

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

**PSYCHOLOGY**

**9698/03**

Paper 3 The Specialist Choices

May/June 2005

**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 on both sides of the paper. 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.

**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 'assessment of educational performance'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** type of performance assessment used in education. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** implications of assessment and categorisation. [6]
- 2 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'disruptive behaviour' in schools. [2]
- (b) Describe a possible cause of **one** disruptive behaviour. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** ways in which a disruptive behaviour may be corrected. [6]

## SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

3

**size is important**

A report in an English newspaper in October 1998 claimed that size is important – especially in the classroom. The study claimed that short children are less intelligent than their taller friends and unlikely to do well at school. Scientists found that children who were 10 cm shorter than average scored 13% less on both IQ and verbal reasoning tests.

- (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 child with special educational needs. Giving reasons for your answer, suggest what strategies you would expect teachers to use to educate your child successfully. [6]

4

**learning to be helpless**

In the 1960s Seligman performed experiments on a number of dogs. He found that if he gave the dogs an electric shock every time they went to feed, eventually the dogs would give up and not even try. The dogs had learned to be helpless. In classes students often behave in a similar way. They just give up and assume they can't do something before they have even tried.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about motivation and educational performance. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about motivation and educational performance. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest how students can be motivated to work by reducing their learned helplessness. [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 'personal space'. [2]
- (b) Briefly describe **two** studies on the invasion of personal space. [6]
- (c) Describe **one** ethical issue caused by the invasion of personal space. [3]
- 6 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'environmental cognition'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** study that has been done on environmental cognition. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** individual differences in environmental cognition. [6]

## SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

7

**the heat is on**

There are two main effects of prolonged exposure to extreme heat:

- *heat exhaustion* is caused by too many demands being placed on the circulatory system.
- *heat stroke* is caused by a breakdown of the sweating mechanism and this results in the body overheating.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about climate and weather. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about climate and weather. [10]
- (c) Using your psychological knowledge, suggest ways in which the negative effects of climate and weather on health may be overcome. [6]

8

**money, money, money**

Crowds behave in mysterious ways. A real life example is from Mrs Vaught who was a bank clerk in 1928 at the time of the Great Depression in the United States of America. People thought that banks did not have enough money. In desperation people pushed and fought to get to the cashiers' windows to withdraw their money. Although Mrs Vaught's bank had enough money, two cashiers at her bank withdrew all their money too.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about crowds/collective behaviour. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about crowds/collective behaviour. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest what may be done to prevent panic in a crowd during an emergency situation. [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, the difference between 'substance use' and 'substance abuse'. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** reason why people may abuse a substance. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** ways in which people who abuse a substance can quit. [6]
- 10 (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by the term 'accident'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** psychological cause of accidents. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** ways in which accidents may be prevented. [6]

**SECTION B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

11

**a pain in the foot**

A man had progressive chronic pain in his foot which meant that it would get continuously worse over time. As he had already suffered for years he decided to take action and he had his toe cut off. But he had not heard of phantom limb pain; the toe still caused him pain.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about pain. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about pain. [10]
- (c) Using your psychological knowledge, suggest ways in which pain can be reduced. [6]

12

**measure the cause**

If stress is caused by life events, then a life events questionnaire is needed.  
If stress is caused by personality, then personality type is measured.  
If stress is caused by daily hassles, then a measure of daily hassles is appropriate.

- (a) Describe what psychologists have found out about stress. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have found out about stress. [10]
- (c) Using psychological evidence, suggest ways in which stress can be measured. [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 'cultural, societal and individual differences in abnormality'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** cultural difference and **one** gender difference in abnormality. [6]
- (c) Suggest **one** way an abnormality described in part (b) may be treated. [3]
- 14** (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'abnormal need'. [2]
- (b) Describe **two** types of abnormal need. [6]
- (c) Give **one** way in which an abnormal need may be treated. [3]



## SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

15

**the model**

Different models of abnormality focus on different causes and treatments. For example, one model believes that the cause of abnormal behaviour is inappropriate learning and so treatment is to learn an appropriate way of behaving.

- (a) Describe models of abnormality. [8]
- (b) Evaluate models of abnormality. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest treatments for an abnormality based on **one** model of abnormality. [6]

16

**Alu-Alz**

Did you know?

- About 5% of North American adults over 64 years of age have Alzheimer's disease
- Symptoms include forgetfulness and inability to name objects
- PET scans show abnormalities in the brain
- One suggested cause of Alzheimer's disease is a build-up of aluminium which collects in the brain

- (a) Describe what psychologists have learned about abnormal adult development. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have learned about abnormal adult development. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest ways in which the effects of a degenerative abnormality may be reduced. [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 'group behaviour in organisations'. [2]
- (b) Describe **one** theory of team roles. [3]
- (c) Describe **two** ways in which team building can be achieved. [6]
- 18** (a) Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'quality of working life'. [2]
- (b) Briefly describe **two** causes of work stress. [6]
- (c) Give **one** way in which the quality of working life can be improved. [3]

**SECTION B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

19

**enjoy your interview**

You remain calm as you arrive for your job interview, even though the other candidates appear to be very stressed. You have no problem with the interview process because as part of your psychology course you have studied what goes on when employers select people for work.

- (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) If you were personnel officer, suggest which screening/psychometric tests you would use to select employees. Give reasons for your answer. [6]

20

**work in 2055**

What will work conditions be like in fifty years?  
Interesting to think about, but do it AFTER this examination!

- (a) Describe what psychologists have discovered about organisational work conditions. [8]
- (b) Evaluate what psychologists have discovered about organisational work conditions. [10]
- (c) Giving reasons for your answer, suggest how the 'temporal conditions of work environments' can be improved. [6]

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