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Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER



PSYCHOLOGY **9990/12**

Paper 1 Approaches, Issues and Debates **May/June 2025**

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Section A

Answer **all** questions.

1 In the study by Perry et al. (personal space), Experiment 2 used four coloured pictures of a room. In these pictures there were several objects including a lamp and a clock.

(a) Name **one** other object that was always in the pictures.

..... [1]

(b) Outline how the participants were deceived in Experiment 2 of this study.

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..... [2]

(c) Outline **one** result from Experiment 2 of this study in relation to the hormone oxytocin.

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..... [2]

2 From the study by Pozzulo et al. (line-ups):

(a) Identify **two** features of the female used as a 'human face target'.

1 .....

2 .....

[2]

(b) Explain **one** strength of this study in relation to reliability.

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..... [2]

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3 From the study by Milgram (obedience):

(a) Identify **two** features of the sample used in this study.

1 .....

2 .....
[2]

(b) Outline **one** conclusion from this study.

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..... [2]

(c) Suggest **one** application to everyday life using evidence from this study. Your suggestion **must** be ethical.

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..... [2]

4 From the study by Hassett et al. (monkey toy preferences):

Describe **one** result for toy preferences of the male monkeys. You **must** use data in your answer.

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..... [3]

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5 **(a)** Outline **one** assumption of the learning approach.

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..... [2]

(b) Explain **one** reason why the study by Saavedra and Silverman (button phobia) supports the assumption you outlined in part **(a)**.

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..... [2]

6 **(a)** Outline what is meant by the term 'positive reinforcement'. Include an example from the study by Fagen et al. (elephant learning) in your answer.

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(b) Two friends, Roksana and Tien, are discussing the study by Fagen et al. (elephant learning) in terms of the individual and situational explanations for behaviour.

Roksana says the study supports the individual explanation, but Tien says it supports the situational explanation.

Outline why you think **either** Roksana **or** Tien is correct, using evidence from the study.

The friend who I think is correct is: .....

because: .....

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..... [4]

7 From the study by Bandura et al. (aggression):

Describe the procedure for the 'Aggression Arousal' part of this study.

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8 Your friend, Rosalia, tells you that she has recently begun to feel stressed, even though nothing in her life has changed. Rosalia wants your advice on how to help reduce her level of stress.

Outline the advice you would give to Rosalia, using your knowledge of the study by Hölzel et al. (mindfulness and brain scans).

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Section B

Answer **all** questions.

9 From the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans):

(a) Describe the **two** victims used in this study.

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(b) Explain **two** differences between the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans) and the study by Perry et al. (personal space). One of your differences **must** be about the sample of participants.

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2 .....

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[8]

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10 Evaluate the study by Baron-Cohen et al. (eyes test) in terms of **two** strengths and **two** weaknesses. At least one of your evaluation points **must** be about quantitative data.

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