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International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
Bachillerato Internacional

**PSYCHOLOGY  
STANDARD LEVEL  
PAPER 2**

Monday 16 November 2009 (morning)

1 hour

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.

Answer **one** question. Marks will be awarded for clear presentation of **theories**, inclusion of appropriate **empirical studies** and **evaluation**. When structured questions are set (that is, with parts a and b) candidates should clearly label each part of their answer a and b.

### Comparative Psychology

1. Discuss the extent to which altruistic behaviour in non-human animals demonstrates unselfish behaviour. [20 marks]
2. Analyse the predictive accuracy of studies or theories from comparative psychology when applied to the individual behaviour of non-human animals. [20 marks]
3. Many non-human animals interact in groups for much of their lives. Assess the impact of such behaviour on their survival. [20 marks]

### Cultural Psychology

4. Discuss how human behaviour may be affected by cultural dimensions. [20 marks]
5. Discuss problems faced by psychologists conducting cross-cultural research. [20 marks]
6. To what extent is human behaviour affected by cultural context and schemas? [20 marks]

### The Psychology of Dysfunctional Behaviour

7. Discuss gender considerations in the interpretation of dysfunctional behaviour. [20 marks]
8. Describe and evaluate **two** empirical studies related to the psychology of dysfunctional behaviour. [20 marks]
9. Describe and evaluate **one** model or theory of dysfunctional behaviour. [20 marks]

### Health Psychology

10. Describe and evaluate applications of research findings and/or theories on disordered patterns of eating. *[20 marks]*
11. Discuss psychological and physiological aspects of stress. *[20 marks]*
12. Discuss the use of placebos in **one** study related to health psychology. *[20 marks]*

### Lifespan Psychology

13. Explain how gender considerations may affect the interpretation of behaviour in lifespan psychology. *[20 marks]*
14. Describe and evaluate **two** theories of adolescence. *[20 marks]*
15. With reference to **two** research studies, explain how human development continues throughout the lifespan. *[20 marks]*

### Psychodynamic Psychology

16. (a) Describe **one** research study from psychodynamic psychology. *[8 marks]*  
(b) Explain how methodological considerations may affect the interpretation of findings of the study described in part (a). *[12 marks]*
17. Describe and evaluate **one** neo-Freudian theory. *[20 marks]*
18. Compare and contrast **two** psychodynamic explanations of human behaviour (e.g. aggression, gender differences). *[20 marks]*

**Social Psychology**

- 19.** Describe and evaluate **one** research method used in **one** study from social psychology. *[20 marks]*
- 20.** Assess the extent to which findings of **one** study of obedience **or** conformity allow predictions to be made about individual or group behaviour. *[20 marks]*
- 21.** (a) Explain the relationship between prejudice and discrimination. *[6 marks]*
- (b) Discuss ways in which prejudice or discrimination can be reduced. *[14 marks]*
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