



Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE
NAME
CENTRE
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PSYCHOLOGY

9990/11

Paper 1 Approaches, Issues and Debates

May/June 2025

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Section A

Answer **all** questions.

1 From the study by Fagen et al. (elephant learning):

(a) State the number of elephants that successfully passed the trunk-wash test.

..... [1]

(b) (i) Identify the primary reinforcer used in this study.

..... [1]

(ii) Identify the secondary reinforcer used in this study.

..... [1]

(c) Outline the trained behaviour of 'steady' as used in this study.

..... [2]

2 In the study by Perry et al. (personal space), in Experiment 1 each participant took a computerised test of comfortable interpersonal distance.

(a) Outline the **two** possible ways that this computerised test could end for a participant.

1 [2]
2

(b) Explain **one** weakness of this study in relation to ethics.

..... [2]
.....
.....
.....





3 From the study by Saavedra and Silverman (button phobia):

(a) One aim was to investigate the role of disgust in a childhood phobia.

Outline **one** other aim of this study.

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..... [2]

(b) The sample in the study was a boy with a phobia of buttons.

Identify **two** other features of the sample.

1

2 [2]

(c) Suggest **one** application to everyday life using evidence from this study. Your suggestion **must** be ethical.

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..... [2]

4 From the study by Dement and Kleitman (sleep and dreams):

Outline **one** result about dream recall and stages of sleep. You **must** use data in your answer.

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..... [3]





5 (a) Outline **one** assumption of the biological approach.

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..... [2]

(b) Explain **one** reason why the study by Hölzel et al. (mindfulness and brain scans) supports the assumption you outlined in part (a).

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..... [2]

6 (a) Describe the psychology being investigated in the study by Pozzulo et al. (line-ups).

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..... [3]





- Eric says the study has validity, but Quinn says it does **not** have validity.

Outline why you think **either** Eric **or** Quinn is correct, using evidence from this study.

The friend who I think is correct is:

because:

.....

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.....

[4]

- 7 In the study by Hassett et al. (monkey toy preferences), each trial used a 'plush' toy and a 'wheeled' toy.

Describe the procedure for **one** trial.

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..... 5

[5]



- 8 Your friend, Imelda, tells you about a problem with her child's behaviour. Her child keeps taking all of his toys from where they are stored in a box and throwing them aggressively around the room. When she asks him to tidy the toys his only response is to shout. Imelda wants your advice on how to improve her child's behaviour.

Outline the advice you would give to Imelda, using your knowledge of the study by Bandura et al. (aggression). Your advice **must** be ethical.

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..... [4]

Section B

Answer **all** questions.

- 9 (a) In the study by Andrade (doodling), the sample size was 40 participants.

Describe the sample of participants used in this study, other than the sample size of 40.

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..... [4]





(b) Explain **two** differences between the study by Andrade (doodling) and **one** other study from the cognitive approach. Do **not** refer to the sample of participants.

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2

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[8]



10 Evaluate the study by Milgram (obedience) in terms of **two** strengths and **two** weaknesses. At least one of your evaluation points **must** be about the sampling technique used to recruit participants.

[illegible]







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