Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

PSYCHOLOGY **9990/42**

Paper 4 Specialist Options: Application **February/March 2022**

1 hour 30 minutes

7583201635

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **four** questions in total:
  - Answer questions from **two** options.
    - Section A: answer **two** questions.
    - Section B: answer **one** question.
    - Section C: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

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 **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Section A

You must answer **two** questions from this section.
Answer all the parts for the two questions you choose.

Psychology and abnormality

1 One drug treatment for depression is monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs). The effectiveness of this treatment can be tested using randomised control trials.

(a) Explain how MAOIs work when treating depression. [2]

(b) **(i)** Suggest how randomised control trials can be used to study the effectiveness of MAOIs. [2]

(ii) Give **one** strength of a randomised control trial. [2]

(c) Suggest **one** treatment for depression, other than MAOIs. [4]

(d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using drugs to treat depression. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Psychology and consumer behaviour

2 Woods et al. conducted two laboratory experiments into the effect of background noise on food perception. Participants ate different foods, such as crisps, cheese and flapjack, while listening through headphones to either:

- no sound
- quiet background white noise
- loud background white noise.

(a) Suggest **two** relevant participant variables that were **not** controlled in this study. [2]

(b) **(i)** Explain how the dependent variables (DV) were measured in Experiment 1. [2]

(ii) Give **one** finding from Experiment 1. [2]

(c) **(i)** Explain how counterbalancing was used in this study. [2]

(ii) Suggest **one** effect if counterbalancing had **not** been used in this study. [2]

(d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using controls in the study by Woods et al. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

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Psychology and health

3 Food Dudes to the rescue.
Prior to the study by Tapper et al. (2003), children in the UK aged 4 to 11 were not eating enough fruit and vegetables. Tapper et al. used the Food Dudes to present three food consumption techniques to children in three schools.

(a) Suggest why it was important that Tapper et al. measured unhealthy food consumption as well as fruit and vegetable consumption. [2]

(b) Explain **two** of the food consumption techniques used by Tapper et al. [4]

(c) Suggest how **two** ethical guidelines apply to the use of children in this study. [4]

(d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using health promotion strategies in schools. Do **not** refer to ethics in your answer. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Psychology and organisations

4 In his theory, Maslow originally proposed a hierarchy of five needs. Several years later, he added three more needs, giving eight in total. These needs are: physiological, safety, social, esteem, cognitive, aesthetic, self-actualisation and transcendence. These needs can be understood in relation to individual and situational explanations.

(a) Explain what is meant by 'self-actualisation'. [2]

(b) **(i)** Explain how **one** need, other than self-actualisation, could be 'individual'. [2]

(ii) Explain how **one** need, other than self-actualisation, could be 'situational'. [2]

(c) Suggest why Alderfer's ERG theory is more reductionist than Maslow's theory. [4]

(d) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using interviews to gather data on need theories of motivation. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

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Section B

You must answer **one** question from this section.

Psychology and abnormality

5 **(a)** Design a study to investigate gender differences in the effectiveness of imaginal desensitisation for the treatment of impulse control disorders. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Psychology and consumer behaviour

6 Consumers may not buy what they plan to buy. They may intend to make a purchase but may not do this.

(a) Design a study using a questionnaire to investigate whether consumers buy what they plan to buy. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Psychology and health

7 **(a)** Design an experiment to investigate the effectiveness of biofeedback in the management of stress. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your experiment is based. [8]

Psychology and organisations

8 **(a)** Design a study using a questionnaire to investigate the effectiveness of adaptive leadership to manage employees' experiences during organisational change within a company. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

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Section C

You must answer **one** question from this section.

Psychology and abnormality

9 *'Behavioural explanations of impulse control disorders are too reductionist to be useful.'*

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Psychology and consumer behaviour

10 *'If playing one type of music in one restaurant increases the amount of money spent, this cannot be generalised to all restaurants.'*

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Psychology and health

11 *'A questionnaire is the only way that unrealistic optimism can be assessed.'*

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Psychology and organisations

12 *'Situational leadership is no longer relevant. Only individual styles of leader behaviour are relevant to modern organisations.'*

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

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