UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

PSYCHOLOGY **9698/21**

Paper 2 The Core Studies 2 **October/November 2011**

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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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.

Section A
Answer **all** questions.
Section B
Answer any **one** question.

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.

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Section A (20 marks)

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 Describe **two** ethical issues raised in the Bandura, Ross and Ross study on aggression. [4]

2 From the study by Raine, Buchsbaum and LaCasse on brain scans:

(a) Describe **two** features of the participants that were matched in this study. [2]

(b) If the participants had not been matched, what effect would this have had on the results? [2]

3 From the study by Hraba and Grant on doll choice:

(a) Describe **one** finding from this study. [2]

(b) Explain how the findings of this study relate to the nature/nurture debate on racial preference. [2]

4 From the study by Gould on intelligence testing:

(a) Describe **one** psychometric test used to assess the army recruits. [2]

(b) Outline **one** problem with using psychometric tests in this study. [2]

5 From the study by Rosenhan on being sane in insane places:

(a) Outline **one** explanation for the reaction of the hospital staff to the pseudopatients. [2]

(b) Describe **one** difficulty when studying individual differences. [2]

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Section B (30 marks)

Answer **one** question only from this section.

6 Cognitive psychology investigates how our brain processes information.

Using the studies from the list below, answer the questions which follow.

Baron-Cohen, Leslie and Frith (autism)
Deregowski (picture perception)
Gardner and Gardner (project Washoe)
Loftus and Palmer (eyewitness testimony)

(a) Describe what each study tells us about cognitive processes. [10]

(b) What are the strengths and weaknesses of investigating cognitive processes? [10]

(c) 'The human mind is similar to a computer.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [10]

7 Psychological studies should be like everyday life in order that conclusions can be reached about human behaviour.

Using the studies from the list below, answer the questions which follow.

Haney, Banks and Zimbardo (prison simulation)
Piliavin, Rodin and Piliavin (subway Samaritans)
Tajfel (intergroup categorisation)
Schachter and Singer (emotion)

(a) Describe what each of these studies tells us about everyday life. [10]

(b) What are the strengths and weaknesses of studying behaviour in everyday life? [10]

(c) To what extent is it possible to study someone in their natural environment? Give reasons for your answer. [10]

8 It is important for psychological studies to be useful to help improve the lives of people in society.

Using the studies from the list below, answer the questions which follow.

Freud (little Hans)
Samuel and Bryant (conservation)
Hodges and Tizard (social relationships)
Milgram (obedience)

(a) Describe how each of these studies is useful in helping to improve the lives of people in society. [10]

(b) What are the problems that psychologists may have when trying to create useful studies? [10]

(c) 'All psychological research is useful.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [10]

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