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* 0000800000001 * DFD

CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER

* 6 2 5 5 1 2 2 2 6 6 *

PSYCHOLOGY

9990/12

Paper 1 Approaches, Issues and Debates

February/March 2026

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. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- 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 From the study by Baron-Cohen et al. (eyes test):

(a) State the number of participants in Group 1.

..... [1]

(b) Outline what is meant by 'social sensitivity'.

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..... [2]

(c) Outline **one** result comparing male participants to female participants.

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..... [2]

2 One feature of the sample used in the study by Saavedra and Silverman (button phobia) was that the participant was a boy.

(a) Identify **three** features of the sample, other than that it was a boy.

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3 .....

[3]

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(b) Explain **one** weakness of the sample.

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..... [2]

3 A local business wants to introduce activities that will help its workers increase their attention and improve their memory during important meetings.

Suggest what activities the local business could introduce, using your knowledge of the study by Andrade.

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..... [4]

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4 **(a)** Outline **one** assumption of the learning approach, including an example from the study by Bandura et al. (aggression).

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..... [3]

(b) Outline **one** methodological strength of the study by Bandura et al. (aggression).

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..... [2]

5 Suggest **two** applications to everyday life of the study by Hölzel et al. (mindfulness and brain scans). Your suggestions **must** be ethical.

suggestion 1 .....

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suggestion 2 .....

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[4]

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

(a) Explain whether each ethical guideline below was broken:

(i) consent

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..... [2]

(ii) minimising harm

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..... [2]

(b) Explain how the ethical guideline of confidentiality was followed.

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..... [2]

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7 The debate about individual and situational explanations relates to the study by Fagen et al. (elephant learning).

Outline what is meant by this debate, including **one** example of the individual explanation and **one** example of the situational explanation.

Both examples **must** be from the study by Fagen et al.

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8 Describe the background to the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans).

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Section B

Answer **all** questions.

9 **(a)** Describe the housing conditions for the rhesus monkeys in the study by Hassett et al. (monkey toy preferences).

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(b) Explain **one** similarity and **one** difference between the study by Hassett et al. (monkey toy preferences) and the study by Saavedra and Silverman (button phobia). Do **not** refer to the sample **or** approaches in your answer.

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difference .....

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[8]

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10 Evaluate the study by Milgram (obedience) in terms of **two** strengths and **two** weaknesses. At least one of your evaluation points **must** be about reliability.

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