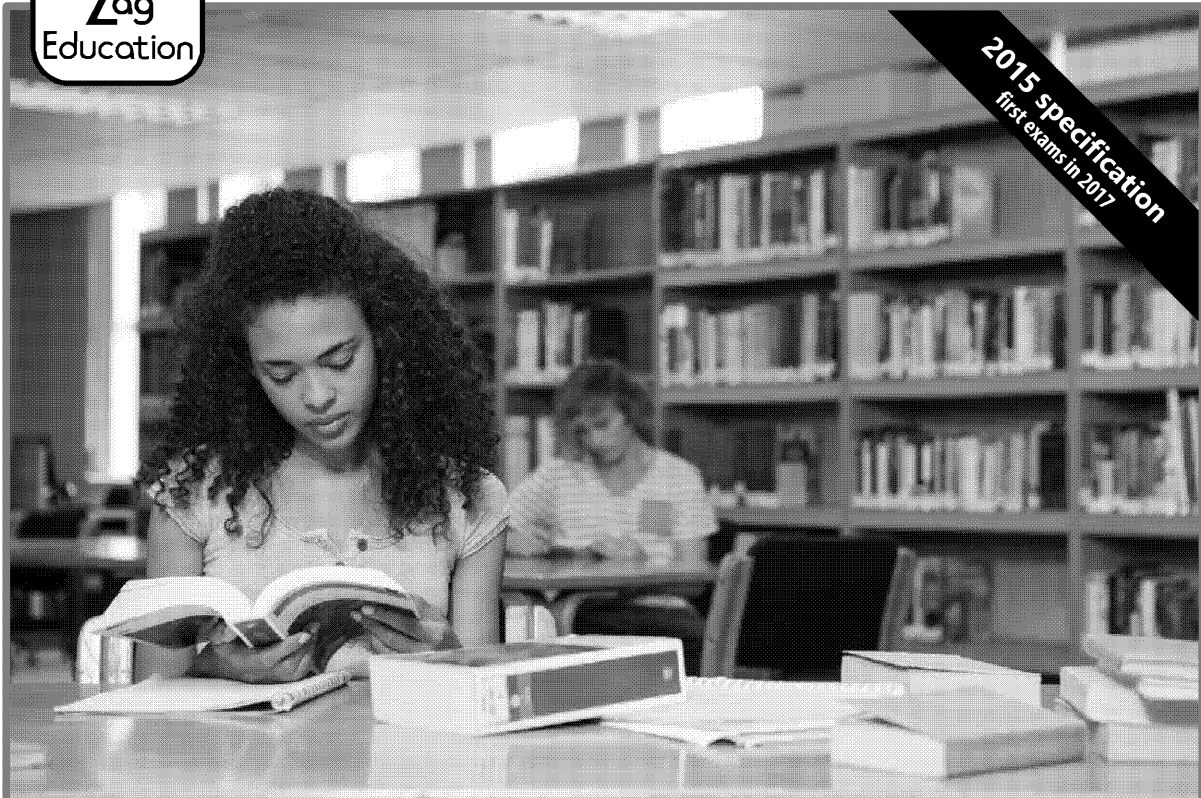




Psychology

A Level | AQA | 7182



2015 specification
first exams in 2017

Practice Papers

for A Level AQA Psychology

Paper 2: Psychology in Context

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Teacher's Introduction

This resource has been created to supplement your delivery of the A level AQA specification for Paper 2. There are three complete practice examination papers; the format and mark scheme reflect the sample assessment materials for first examination in June 2017.

These practice exam papers are written in the style of the actual exam, with the correct command word and mark tariff use, and each with a clear and detailed mark scheme. Perfect for mock exams; your students will be fully prepared to succeed in every examination!

Clear student-friendly mark schemes include answer content and marking guidance. Students see how marks are awarded, improving exam technique. All topic areas of the specification for Paper 2 have been touched upon throughout the three papers.

The practice exam papers can be used in a number of ways:

1. Set them as mock examinations.
2. Hand them out for students to practise and reinforce their learning of the content.
3. Use specific questions to practise the application of knowledge on key topic areas.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

Note that in order to cover as much of the specification content as possible, Paper 2c does not include a 16-mark question. It seems likely that future exams, in line with the SAMs and June 2017 and 2018 papers, *will* include a 16-mark question, so please ensure your students are aware to expect this, and use either or both of Papers 2a and 2b to give them the complete exam experience. Paper 2c does have the correct balance of AOs as outlined in the AQA specification, but has a bias towards more and shorter questions in order to cover more content; as such it would be ideal as a revision paper.

May 2019

Free Updates!

Register your email address to receive any future free updates* made to this resource or other Psychology resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

Go to zzed.uk/freeupdates

ZigZag Practice Exam
Supporting A Level AQA

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A Level  **Psychology**

Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Practice Paper 2a

Name	
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Time allowed: 2 hours

Information:

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 96.
- 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 – Approaches in Psychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 1

Jenny is talking to her friend Natalie about her job. 'I always seem to be stuck at the same level, and I don't want to be stuck at the same level for the rest of my life. I want to be promoted', Jenny complains. 'You'd think so, but how that I would be surprised if you were always ambitious', Natalie replies. 'You were always ambitious and captain of the debating society', Jenny replies. 'I've always thought that you would be', Natalie replies.

Using the humanistic concepts of self-concept, ideal self and congruence, explain how Jenny's current state of career progression. Refer to the stem (i.e. to what she has said) to support your ideas.



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0 2

Explain what is meant by the terms 'genotype' and 'phenotype'.



