

**MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA**  
**MATRICULATION EXAMINATION**  
**INTERMEDIATE LEVEL**  
**MAY 2015**

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	PSYCHOLOGY
<b>DATE:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
<b>TIME:</b>	9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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**This examination paper has two Sections. Answer both Section A and Section B. Follow instructions given in each Section**

**Section A (40 marks)**

**Answer question 1 and another question from this section. Each question carries 20 marks.**

**Question 1**

- a. In the history of psychology we find many schools of thought. What type of studies and research were advocated by these schools after the 1920's? Give examples. (10 marks)
- b. Research is an important area of study today. Suppose you want to find out the number of hours per week secondary school students aged 13 to 15 spend using the Internet. What data collecting tool would you use and why? How will you choose your sample and why? (10 marks)

**Question 2**

- a. The Nervous System is divided into two main sub-systems. What are these sub-systems called and what do they consist of? (12 marks)
- b. Name the four main areas of the brain. Briefly describe the main functions of each area. (8 marks)

**Question 3**

- a. What is meant by the term "personality"? (4 marks)
- b. The psychoanalytic approach, the humanistic approach and the Trait theories are three ways of understanding and explaining the main factors which determine adult personality. Choose one of these three approaches and describe the main propositions put forward by that approach to personality. (16 marks)

*Please turn the page.*

**Section B (60 marks)**

**Answer question 4 and another question from this section. Each question carries 30 marks.**

**Question 4**

Anna was an only child and lived with her parents. For many years she spent her summers staying with her grandparents in Italy. Her grandfather was a doctor and looked after people living in a rural part of Italy. Anna always looked forward to summer. She enjoyed playing with her cousins and she also loved Italian food. She was also fascinated by the stories her grandfather told her every evening when they sat down for dinner in their veranda overlooking the lake. When she was asked about what she wanted to be when she grew up, she always said ‘a doctor’. This pleased her parents a great deal but they did not really believe it because Anna never enjoyed studying. She passed her science exams and chose to study medicine. Today she is a fully qualified doctor passionate about her work.

- a. Describe one of several theories which can explain Anna’s desire to become a doctor. (8 marks)
- b. Apply the arguments in the nature-nurture debate to explain Anna’s success. (8 marks)
- c. One of the professions you could pursue is that of a psychologist. Mention four career paths in psychology and briefly outline the work and setting in which these professionals practice. (8 marks)
- d. What insights about yourself and the persons around you did you become aware of as a result of studying psychology? (6 marks)

**Question 5**

- a. Do you agree that gender-role stereotypes are in decline? Support your arguments with literature on gender issues that include cultural influences and give two examples that you have come across in your daily life experiences. (10 marks)
- b. Explain four theories of gender development and give examples of each. (20 marks)

**Question 6**

Although exams are considered to be a great source of anxiety for students and parents, some seem to cope with anxiety better than others.

- a. Define “Anxiety Disorders” and name the types of anxiety disorders. (6 marks)
- b. There are two main perspectives on anxiety: 1. The learning perspective and 2. The biological perspective. Describe anxiety in view of these two contemporary perspectives. (24 marks)