



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate
Principal Subject

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PSYCHOLOGY

9773/02

Paper 2 Methods, Issues and Applications

May/June 2012

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

At the end of the examination fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



1 Methodology

The following table is taken from the study by Bandura et al (1961) on the transmission of aggression through imitation of aggressive models.

Mean aggression scores for experimental and control subjects

Response category	Experimental groups				Control group
	Aggressive		Non-aggressive		
	Female model	Male model	Female model	Male model	
Imitative physical aggression					
Female subjects	5.5	7.2	2.5	0.0	1.2
Male subjects	12.4	25.8	0.2	1.5	2.0
Imitative verbal aggression					
Female subjects	13.7	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.7
Male subjects	4.3	12.7	1.1	0.0	1.7
Mallet aggression					
Female subjects	17.2	18.7	0.5	0.5	13.1
Male subjects	15.5	28.8	18.7	6.7	13.5
Punches Bobo					
Female subjects	6.3	16.5	5.8	4.3	11.7
Male subjects	18.9	11.9	15.6	14.8	15.7
Non-imitative aggression					
Female subjects	21.3	8.4	7.2	1.4	6.1
Male subjects	16.2	36.7	26.1	22.3	24.6
Aggressive gun play					
Female subjects	1.8	4.5	2.6	2.5	3.7
Male subjects	7.3	15.9	8.9	16.7	14.3

- (a) Outline **two** findings that can be drawn from the table above. [4]
- (b) Identify **two** ways in which this study lacked ecological validity and explain how the ecological validity of this study could have been improved. [8]
- (c) Using examples from research, debate the use of the observational method when investigating learned behaviour. [8]

2 Issues, Approaches and Perspectives

- (a) Outline the reductionism and holism debate in psychology using examples from any research. [6]
- (b) Contrast the reductionist and holistic approaches when explaining emotion. [6]
- (c) Using examples from research, outline the problems that psychologists face when they investigate behaviour using a reductionist approach. [8]

3 Applications

Ben is thirty-three years old. When he was a baby his mother often let him cry for long periods of time without attending to him. As a schoolboy he was often in trouble for beating up other children in the playground. He used to imitate martial arts tackles from video games. He was also arrested for shoplifting twice. He got the nickname 'Billy No Mates', which stuck with him into adulthood. He found social situations very difficult and was unable to understand other points of view. As an adult, relationships with women never last. On his infrequent dates, he spends most of the evening telling his companion that she is nothing like his mother.

- (a)** Describe psychological evidence and/or theories that could be relevant to the issues raised in the source. [10]
- (b)** Explain the issues raised in the source using the evidence and/or theories you described in part **(a)**. [10]

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Question 1 © Table from Albert Bandura, Dorothea Ross and Sheila A Ross; *Transmission of aggression through imitation of aggressive models*; Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology; Vol. 63; No. 3, 1961; American Psychological Association.

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