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0 3

Ollie is talking to his therapist, Izzy, about his anger issues. 'I get real easily, particularly if someone tries to tell me what to do.' After discussing, Izzy explains what may be at the root of Ollie's feelings of conflict: 'You are often around male authority figures, and you often take out your anger on your friends.' Discuss how your childhood experiences that are unresolved and that you need to

Discuss how the psychodynamic approach would explain Ollie's feelings. Use the therapist's comments in your answer.

Planning space



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End of Section A

Turn over for Section B

Section B – Biopsychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 4

Explain the process of synaptic transmission.



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0 5

Sarah has been told that she has to have an fMRI scan as part of a research project she has volunteered for. She feels a little nervous about the scan as she has never had one before.

Write the standardised instructions that the researcher could give to Sarah before she is involved in an fMRI scan, including a brief comment on why she should follow the procedure.



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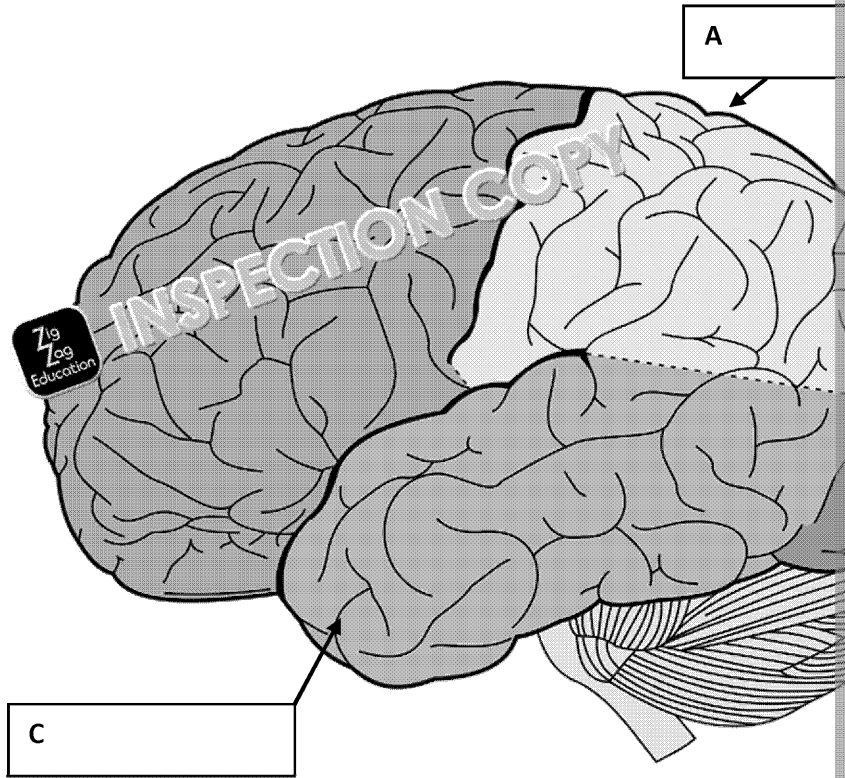
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0 6

Name the specific lobes of the brain which are labelled **A**, **B** and **C** in the diagram. Write your answers in the boxes provided:



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Shannon and Emily are twin sisters who both attend university. Shannon has chosen creative subjects (Photography, Art and Graphics) while Emily has chosen literacy and language subjects (Language, English Literature and French).

0 7



Using your understanding of hemispheric lateralisation, suggest why Shannon has chosen artistic subjects and Emily has chosen literacy/language subjects.

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0 8

Using Sperry's (1968) research as a reference point, outline why both Shannon and Emily find it easy to recognise words when presented to both their left and their right hands.



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0 9

Alet has noticed that he often experiences a 'flat' feeling and low mood. He finds that he is more listless and less interested in playing basketball. This has been the case from November through to April, although he starts to feel an improvement in May. Using your knowledge of infradian rhythms, suggest reasons for Alet's experience.

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1 0

Briefly evaluate **one** study which investigates circadian rhythms.

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End of Section B

Section C – Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 1

Which of the following statements describes an overt observation:

- a) The participants are unaware that they are being observed.
- b) The participants are aware that they are being observed.
- c) The participants are observed via a two-way mirror.

Professor Headwreck has set up a naturalistic observation in a shopping centre. He has placed a huge red circle on it. The sign has 'Don't touch this red circle' written underneath.

1 2

Suggest how Professor Headwreck might use **event sampling** in his study.



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1 3

Suggest how Professor Headwreck might use **time sampling** in his study.

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1 4

Professor Headwreck will be conducting his study alone. Explain why how he might overcome this problem.



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1 5

The table below shows the results from Professor Headwreck's observations.

	Touched red circle	Looked at but did not touch red circle	Ignored altogether
Females	17	35	52
Males	36	28	47

What do the results suggest about gender differences in this observation?



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1 6

Design an observational study to investigate how people behave in a design should include:

- the type of observation, with justification
- the defined behavioural categories you will be observing
- whether you will use time and/or event sampling, with justification
- how you will ensure that ethical considerations have been applied

Planning space





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A psychologist tested memory for faces as opposed to memory for names with a group of 20. The design was independent measures. Here are the mean scores and standard deviations.

Condition	Mean /30	Standard deviation
Names	8.32	1.08
Faces	10.75	3.64

1 7

Explain why the **mode** was not chosen as the measure of central tendency.



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1 8

Comment on what the standard deviation reveals about the performance in each condition.



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1 9

What type of data did the researcher collect in this study? Give one example.



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2 0

Which statistical test would the researcher use on the data in the study?

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2 1

Write a suitable non-directional hypothesis for this study.

