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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER

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PSYCHOLOGY **9990/13**

Paper 1 Approaches, Issues and Debates **May/June 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 Milgram (obedience):

(a) State the maximum level of voltage labelled on the shock generator.

..... [1]

(b) One way that participants were deceived was when they were choosing to be the learner or the teacher. The participant had to choose a piece of paper from a hat, but both pieces of paper had the word 'teacher' written on them.

Outline **two** other ways that the participants were deceived.

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..... [2]

(c) Explain **one** reason why the participants were obedient in this study.

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..... [2]

2 The sample in the study by Perry et al. (personal space) consisted of university students.

(a) Identify **three** features of the sample, other than that they were university students.

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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 newspaper has published a story about a young boy who needs therapy to help him overcome a unique phobia.

Suggest the therapy that the young boy could receive to help with his unique phobia, using your knowledge of the study by Saavedra and Silverman.

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4 **(a)** Outline **one** assumption of the biological approach, including an example from the study by Dement and Kleitman (sleep and dreams).

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..... [3]

(b) Outline **one** methodological strength of the study by Dement and Kleitman (sleep and dreams).

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..... [2]

5 Suggest **two** applications to everyday life of the study by Pozzulo et al. (line-ups). 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 Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans):

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

(i) minimising harm

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..... [2]

(ii) right to withdraw

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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 Andrade (doodling).

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 Andrade.

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8 Describe the background to the study by Hölzel et al. (mindfulness and brain scans).

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Section B

Answer **all** questions.

9 **(a)** In one part of the study by Bandura et al. (aggression), the children used potato prints and stickers to design pictures. While each child was doing this, a model was taken to the opposite corner of the room. In the aggressive condition and the non-aggressive condition, the model behaved differently.

Describe how the model behaved in the aggressive condition.

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(b) Explain **one** similarity and **one** difference between the study by Bandura et al. (aggression) and the study by Perry et al. (personal space). 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 Hassett et al. (monkey toy preferences) in terms of **two** strengths and **two** weaknesses. At least one of your evaluation points **must** be about generalisations.

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