



**PSYCHOLOGY  
HIGHER LEVEL  
PAPER 1**

Thursday 6 May 2010 (afternoon)

2 hours

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer all the questions.
- Section B: answer one question.

## SECTION A

Answer *all* questions in this section.

### Biological Perspective

1. Explain why the reductionist approach, as adopted by many biological psychologists, may be regarded as controversial. *[8 marks]*

### Cognitive Perspective

2. Explain how **one** key concept from the cognitive perspective helps us understand behaviour. *[8 marks]*

### Learning Perspective

3. Explain **one** contribution of the learning perspective to the **scientific** study of behaviour. *[8 marks]*

### Humanistic Perspective

4. “The humanistic perspective is based upon a variety of assumptions, such as the innate goodness of the individual, free will, self-direction, and human potential for growth.”

Describe **one** theory that illustrates **one** of the assumptions of the humanistic perspective. *[8 marks]*

**SECTION B**

*Answer **one** question in this section. Marks will be awarded for clear presentation of **theories**, inclusion of appropriate **empirical studies** and **evaluation**.*

5. Describe **one** study from the biological perspective and discuss how this study has contributed to our understanding of behaviour. *[20 marks]*
  
  6. Assess the extent to which **one** model of information processing has helped in understanding cognitive processes. *[20 marks]*
  
  7. Using empirical studies explain **two** research methods (*e.g.* experiments, observations) employed by psychologists in the learning perspective. *[20 marks]*
  
  8. Discuss the effectiveness of the humanistic perspective in explaining **one** psychological or social question. *[20 marks]*
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