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2 2

Correctly identify the term that relate to the definitions below:



Paradigm **Replicability** **Objectivity** **Hypothesis**

- a) Being able to repeat a particular procedure
.....
- b) A significant change in a theory or perspective
.....
- c) Obtaining evidence by scientific methods via observation or experiment
.....
- d) Minimising bias in an attempt not to interfere with a scientific process
.....



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2 3

Bella wants to carry out a parametric test on her data. She measured the reaction times of elite athletes who had either just run 10K or had rested for 30 minutes before the test.

Explain whether or not Bella is able to carry out a parametric test on the data.

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2 4

Outline what is involved in a double-blind procedure.

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ZigZag Practice Exam
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A Level  **Psychology**

Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Practice Paper 2b

Name	
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Time allowed: 2 hours

Information:

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

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0 3

Describe the role of theoretical models **and** schema as part of the cognitive-behavioural model of aggression.

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In a study of children's aggression, Professor Bashem concluded that children tend to imitate the aggressive behaviour of children who were at least two years older than them, rather than imitate the aggressive behaviour of children who were at least two years younger than them.

0 4

Explain how Professor Bashem's findings support the social learning theory of aggression.

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0 5

Suggest **one** way that the variable of 'aggression' could have been measured in the study. Outline **one** limitation of measuring the variable using the method you suggest.

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0 6

Briefly explain **one** strength of the social learning theory approach to

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End of Section A



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Section B – Biopsychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 7

Which of the following is implicated in the functioning of endogenous

- a) Light
- b) Melatonin
- c) Social cues
- d) SAD

0 8

Dr Yawn is hoping to carry out a study on circadian rhythms. She has 100 year-olds from Central London, and she is going to ask them to keep diaries at different times during a 24-hour cycle. The study will last for a week, and she is unable to generalise her findings to a wider population once she has collected the data.



Identify **two** problems with the design of this study.

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0 9

With reference to circadian rhythms, explain what is known as ‘desynchronisation’.



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1 0

Tharima's uncle suffered a stroke, the short-term effects of which included some impairment down his right side. After a year, however, his speech improved and he had much better mobility in the right side of his body.

Using the example of Tharima's uncle, discuss research into brain plasticity.

Planning space



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End of Section B

Turn over for Section C

Section C – Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 1

Correctly identify the level of measurement (type of data) for each of

- a) Data that can be ranked
- b) Data that is presented in categories
- c) Data that is continuous, determined by a set of equal spaces
e.g. centimetres



c)

1 2

A researcher has conducted a study and then set her probability level. Explain **why** the 0.05 level has been chosen by the researcher and what it means in relation to the 0.05 level of probability.

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1 3

What is a type II error?

- a) Claiming a significant difference when there is none
- b) Accepting the null hypothesis when it should have been rejected
- c) Rejecting the null hypothesis when it should have been accepted
- d) Stating that a correlation is positive instead of negative

1 4

Which **non-parametric test** you would select if you had used nominal measures in your experiment?

- a) Chi-squared
- b) Mann-Whitney
- c) Spearman's rho
- d) Wilcoxon



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A researcher hypothesised that exercising before taking a memory test would significantly improve performance. These are the results showing the memory test scores per participant:

Participant	Exercise before test	No exercise	Difference
1	15	9	
2	7	12	
3	18	2	
4	5	1	
5	11	12	
6		17	
7		8	
8	6	16	
9	10	14	

1 5 Using the data in the table above, carry out the sign test and calculate the test statistic.

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1 6 Referring to the data in table above, calculate the average difference for participant number 4.

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1 7 State the range for each condition:

Exercise before test' range.....

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'No exercise' range.....

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1 8

Explain why using standard deviation might be a more suitable way to describe the spread of data for each condition.

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1 9

Callum has written up the report of an interview study he did which examined the impact of social media on body image. Identify which sections of Callum's scientific report the questions listed below refer to.

Results Introduction Method Discussion

a) All participants in this study were students, which means it may be difficult to generalise the result.

.....

b) The interviews were conducted over the telephone.

.....

c) One main theme of the study involved comparing one's own body image to images on social media, which 17 participants reported doing.



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d) The overall aim of this study is to examine how social media can affect body image.

.....

Ellie has carried out a survey in her college which asks participants about their stress levels. She has used an opportunity sampling method by going to the canteen at lunchtime to present whether they would like to complete her questionnaire.

2 0

Identify **one** strength and **one** limitation of using an opportunity sampling method.

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2 | 1

Write **one** closed question and **one** open question that Ellie could use

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2 | 2

Outline **one** strength of using open questions in a questionnaire.



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2 | 3

How would Ellie go about testing the reliability of her questionnaire?

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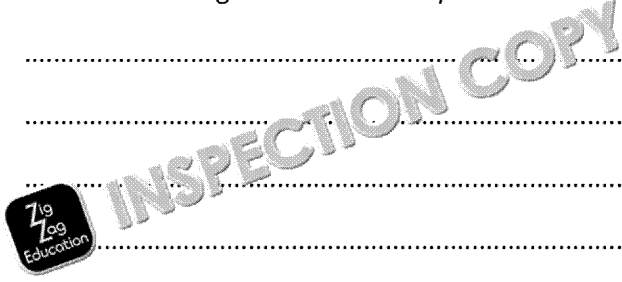
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2 | 4

With reference to Ellie's questionnaire, discuss the following aspects

- with reference to the design of the questionnaire, explain how it is standardised for all participants
- one sampling method that she could use to obtain a more representative sample
- how she could ensure that her study is ethical
- how she might check her study for face validity



2 | 5

Suggest **one** way that Ellie could obtain more in-depth, qualitative data



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2 | 6

Explain what is meant by 'external validity'.

