

Mark schemes

Q1.

[AO2 = 2]

Award **1 mark** for **each** relevant suggestion (up to a maximum of 2 marks).

To be creditworthy, the example can be an observable sex-role stereotyped behaviour that might appear in a TV programme, eg a man drinking beer at a bar, a woman doing cleaning around the house, a man mowing the lawn, a woman using beauty products, or a more general stereotypical behavioural trait, eg a man showing dominance, a woman showing emotion.

Both suggested behaviours may be for the same sex.

[2]

Q2.

[AO1 = 3 AO3 = 5]

Level	Mark	Description
4	7-8	Outline of psychological research into androgyny is accurate with some detail. Evaluation is thorough and effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking. The answer is clear, coherent and focused. Specialist terminology is used effectively.
3	5-6	Outline of psychological research into androgyny is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions. Evaluation is mostly effective. The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus. Specialist terminology is used appropriately.
2	3-4	Outline of psychological research into androgyny is present. Focus is mainly on description. Any evaluation is of limited effectiveness. The answer lacks clarity, accuracy and organisation in places. Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.
1	1-2	Outline of psychological research into androgyny is very limited. Evaluation is limited, poorly focused or absent. The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies and is poorly organised. Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.
	0	No relevant content.

Possible content:

- Bem's (1971) theory that possession of a combination of masculine and feminine traits is advantageous for mental well-being
- Sex Role Inventory devised by Bem to measure of androgyny (BSRI)
- BSRI consists of 60 characteristics/traits – respondents rate themselves on

- a 7-point scale
- scores translate to two dimensions – masculinity-femininity and androgynous-unclassified
- people with a high androgyny score on BSRI are psychologically more healthy/have better mental well-being than those who score as strongly masculine, strongly feminine (or undifferentiated).

Possible evaluation:

- several early studies showed correlation between mental well-being and androgyny scores (Flaherty and Dusek (1980), Lubinski (1981))
- androgyny may not always be positive – associated with negative traits such as competitiveness
- modification to the original proposal – addition of undifferentiated
- Taylor and Hall (1982) argued that masculine traits are a better predictor of mental well-being than androgyny
- BSRI may be an oversimplification – should consider other factors, eg work role, abilities etc
- BSRI may be outdated – masculinity and femininity are no longer so clearly differentiated with many children raised to be gender-neutral
- use of evidence to counter Bem's views on androgyny and mental well-being
- possible Western bias in emphasis on masculine traits.

Credit other relevant material.

[8]

Q3.

[AO1 = 3 AO2 = 2 AO3 = 3]

Level	Mark	Description
4	7-8	Knowledge of sex-role stereotypes is accurate with some detail. Application is effective. Discussion is effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking. The answer is clear, coherent and focused. Specialist terminology is used effectively.
3	5-6	Knowledge of sex-role stereotypes is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions. Application/discussion is mostly effective. The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus. Specialist terminology is used appropriately.
2	3-4	Limited knowledge of sex-role stereotypes is present. Focus is mainly on description. Any application/discussion is of limited effectiveness. The answer lacks clarity, accuracy and organisation in places. Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.
1	1-2	Knowledge of sex-role stereotypes is very limited. Application/discussion is limited, poorly focused or absent. The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies and is poorly organised. Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.

	0	No relevant content.
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Possible content:

- a sex-role stereotype is a set of ideas about behaviours/traits/qualities/characteristics that are appropriate/expected for males and for females
- sex-role stereotypes are generally shared by members of a society/culture
- sex-role stereotypes act as a short-cut to appropriate behaviours in a given context: girls will behave in ways they understand to be typically female and boys will behave in ways they understand to be typically male
- sex-role stereotypes are developed either through observation, imitation and reinforcement (SLT); through development of cognitive awareness of gender, eg through the development of gender constancy (Kohlberg); as part of the process of internalisation (Freud).

Possible application:

- at 7-years-old, children are aware of different expectations of males and females
- pictures of sex-role stereotypical behaviours are consistent with children's schema of what it means to be male or female so will be more acceptable
- children will rate more highly/prefer pictures showing sex-stereotypical behaviours.

Possible discussion points:

- use of evidence supporting/contradicting the existence of gender stereotypes and/or effects of stereotypes on gender-related behaviour, eg Smith and Lloyd (1973) – gender stereotyping by adults when playing with babies; Fagot (1992) – gender roles linked to parental behaviour; Furnham and Farragher (2000) – gender stereotyping in media adverts; Renzetti and Curran (1992) – teachers reinforce sex-stereotyped behaviours
- norms have shifted towards less stereotypical child-rearing and gender neutrality, eg clothing, toys, décor etc therefore sex-role stereotypes have less temporal validity
- negative effects of stereotypes, eg academic/career expectations
- positive effects of stereotypes – act as a cognitive short-cut
- relative influences of learning and biology on gender; cultural differences
- wider discussion in relation to determinism.

Credit other relevant material.

Q4.**[AO1 = 3 AO3 = 5]**

Level	Mark	Description
4	7-8	Outline of Bem's research is accurate with some detail. Explanation of limitation(s) is thorough and effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking. The answer is clear, coherent and focused. Specialist terminology is used effectively.
3	5-6	Outline of Bem's research is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions. Explanation of limitation(s) is mostly effective. The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus. Specialist terminology is used appropriately.
2	3-4	Outline of Bem's research is present. Any explanation of limitation(s) is of limited effectiveness. The answer lacks clarity, accuracy and organisation in places. Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.
1	1-2	Outline of Bem's research is very limited. Explanation is limited, poorly focused or absent. The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies and is poorly organised. Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.
	0	No relevant content.

Possible content:

- Bem devised the Sex Role Inventory as a measure of androgyny (BSRI)
- BSRI consists of 60 characteristics/traits – respondents rate themselves of a 7-point scale
- scores translate to two dimensions – masculinity-femininity and androgynous-unclassified
- Bem stated those with a high androgyny score are more psychologically healthy/have better mental well-being than those who score as strongly masculine, strongly feminine (or undifferentiated).

Possible limitations:

- BSRI may be an oversimplification – should consider other factors, eg work role, abilities etc
- androgyny may not always be positive – associated with negative traits such as competitiveness
- modification to the original proposal – addition of undifferentiated
- social change in what constitutes typically male and female roles may mean BSRI is out-dated – masculinity and femininity are no longer so clearly differentiated – many children are raised to be gender-neutral
- use of evidence to counter Bem's views on androgyny and mental wellbeing.

Credit other relevant material.