

Study Psychology

HELPING YOU ACHIEVE



A-Level Psychology Practice Paper

This is a practice paper intended for revision
following the **OCR** specification.

Paper 3: Applied Psychology

2 hours



Section A: Issues in Mental Health

Answer all the questions below on separate paper

- 1.** Describe the characteristics of a psychotic disorder. **(5)**
- 2.** Outline brain abnormality as an explanation of mental illness. **(6)**
- 3.** **(a)** In the key research by Szasz (2011), the author states that “there is no such thing as mental illness.” How does Szasz defend this claim? **(3)**

(b) Evaluate Szasz’s view that “there is no such thing as mental illness.” **(5)**
- 4.** Outline how a biological treatment could be used to treat one specific disorder. **(5)**
- 5.** To what extent is the cognitive explanation of mental illness useful? **(10)**

Section B: Options

Choose two options and answer all questions on separate paper

Child Psychology

6. (a) * Explain how the key research by **Ainsworth and Bell (1970)** could be used to help parents of young children. **(10)**
- (b) * Discuss **ethical considerations** when conducting research into the development of attachment. **(15)**
- (c) * Helen is the manager of a daycare centre for children aged from 3 months up to 5 years. She wants to ensure that new children joining are comfortable with the staff who are caring for them.

What advice might a psychologist give Helen about how to ensure that her daycare centre is an attachment friendly environment? **(10)**

Criminal Psychology

7. (a) * Use the key research by **Haney et al (1973)** to explain how prison can affect prisoners. **(10)**
- (b) * Discuss the **validity** of research relating to the effects of imprisonment. **(15)**
- (c) * Michael is the governor of a prison. He is concerned that too many of the inmates released from his prison go on to reoffend.

What advice might a psychologist give Michael about how to reduce reoffending by inmates released from his prison? **(10)**

Environmental Psychology

8. (a) * Explain how the research by **Czeisler et al (1982)** could be used to influence the design of work schedules. **(10)**
- (b) * Discuss **free will and determinism** in research into biological rhythms. **(15)**
- (c) * A long-haul airline company is keen to improve the quality of passenger experiences. The staff often overhear passengers complaining about the difficulty in adjusting to new time zones. They now want to find out if there is anything they can do to help their passengers reduce experiences of jetlag.
- What suggestions might a psychologist make to this airline company about how it could help reduce jetlag among its passengers? **(10)**

Sport and Exercise Psychology

9. (a) * Use the key research by **Munroe-Chandler et al (2008)** to explain the benefits of imagery in sport. **(10)**
- (b) * Discuss the **reliability** of research into motivation in sport. **(15)**
- (c) * Kevin is the coach for his daughter's football team. It is halfway through the season, and they have lost every match they've played. Some of the girls in the team are beginning to lose interest in the sport.
- What advice might a sports psychologist give Kevin about how to motivate the players in his daughter's football team? **(10)**

END OF PAPER

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