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2 | 7

Dr Glum has conducted a study to ascertain how happy people feel in the afternoon. He decided to show one group of participants a half-hour comedy film. In another group of participants will watch the same comedy film.

Identify **two** extraneous variables that could interfere with Dr Glum's study.

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A Level  **Psychology**

Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Practice Paper 2a

Time allowed: 2 hours

Information:

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



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Section A – Approaches in Psychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 1

Jenny is talking to her friend Natalie about her job. 'I always seem to be stuck at the same level', Jenny complains. 'You'd think by now that I would be a manager', Natalie replies. 'Yes, you were always ambitious and captain of the debating team. I've always thought that you would be a manager.'

Using the humanistic approach of self-concept, ideal self and congruence, explain how Jenny's perception of her career progression is related to her self-concept. Refer to the stem (i.e. to what she has said) in your answer.



0 2

Explain what is meant by the terms 'genotype' and 'phenotype'.

0 3

Ollie is talking to his therapist, Izzy, about his anger issues. 'I get really angry easily, particularly if someone tries to tell me what to do.' After discussing his feelings, Izzy explains what may be at the root of Ollie's feelings of conflict: 'You are often in conflict with male authority figures, and you often take out your anger on your friends. This is related to your childhood experiences that are unresolved and that you need to resolve.'

Discuss how the psychodynamic approach would explain Ollie's feelings. Refer to the stem in your answer.

Section B – Biopsychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 4



Explain the role of the sodium ion in the process of synaptic transmission.

0 5

Sarah has been told that she has to have an fMRI scan as part of a research project. She has volunteered for it. She feels a little nervous about the scan as she has never had one before.

Write the standardised instructions that the researcher could give to Sarah before the scan. The instructions should include what Sarah is involved in an fMRI scan, including a brief comment on why she should follow the procedure.



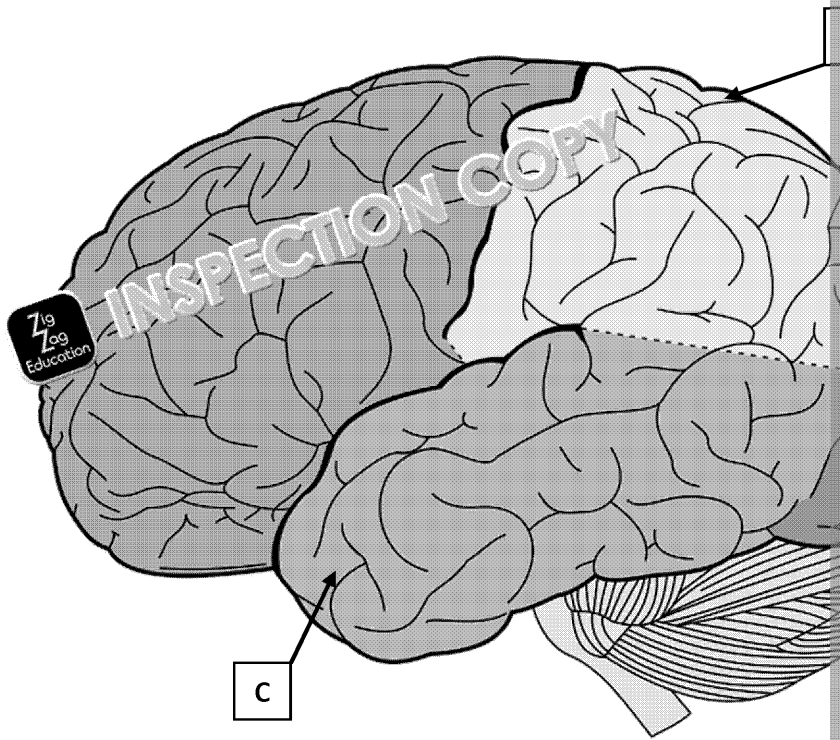
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0 6

Name the specific lobes of the brain which are labelled **A**, **B** and **C** in the diagram below.



Shannon and Emily are twin sisters who both attend a private boarding school. Shannon has chosen artistic subjects (Photography, Art and Graphics), whereas Emily has chosen literacy and language subjects (Language, English Literature and French).

0 7



Using your understanding of hemispheric lateralisation, suggest why Shannon has chosen artistic subjects and Emily has chosen literacy/language subjects.

0 8

Using Sperry's (1968) research as a reference point, outline why both Shannon and Emily find it easy to recognise words when presented to both their left and their right hands.

0 9

Alet has noticed that he often experiences a 'flat' feeling and low mood during the winter months. He finds that he is more listless and less interested in playing basketball during the winter months (November through to April), although he starts to feel an improvement in his mood during the summer months (May to October).

Using your knowledge of infradian rhythms, suggest reasons for Alet's seasonal mood fluctuations.

1 0

Briefly evaluate **one** study which investigates circadian rhythms.



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Section C – Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 1

Which of the following statements describes an overt observation:

- a) The participants are unaware that they are being observed.
- b) The participants are aware that they are being observed.
- c) The participants are observed via a two-way mirror.

Professor Headwreck has set up a naturalistic observation in a shopping centre. He has a huge red circle on the floor. The sign has 'Do not touch this red circle' written underneath it.

1 2

Suggest how Professor Headwreck might use **event sampling** in his study.

1 3

Suggest how Professor Headwreck might use **time sampling** in his study.

1 4

Professor Headwreck will be conducting his study alone. Explain why this is a problem and how he might resolve this problem.

1 5

The table below shows the results from Professor Headwreck's observations.

	Touched red circle	Looked at but did not touch red circle	Ignored altogether
Females	17	35	52
Males	36	28	47

What do the scores suggest about gender differences in this observation?

