

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
MAY 2016

SUBJECT:	PSYCHOLOGY
DATE:	11 th May 2016
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

This examination paper has two Sections. Answer both Section A and Section B. Follow instructions given in each Section.

Section A (40 marks)

Answer Question 1 and another question from this section. Each question carries 20 marks.

Question 1

- a. Explain the steps you would take as a researcher if you want to study what attracts young people to Paceville in the weekends. What methodology, sampling technique and data gathering tool would you use? Give reasons for your answer. (15 marks)
- b. Define 'reflexivity' and explain why this is important in research. (5 marks)

Question 2

- a. Outline the main ideas on perception put forward in Gestalt Theory. (10 marks)
- b. Describe short term memory and long term memory, and explain the relationship between them. (10 marks)

Question 3

Our behaviour is determined by several factors including genetic endowment, past and recent experiences, the social environment, culture, upbringing, the physiological system and our personal characteristics among others. Select **four** of these factors and discuss, giving examples from literature, how these influence our lives. (20 marks)

Please turn the page.

Section B (60 marks)

Answer Question 4 and another question from this section. Each question carries 30 marks.

Question 4

Read the following case study and answer the following questions:

John is seven years old. He has been brought up by parents who firmly believe in Rogers' self-actualising theory of human development. They were also aware of what Erik Erikson said about the stages of development a person goes through. When John was young he was given love and attention. He was also shown a lot of positive self-regard and felt confident and worthwhile about being himself. His parents would reward him modestly – sometimes but not necessarily, with small treats – but always with the acknowledgement and expressed views of him as a worthwhile and unique person. If John made demands for toys or gadgets he saw on television or which his friends had, his parents would listen and decide what is reasonable and appropriate. John grew up and developed a strong sense of unconditional self-regard. (Adapted K. Cullen, 2011)

- a. How does Rogers' humanistic view of development differ from that of psychoanalysis? (10 marks)
- b. Name **four** childhood phases from Erik Erikson's theory of development relevant to the case study. Describe how John would have experienced and successfully negotiated each phase. (12 marks)
- c. How would you describe your upbringing in psychological terms? Give examples and make reference to any relevant theories. (8 marks)

Question 5

- a. Describe the experiment carried out by Albert Bandura and his team illustrating **one** explanation of how children manifest aggressive behaviour. (15 marks)
- b. It is believed that males are more aggressive than females. Is this belief true? How can aggressive behaviour be addressed from a young age? Refer to theory related to interventions that aim to reduce aggression in childhood. (15 marks)

Question 6

- a. A clinician should not be quick in making a diagnosis on psychological disorders. What should be considered when defining and identifying a psychological disorder? (10 marks)
- b. Choose any **four** psychological disorders and for each disorder describe how this interferes with one's daily living. (20 marks)