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SUBJECT: **Psychology**  
DATE: 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020  
TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

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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

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

1. James is a counselling psychologist and works at Mater Dei Hospital. He would like to offer a good service to his clients and would like to find out whether they find psychotherapy helpful and why.

- a. Should he carry out a qualitative study or a quantitative study? Give reasons for your choice. (4)
- b. Describe such a study including how James would choose the sample and collect the data. (8)
- c. James is a counselling psychologist. Mention **FOUR** other areas which persons who would like to become psychologists can specialise in and explain the type of work the specialisations involve. (8)

**(Total: 20 marks)**

2. Behaviourism is an important school of psychology that explains how learning takes place.

- a. Explain the process of classical conditioning as it occurred in Pavlov's experiments using the appropriate terminology. (6)
- b. Explain extinction using examples. (4)
- c. Define operant conditioning, reinforcement and punishment. (2, 2, 2)
- d. What is observational learning? (4)

**(Total: 20 marks)**

3. The nervous system contains all the nerve cells in the body and various parts are specialized for different functions.

- a. Which are the two sub-systems making up the nervous system? Describe them briefly. (8)
- b. Within one of these main sub-systems, there are the somatic and autonomic nervous systems. What are the functions of somatic and autonomic nervous systems? (4, 4)
- c. At the most general level, the brain can be divided into three main regions: forebrain, midbrain and hindbrain. Choose **ONE** of these three main areas and describe its functions. (4)

**(Total: 20 marks)**

***Please turn the page.***

**SECTION B**

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

4. Read the following case study and answer the following questions:

Maggie is 15 years old. In the last two years she has been having some difficulties at school and her grades have dropped significantly. She was always a model student but recently she finds herself disinterested in the subjects she has chosen and wonders if the sciences are the right career path for her. Maggie is an excellent guitar player and while her parents have always encouraged her to pursue music as a hobby they do not see it as a viable career path. Maggie is not immersing herself in her studies. Over the last year she has joined a band and spends much of her time with the band members rehearsing and attending concerts. Through this context she has been introduced to alcohol and more recently cannabis. Last summer she was caught smoking cannabis and her parents have insisted that she sees a counsellor. Maggie does not think her use is problematic and thinks that her parents are old fashioned. She argues with them on virtually everything and spends as much time out of the house as they will allow. The parents are reacting by becoming increasingly stricter. The counsellor has suggested that the entire family visits a family therapist. Maggie is an only child and her parents are approaching middle age.

- a. From your knowledge of developmental psychology through the lifespan, why do you think:
  - (i) Maggie is behaving the way she is; (5)
  - (ii) Maggie's parents are behaving the way they are; (5)
  - (iii) there is a conflict between Maggie and her parents? (5)
- b. If you were Maggie's mother or father how would you have communicated your feelings about your daughter's drug use and other behaviours more effectively? (5)
- c. How can you explain Maggie's drug use using social influence theory? (10)

**(Total: 30 marks)**

5. Pro-social behavior is often seen as the opposite of aggressive behavior.

- a. Define pro-social behavior and aggressive behavior. (6)
- b. Are persons born aggressive or do they develop these traits when growing up? Explain and support your answer with examples. (12)
- c. Psychologists claim that pro-social behavior generally depends on empathy. How does empathy develop? (6)
- d. Explain the empathy-altruism hypothesis. (6)

**(Total: 30 marks)**

6. Schizophrenia is a disorder characterized by disorganized thinking, disturbed perceptions, and inappropriate emotions and actions.

- a. Explain what is understood by 'disorganized thinking' in schizophrenia. (5)
- b. List the **FIVE** subtypes of schizophrenia and their main symptoms. (15)
- c. What is the role of dopamine in schizophrenia? (5)
- d. What is the biopsychosocial perspective, and why is it important in our understanding of psychological disorders? (5)

**(Total: 30 marks)**