1 6

Design an observational study to investigate how people behave in a shopping centre. Your design should include:

- the type of observation, with justification
- the defined behavioural categories you will be observing
- whether you will use time and/or event sampling, with justification
- how you will ensure that ethical considerations have been applied

A psychologist tested memory for faces as opposed to memory for names with a group of 20. The design was independent measures. Here are the mean scores and standard deviations.

Condition	Mean score	Standard deviation
Names	8.25	1.08
Faces	11.5	3.64

1 7

Explain why the **mode** was not chosen as the measure of central tendency.

1 8

Comment on what the standard deviation reveals about the performance in each condition.

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1 9

What type of data did the researcher collect in this study? Give **one**

2 0

Which statistical test would the researcher use on the data in the study?

2 1

Write a suitable non-directional hypothesis for this study.

2 2

Correctly identify the terms that relate to the definitions below:



Paradigm shift Replicability Objectivity Hypothesis

- Being able to repeat a particular procedure
- A significant change in a theory or perspective
- Obtaining evidence by scientific methods via observation or experiment
- Minimising bias in an attempt not to interfere with a scientific process

2 3

Bella wants to carry out a parametric test on her data. She measured the reaction times of elite athletes who had either just run 10K or had rested for 30 minutes before the test.

Explain whether or not Bella is able to carry out a parametric test on her data.

2 4

Outline what is involved in a double-blind procedure.



A Level  **Psychology**

Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Practice Paper 2b

Time allowed: 2 hours

Information:

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



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Section A – Approaches in Psychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 1

Explain what is meant by the term 'introspection'.

0 2

Outline the humanistic approach in psychology. Discuss **one or more** humanistic approach and **one or more** other approach in psychology.

0 3

Describe the role of theoretical models **and** schema as part of the cognitive approach.

In a study of children's aggression, Professor Bashem concluded that children tend to imitate the aggressive behaviour of children who were at least two years older than them, rather than imitating the aggressive behaviour of children who were younger than them.

0 4

Explain how Professor Bashem's findings support social learning theory.

0 5

Suggest **one** way that the variable of 'aggression' could have been measured. Outline **one** limitation of measuring the variable using the method you suggest.

0 6

Briefly explain **one** strength of the social learning theory approach to psychology.

Section B – Biopsychology

Answer **all** questions in this section.

0 7

Which of the following is implicated in the functioning of endogenous pacemakers?

- a) Light
- b) Melatonin
- c) Social cues
- d) SAD

0 8

Dr Yawn is hoping to carry out a study on circadian rhythms. She has recruited 20 year-olds from Central London, and she is going to ask them to keep a diary of their sleep patterns at different times during a 24-hour cycle. The study will last for a week, and she hopes to be able to generalise her findings to a wider population once she has collected her data.

Outline **two** problems with the design of this study.

0 9

With reference to circadian rhythms, explain what is known as 'desynchronisation'.

1 0

Tharima's uncle suffered a stroke, the short-term effects of which included some impairment down his right side. After a year, however, his speech improved and he had much better mobility in the right side of his body.

Using the example of Tharima's uncle, discuss research into brain plasticity.

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Section C – Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 1

Correctly identify the level of measurement (type of data) for each of

- a) Data that can be ranked
- b) Data that is presented in categories
- c) Data that is continuous, determined by a set of equal spaces
e.g. centimetres

1 2

A researcher has conducted a study and then set her probability level. Explain **why** the 0.05 level has been chosen by the researcher and what in relation to the 0.05 level of probability.

1 3

What is a type II error?

- a) Claiming a significant difference when there is none
- b) Accepting the null hypothesis when it should have been rejected
- c) Rejecting the null hypothesis when it should have been accepted
- d) Stating that a correlation is positive instead of negative

1 4

Which **non-parametric test** you would select if you had used nominal measures in your experiment?

- a) Chi-squared
- b) Mann-Whitney
- c) Spearman's rho
- d) Wilcoxon

A researcher hypothesised that exercising before taking a memory test would significantly improve scores. These are the results showing the memory test scores per participant:

Participant	Exercise before test	No exercise	Difference
1	15	9	
2	7	12	
3	18	3	
4	5	5	
5	11	12	
6	9	17	
7	13	8	
8	6	10	
9	10	14	

1 5

Referring to the data in the table above, carry out the sign test and calculate

1 6

Referring to the data in table above, say why the researcher would have rejected the null hypothesis for participant number 4.

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1 7

State the range for each condition:
Exercise before test' range
'No exercise' range

1 8

Explain why using standard deviation might be a more suitable way to describe the spread of data for each condition.

1 9

Callum has written up the report for an interview study he did which examined the impact of body image on self-esteem. Identify which sections of Callum's scientific report are listed below.



Introduction

Method

Discussion

- All participants in this study were students, which means it may affect the result.
- The interviews were conducted over the telephone.
- One main theme of the study involved comparing one's own body image to social media, which 15 out of 17 participants reported doing.
- The overall aim of this study is to examine how social media can affect self-esteem.

Ellie has carried out a survey in her college which asks participants about their stress levels. She has used an opportunity sampling method by going to the canteen at present whether they would like to complete her questionnaire.

2 0

Identify **one** strength and **one** limitation of using an opportunity sampling method.

2 1

Write **one** closed question and **one** open question that Ellie could use in her questionnaire.

2 2

Identify **one** strength of using open questions in a questionnaire.

2 3

How would Ellie go about testing the reliability of her questionnaire?

