

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

INTERMEDIATE MATRICULATION LEVEL 2024 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: **Psychology** DATE: 10th May 2024

TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

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 a. Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative research methods. Mention **TWO** strengths and **TWO** weaknesses associated with **each** approach. (8)
 - b. Studies on students' exam performance are regularly held by educational researchers.
 Describe a study you would conduct if you want to measure the performance of students in an exam after receiving guidance from an educational psychologist whose aim is to help them improve their study and exam strategies.
 - c. Describe **ONE** advantage and **ONE** disadvantage of experiments. (4)

(Total: 20 marks)

- 2. a. Explain the difference between conformity and obedience. Use **ONE** example to illustrate conformity and **ONE** example to illustrate obedience. (8)
 - b. We are socialized to obey rules and laws. Obedience is often considered a virtue. Stanley Milgram (1969) and his colleagues carried out an experiment on obedience more than sixty years ago. This experiment is still discussed today. Describe this experiment and outline the major finding which came out from this experiment. (12)

(Total: 20 marks)

3. The humanistic approach to psychology was developed during the 1950's. Mention **TWO** psychologists from this school and discuss their contributions to psychology. (20)

(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:

Sandra, a 13-year-old girl, has been banned from her school football team. Sandra pushed and kicked another girl to the floor after there was contact between them as they challenged for the ball in the air. The headteacher blames Sandra's behaviour on the professional footballers for setting a bad example to young players when watching football on the media. Sandra's mother is very upset because she always taught their daughter to be fair and have sound values. Sandra's father, who always encouraged her to excel in football believed that the headteacher is wrong in banning his daughter from the team. Sandra's parents decided to speak to the headteacher.

- a. Sandra was aggressive towards a fellow student during a football game. Is aggression a learnt response, or is it genetic? Explain your answer. (8)
- b. Do you agree with the headmistress when she said that the behaviour of professional footballers was partly responsible for the way Sandra behaved during the match? Explain why, referring to a psychological theory. (8)
- c. Instead of banning Sandra from the team, what actions could the headmistress have taken to discourage Sandra from being aggressive when playing football. (8)
- d. Football is a team game. Explain **THREE** group processes which are important for a team to work well together.(6)

(Total: 30 marks)

- 5. Often, in Western societies, boys are encouraged to develop an instrumental role while, in contrast, girls are encouraged to develop an expressive role.
 - a. Describe instrumental and expressive roles. Give **ONE** example of a stereotypical instrumental role and give **ONE** example of a stereotypical expressive role. (10)
 - b. Are these stereotypes still encouraged in Malta? Explain why. (5)
 - c. According to Kohlberg (1966), children go through three stages in the development of gender identity. Discuss these **THREE** stages. (15)

(Total: 30 marks)

- 6. We sometimes hear people say that they are depressed or anxious but, in reality, they would be feeling depressed or anxious on that particular day rather than fulfilling the criteria for a psychological disorder.
 - a. Define psychological disorders. (6)
 - b. Provide a definition of the following and mention **THREE** typical symptoms of:
 - (i) panic disorder; (8)
 - (ii) obsessive compulsive disorder; (8)
 - (iii) generalised anxiety disorder. (8)

(Total: 30 marks)