



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

PSYCHOLOGY

9698/03

Paper 3 The Specialist Choices

May/June 2009

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper



READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

There is a choice of five specialist options in this question paper. Choose **two** options and answer questions from those two options only.

In each option there are **two** Sections:

Section A

Answer **one** question for each of your chosen options.

Section B

Answer **one** question for each of your chosen options.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **11** printed pages and **1** blank page.



PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 1 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'cultural diversity' in education. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** cultural difference in educational performance. [3]
- (c) Give **two** explanations for a cultural difference in educational performance. [6]
- 2 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the 'cognitive' approach to education. [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways in which the cognitive approach has been applied to education. [6]
- (c) Describe **one** weakness of the cognitive approach to education. [3]

3

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

3

Have a CHAT

The CHAT (checklist for autism in toddlers) assesses autism. It involves a doctor observing the child and then asking a parent questions about the behaviour of the child. It is claimed to have over a 90% success rate in identifying autism.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about special educational needs. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about special educational needs. [10]
- (c) You are the parent of a mentally gifted child. Giving reasons for your answer, suggest what strategies you would expect teachers to adopt to educate your child successfully. [6]

4

What is your style?

Apparently over 80 learning style models have been proposed. These can be grouped into three main categories:

- Visual learning (by looking);
- Auditory learning (by listening);
- Kinesthetic learning (by doing).

Combine all three and you should be a very successful learner!

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about teaching and learning styles. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about teaching and learning styles. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest how a teacher may improve the learning effectiveness of students preparing for an examination. [6]

PSYCHOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 5 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'crowding'. [2]
- (b) Briefly describe **one** study showing the effects of crowding on social behaviour. [3]
- (c) Briefly describe **two** studies showing the effects of crowding on performance. [6]
- 6 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'personal space'. [2]
- (b) Briefly describe **one** study on the invasion of personal space. [3]
- (c) Briefly describe **two** ethical issues caused by the invasion of personal space. [6]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

7**What tingles you?**

Psychologist John Sloboda outlined the 'tingle factor'. This is the emotional sensation we sometimes experience, such as a shiver down the spine, when we hear certain pieces of music. However, not all music causes tingles. When music is unwanted sound, it is noise.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have learned about noise. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have learned about noise. [10]
- (c) Noise has a negative effect on performance. Giving reasons for your answer, suggest ways in which this negative effect can be reduced. [6]

8**Global warming**

Scientists are concerned about the effects of global warming on the climate and weather of the planet. Psychologists are concerned about how global warming will affect the behaviour of people.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about climate and weather. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about climate and weather. [10]
- (c) Imagine the climate and weather of our planet fifty years from now. Using your psychological knowledge, suggest how the weather may affect our behaviour. [6]

PSYCHOLOGY AND HEALTH

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 9** (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'patient-practitioner relationship'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** practitioner style. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** ways in which the patient-practitioner relationship can be improved. [6]
- 10** (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'health behaviour'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** cultural difference and **one** gender difference in health behaviour. [6]
- (c) Describe **one** developmental difference in health behaviour. [3]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

11

Life events

According to Holmes and Rahe stress is caused by life events. Events can be major, such as the death of a husband or wife, or they can be minor, such as a change in the number of arguments one has. They believe that any change from normal routine is stressful.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about stress. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about stress. [10]
- (c) You visit a medical practitioner because you are suffering from stress. Giving reasons for your answer suggest ways in which your stress will be measured. [6]

12

Anything that alters our mood, cognition or behaviour

Substance abuse has two main features:

- **Physical** dependence is a state in which the body has adjusted to a substance and it becomes accepted as normal.
- **Psychological** dependence is a state in which people feel a need to use a substance for the pleasant effect it produces.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about substance use and abuse. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about substance use and abuse. [10]
- (c) Using your psychological knowledge, suggest ways in which people can be discouraged from beginning to abuse a substance. [6]

PSYCHOLOGY AND ABNORMALITY

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 13 (a)** Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'schizophrenia'. [2]
- (b)** Outline **two** explanations of schizophrenia. [6]
- (c)** Describe **one** way in which schizophrenia may be treated. [3]
- 14 (a)** Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'fugue'. [2]
- (b)** Describe **one** cause of fugue. [3]
- (c)** Describe **two** treatments for the effects of trauma. [6]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

15

Here's looking at you!

Body dysmorphic disorder affects those who are extremely critical of some part of their body despite the fact there may be no noticeable defect. The locations of imagined defects include: skin (73%), hair (56%), nose (37%), weight (22%) and stomach (22%).

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about somatoform disorders. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about somatoform disorders. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest a treatment for somatoform disorders. [6]

16

O-C disorder

Obsessions are recurrent, persistent thoughts, images or impulses.

Compulsions are repetitive behaviours often performed in the same way each time.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about anxiety disorders. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about anxiety disorders. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest how obsessive-compulsive disorder may be treated. [6]

PSYCHOLOGY AND ORGANISATIONS

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 17 (a)** Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'temporal conditions of work environments'. [2]
- (b)** Describe **two** types of shiftwork. [6]
- (c)** Describe **one** way in which temporal conditions of work environments may be improved. [3]
- 18 (a)** Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'errors in operator-machine systems'. [2]
- (b)** Describe **two** types of error in operator-machine systems. [6]
- (c)** Suggest **one** way in which errors in operator-machine systems can be reduced. [3]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

19**Manager wanted!**

We are one of the fastest growing companies in the world. We seek to appoint someone who is highly motivated, well organised, has excellent communication skills and can lead a team of workers.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about the selection of people for work. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about the selection of people for work. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest what personnel selection decisions need to be made when appointing a manager. [6]

20**Where in the world are you?**

There are cultural differences in decision-making. In the United States individual decisions are made quickly. In Japan, collectivist decisions are more common, whilst in Egypt important decisions take more time. In India autocratic decision-making is expected, whilst in Sweden, employees at all levels are consulted.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about group behaviour in organisations. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about group behaviour in organisations. [10]
- (c) Suggest an appropriate decision-making strategy for a small team of workers. Give reasons for your answer. [6]

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