2 4

With reference to Ellie's questionnaire, discuss the following aspects:

- with reference to the design of the questionnaire, explain how it can be standardised for all participants
- one sampling method that she could use to obtain a more representative sample
- how she could ensure that her study is ethical
- how she might check her study for face validity

2 5

Suggest one way that Ellie could obtain more depth, qualitative data from her questionnaire.

2 6

Explain what is meant by 'internal validity'.

2 7

Dr Glum has conducted a study to ascertain how happy people feel in the morning. He intends to show one group of participants a half-hour video in the morning, and another group of participants will watch the same video in the afternoon.

Identify **two** extraneous variables that could interfere with Dr Glum's study.

Practice Paper 2c

Section A – Approaches in Psychology

01 Which of the following is not a feature of the psychodynamic approach?

1 mark (AO1) for correctly identifying:

- d) Negative self-schema

02 Which of the following is not a feature of the humanistic approach?

1 mark (AO1) for correctly identifying:

- a) Unconditional positive regard

03 Using the behaviourist approach, explain Joe's behaviour in terms of how it and **operant conditioning**.

AO2 = 4 marks

For 1–2 marks: The answer may only mention one type of conditioning. It is likely to be a topic with little application to the stem.

For 3–4 marks: The answer will mention both types of conditioning, with some explanation and reference to the stem.

Possible answer content could include:

- Operant conditioning: Joe is likely to want to keep passing well as his coach has provided evidence of positive reinforcement. Joe is likely to want to control his anger in order to avoid being sent off – negative reinforcement.
- Classical conditioning: the opponent player who resembles Joe's bully is a newly conditioned stimulus associated with a fear-inducing stimulus (the bully). This has developed a conditioned response to this player.

04 Outline **one** assumption of the behaviourist approach and give **one** example.

AO1 = 2 marks

For full marks the response should correctly outline an assumption, using an appropriate example.

Possible answer content could include:

- Only behaviour which is observable can be measured e.g. salivation by Pavlov; aggression based behaviour; an easily identifiable fear response.
- Human beings are born as 'blank slates' e.g. life experiences are what form personality traits.
- Behaviour is best measured using controlled conditions e.g. lab experiments. Environmental factors have had some effect on a DV.

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05 Explain **two** limitations of the cognitive approach in psychology.

AO3 = 6 marks

For 5–6 marks: The answer should identify two clear limitations of the cognitive approach to the cognitive approach. Effective use of examples should be given to illustrate each point. There should be confident use of terminology.

For 3–4 marks: The answer should identify at least one clear limitation of the cognitive approach. There should be some use of terminology.

For 1–2 marks: The answer should only identify one limitation, with limited or no use of terminology.



Possible answer content could include:

- The cognitive approach could be accused of machine reductionism, reducing the workings of inanimate, non-human operations such as those of a computer to the workings of the human mind.
- Models of memory do not account for the complexity of the human memory system. Models often play in how and why particular memories are encoded, stored and retrieved.
- The use of lab experiments and objective methodology in the cognitive approach to research often lack explanatory power, demonstrating the 'what' but not the 'why'.
- Cognitive psychologists make inferences about behaviour which can sometimes be overly vague.

06 Explain what is meant by a 'genetic basis to behaviour'.

AO1 = 6 marks

For 5–6 marks: The answer should clearly and consistently explain what the term means. Each example explicitly to the role of genetics in explaining behaviour. Effective use of examples should be given to illustrate each point made. There should be confident use of terminology.

For 3–4 marks: The answer should explain what a genetic basis to behaviour means. There may be some lack of expansion or development of ideas. There should be some use of terminology.

For 1–2 marks: The answer will be only partially successful in identifying key ideas about a genetic basis to behaviour. Terminology will be sparse, and there may be some vagueness or ambiguity.

Possible answer content could include:

- A genetic basis to behaviour is part of the biological approach, rooting behaviour in biological contexts, including evolutionary psychology.
- Both physical and internal (e.g. mental) characteristics are inherited. Traits may be present because evolutionary processes have selected the most adaptable characteristics for survival.
- Some traits are innate rather than being the product of environmental influences. Examples of characteristics such as eye colour, as well as 'invisible' traits, e.g. having an innate ability or sporting prowess.
- Everyone has a genotype which comprises their total set of inherited genes for a particular trait.
- The phenotype consists of the way in which the genotype is expressed, and is influenced by environmental factors such as upbringing, nutrition, education.



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07 Briefly outline **one** strength and one limitation of using twin studies to support the genetic basis to behaviour.

AO3 = 4 marks

For 3–4 marks: The answer should clearly identify one strength and one limitation on a basis to explaining behaviour. There will be some expansion/development of the terminology.

For 1–2 marks: The answer may focus only on a strength or a limitation, and it may state that there is a genetic basis to behaviour, with limited development of the answer.

Possible answer content could include:

- Strengths could include: twin studies use concordance rates (correlating behaviour between MZ and DZ twins), which provide clear quantitative data that allows for easy comparison, highlighting possible relationships between variables. Results of twin studies show high concordance rates for MZ twins, which supports a biological basis for behaviour. Large samples to be used in the analysis, which means that quantitative data is likely to be more reliable. The Minnesota twin study used over 100 pairs of twins, generating a strong data set.
- Limitations could include: twin studies do not show a 100% concordance rate, which means that even with identical DNA there are still differences between MZ twins. This may account for other possible explanatory factors for the behaviour, e.g. relationships with siblings, friends, other environments. Quantitative data can show what but not why, so it lacks explanatory power.

Section B – Biopsychology

08 During the fight or flight response, which part of the ANS is first triggered in the body?

For 1 AO1 mark:

d) The sympathetic nervous system

09 Suggest **one** reason why the mean was a suitable measure of central tendency for the data in this study. Suggest **one** reason why the mean might not have been the most suitable measure of central tendency for this study.

