set of traffic lights, Yes or No?'

There was no set of traffic lights in the film.

The researcher chose to use a chi-squared statistical test to see whether there was a significant difference in responses to the critical question in the two conditions.

Explain **three** reasons for this choice with reference to this investigation.

**[6 marks]**

Extra space



1 0

The researcher found that significantly more participants in Condition A responded 'Yes' compared to participants in Condition B.

Use your knowledge of research into **one** factor that affects eyewitness testimony to explain this finding.

[4 marks]

Extra space \_\_\_\_\_

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**Turn over for the next section**

Turn over ►



**Section C****Attachment**

Answer **all** questions in this section.

**1 1**

Two researchers conducted an observational study of reciprocity involving mother-infant pairs in a controlled environment.

What is meant by reciprocity in attachment?

**[2 marks]**

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**1 2**

To conduct the observation of mother-infant pairs, the researchers needed examples of reciprocal behaviours that they could record.

Suggest **two** examples of reciprocal behaviours that could be used as behavioural categories in this study.

**[2 marks]**

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**1 3**

Outline **one** way in which the reciprocal behaviours could be sampled in this study.

**[2 marks]**

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**1 4**

The two researchers compared their data to assess inter-observer reliability. This produced a correlation coefficient of +0.26

Briefly explain what a correlation coefficient of +0.26 means in terms of the reliability of the two researchers' observations.

**[2 marks]**

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**1 5**

Outline **one** way in which the reliability of the two researchers could be improved.

**[2 marks]**

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**Turn over for the next question**



**1 6**

Outline the findings of **one** animal study of attachment.

**[3 marks]**

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**1 7**

Outline **one** limitation of the study you have referred to in your answer to Question 16.

**[3 marks]**

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Discuss findings from studies that have investigated the role of the father in attachment.

[8 marks]

You may use this space to plan your answer.

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**Section D****Psychopathology**Answer **all** questions in this section.**1 9**

There are four definitions of abnormality.

Which of the four definitions of abnormality would be best applied to the examples **A**, **B**, **C** and **D** below?Write a different definition of abnormality for **each** example.

<b>A</b>	A person with a phobia of buttons perceiving buttons to be much larger and more threatening than they actually are.
<b>B</b>	A person with a phobia of buttons struggling to cope with working in an office where there would be lots of people wearing buttoned shirts.
<b>C</b>	A phobia of buttons is not regarded as expected behaviour within a society.
<b>D</b>	Less than 0.1% of the UK population has a phobia of buttons.

**[4 marks]****A** \_\_\_\_\_**B** \_\_\_\_\_**C** \_\_\_\_\_**D** \_\_\_\_\_**Turn over for the next question****Turn over ►**

**2** **0** Outline Ellis' ABC model of depression.

[4 marks]

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## Extra space



2 | 1

Discuss the neural explanation for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) **and** the use of drug therapy to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder.

**[16 marks]**

You may use this space to plan your answer.

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**END OF QUESTIONS**



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