AO2 = 4 marks

For 3–4 marks: The answer should clearly state the reasons for using / not using the mean to support the answer.

For 1–2 marks: The answer will partially answer the question though information does not address both parts of the question or does not refer to the study.

Possible answer content could include:

- Reasons for using the mean: it takes all of the scores into account so provides a central tendency that researcher can use to look for the different physiological effects of horror film. The mean provides a representative score. If the researcher replicates the horror/nature film study, some expectation is that the average score should be similar.
- Reasons for not using the mean: as it takes all scores into account, it includes all data, e.g. some people may love horror films or not feel particularly scared while watching. It may be more appropriate if there are significant outliers and anomalous scores, e.g. the nature film which may be as a result of other factors, e.g. medication, noise, etc. in the study.

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10 Suggest **one** way in which the researcher might link these findings to the film.

AO2 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that a raised heart rate (BPM) is one physiological response to a horror film and that this is more likely to occur while watching a horror film.

11 Which of the following has an **inhibitory** effect on synaptic transmission?

For 1 AO1 mark:

a) Serotonin

12 Outline a study of localisation of function in the brain, and evaluate the research.

AO1 = 4 marks, AO3 = 4 marks

For **6–8 marks:** The answer should clearly and concisely describe the study, using examples should be given to support the points made. There should be confidence in the study and the findings should be effective and should focus on squarely on methodology, incorporating validity.

For **4–6 marks:** The answer should give a coherent account of the study, with some expansion or development of ideas. There should be some use of terminology but may lack depth or range.

For **1–3 marks:** The answer will be only partially successful in describing a study. There may be some vagueness or ambiguity to the response. Evaluation is likely to be limited or altogether missing.

Possible AO1 answer content could include:

- The case of Phineas Gage, including details of how the accident occurred, the accident and subsequent changes in Gage's behaviour attributed to the damage to the frontal lobes to the area of the brain associated with executive functions.
- Methodology using brain scans may be cited, e.g. Petersen et al. (1988), with the findings linked to the behaviour being investigated.
- Neurosurgery to control OCD and depression, e.g. Dougherty et al. (2002) demonstrating that deep brain stimulation may help patients with severe forms of mental disorders. Again, the areas of the brain are implicated in the behaviour.

Possible AO3 answer content could include:

- Case studies such as Phineas Gage provide rich, qualitative data of unique cases which are impossible to investigate ethically. The data is likely to be insightful and rich, with personal contact with the participant, thus increasing the validity of the findings. However, they cannot be replicated or generalised as they include, usually, a single case and a chance that the researcher may lose objectivity due to spending so much time with the participant.
- Brain scans provide clear, objective data which is easy (if costly) to replicate. Gaining a picture of the brain is highly beneficial to researchers as they can identify areas of the brain that are affected. However, brain scans lack explanatory power and are not always reliable due to issues such as machine calibration, noise in the room or the subject's movement.
- Neurosurgery is a highly clinical method which can have quick and obvious results. However, the risk of a positive symptom decrease is high. Being able to isolate the key areas of the brain and then remove them is testament to the validity of the concept of localisation of function. However, the method, however, comes with some risk to the patient, may not be suitable for all patients and may cause further trauma due to the invasive nature of the procedure.

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13 Briefly explain what is meant by 'synaptic pruning'.

AO1 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should explain that synaptic pruning involves deleting and strengthening the connections that are used on a frequent basis.

14 Outline the procedure used by Sperry (1968) in his research on split-brain patients.

AO1 = 4 marks

For **3–4 marks**: The answer should clearly outline Sperry's procedure with some detail.
For **1–2 marks**: The answer will partially answer the question, though information details may be missing or there may be some ambiguity.

Possible answer content could include:

- Sperry recruited a sample of patients who had already undergone the split-brain surgery for epilepsy.
- Each participant was tested individually: they sat at a table and had placed in front of them a board on which words or images were presented.
- Each word or image was presented to the participant's right visual field, and another word or image was presented to their left visual field. The patient was asked to name the word or image shown to them, either by naming the word/image or by finding it using their hands.
- Other tests given to the participants included presenting them with two words at once in order to ascertain their ability to recognise composite words. Composite words were also used to test the participants.

15 Outline what is meant by an 'ultradian rhythm' and give an example to support your answer.

AO1 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that an ultradian rhythm is one that has a short period, e.g. the stages of sleep, which include phases such as REM sleep and Stage 1 sleep.

Section C – Research Methods

16 Should the researcher use a directional or a non-directional experimental hypothesis? Explain why.

AO2 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that the researcher should choose a directional hypothesis because they are 'confident that the ticking clock condition will result in poorer concentration', thus there is a predicted difference in conditions.

17 Write the hypothesis that you have identified in 15 for this study.

AO2 = 3 marks

For full marks, the answer should be a directional hypothesis with the independent variable operationalised. For example:

Participants who learn a word list with a ticking clock in the room will recall less of the words than participants who learn the word list in silence.

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18 Identify **one** possible extraneous variable that could affect the results of the study and explain why it is important to control this variable.

A02 = 3 marks

For full marks, the answer should clearly identify a relevant extraneous variable. Marks will be awarded for linking this variable to the study and explaining why it was important to control. Some participants may have a better grasp or understanding of poetry than other participants. It would be important to control this variable as it may give some participants an advantage and would possibly result in skewed, unrepresentative data.

19 Briefly explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of using an independent measures design in this study.

A02 = 2 marks, A03 = 2 marks

For 3–4 marks: Both the strength and the limitation should be correctly and clearly identified and explained appropriately to the study.

For 1–2 marks: There may be only a strength or a limitation cited, or the answer may be underdeveloped or unclear/ambiguous.

Possible answer content could include:

- Strength of using an independent measures design in this study: it rules out confounding variables, e.g. the participants might guess that the ticking clock is related to memorising the poem (if the same participants and the same poem were used).
- Limitation of using an independent measures design in this study: participant differences, e.g. some participants naturally have a better memory than others, and the better-memory participants could end up in the same group (if a different group was used for each condition).

20 Explain **two** ethical considerations the researcher would have had to make in this study and suggest why each would have been important.

A02 = 4 marks

For 3–4 marks: Two clear ethical considerations should be correctly and clearly identified and linked to the study.

For 1–2 marks: There may be only one ethical consideration cited, or the ethical consideration may not link to the study or may be unclear/ambiguous.

Possible answer content could include:

- Before the study (informed consent and/or right to withdraw): participants must be informed and must be told that they will be learning a poem under timed conditions. This is an important consideration as some participants may not wish to read poetry due to reasons such as they would not understand the poem. If this were the case, then participants should be allowed to withdraw.
- During the study (protection from harm and/or confidentiality): participants should be protected from any forms of harm. This is an important consideration as some participants may not understand the poem or about their memory ability and so would need extra support. All responses would be anonymous and confidential.

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- 21 With reference to the study outlined in the stem above, explain why Dr Mindwar made a type I error in his conclusion, and suggest how he might rectify this.

A02 = 6 marks

For full marks, the answer should include all of the following: A type I error is likely because the sample of six is too small to be able to realistically find a significant result; the sample consists of six participants with a higher IQ than the general population; the significance level of 0.05 is too high, leading to anomalous data to skew the results. Dr Mindwar could rectify the error by increasing the sample size to a wider and more varied demographic for his sample and setting his probability level to 0.01.

- 22 Explain why Dr Mindwar could not have used a parametric test to conduct his study.

A02 = 4 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that a parametric test would not be possible because the data was interval data (IQ scores can be ranked, and there is no defined interval between scores) and there would be no expectation of a normal distribution due to the small, biased sample size and no expectation of homogeneity of variance (i.e. each condition showing a similar result as the other sample was so small).

- 23 What type of graphical display would you use to present this data? Explain why this is a suitable display.

A02 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that a scattergram/graph would be used because the data for each participant are being used to look for a correlation.

- 24 Draw below the graph you identified in 23.

A02 = 4 marks

For full marks, the graph should be correctly plotted, have a title and have both axes clearly labeled.

- 25 Suggest **one** strength and **one** limitation of using a rating scale in a questionnaire.

A03 = 4 marks

For 3–4 marks: Both the strength and the limitation should be correctly and clearly stated, and there should be some explanation, linked to the research method.

For 1–2 marks: There may be only a strength or a limitation cited, or the answer may be underdeveloped or unclear/ambiguous.

Possible answer content could include:

- For a strength: rating scales provide clear quantitative data which is easy to compare and contrast graphically or statistically; rating scales can be easily replicated, which is linked to reliability.
- For a limitation: rating scales do not explain the reasons behind a rating; participants may rate differently, e.g. a rating of '7' for one person may be a '6' for someone else.

- 26 Calculate the mean score for 'number of hours slept' and 'self-confidence'.

A02 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should clearly state that the mean score for 'number of hours slept' is 4.4 and for 'self-confidence' the mean score is 4.4.

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27 Explain what is meant by the term 'correlation coefficient'.

A01 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should state that a correlation coefficient is a number between -1 and 1 and that it indicates the strength and direction of a correlation/relationship between two variables.

28 Outline **two** methods that the psychologist could use to obtain **qualitative** data.

A02 = 2 marks

For full marks, the answer should clearly and correctly identify two suitable methods for obtaining qualitative data, such as an interview, questionnaire using open-ended questions, or a focus group.

29 How might the psychologist use content analysis on the findings from this case study?

A02 = 3 marks

For full marks, the answer will include at least two of the following points: the content of transcribed interviews, open-ended written answers to a questionnaire or discussions/conversations with others. The written content will then be coded according to categories relevant to the research, e.g. who the multiple personalities are, how often they appear, how they are triggered. These categories may be quantified into units to look for patterns or significant differences.

30 What possible problems might a psychologist encounter when conducting this research?

A02 = 3 marks

For full marks, the answer should focus only on the issues that may be problematic in this specific reference to this case study into MPD. Such problems include (at least two): a large amount of data, mostly qualitative, which is time-consuming to analyse and process; topics that are of little real use to the researcher; possible social desirability bias, particularly if they like the results and feel that their MPD is taken seriously; possible confirmation bias where certain findings are interpreted in favour of other findings; becoming too close to the participant and being sacrificed; limited generalisability or usefulness of findings due to the unique nature of the condition (rare) and the small sample of, usually, just one participant. Additionally, the patient may be fantasising about having other personalities.

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ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES GRID

Approaches in Psychology	AO1	AO2	AO3
01	1		
02	1		
03			
04	2		
05			6
06	6		
07			4
Total	10	4	10
Biopsychology			
08	1		
09		4RM	
10		2RM	
11	1		
12	4		4
13	2		
14	4		
15	2		
Total	14	6	4
Research Methods			
16		2	
17		3	
18		3	
19		2	2
20		4	
21		6Maths	
22		4Maths	
23		2Maths	
24		4Maths	
25			4
26		2Maths	
27	2		
28		2	
29			3
30		3	
Total		37	9
Paper 2	26	47	23

Research Methods = 54 marks
 Maths = 18 marks

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