

External assessment 2023

Question and response book

Psychology

Paper 2

Time allowed

- Perusal time — 10 minutes
- Working time — 90 minutes

General instructions

- Answer all questions in this question and response book.
- Write using black or blue pen.
- QCAA-approved calculator permitted.
- Planning paper will not be marked.

Section 1 (44 marks)

- 7 short response questions



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Section 1

Instructions

- If you need more space for a response, use the additional pages at the back of this book.
 - On the additional pages, write the question number you are responding to.
 - Cancel any incorrect response by ruling a single diagonal line through your work.
 - Write the page number of your alternative/additional response, i.e. See page ...
 - If you do not do this, your original response will be marked.
 - This section has seven questions and is worth 44 marks.
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Question 1 (4 marks)

This question refers to the theory of cognitive dissonance proposed by Festinger (1957).

a) Describe implicit attitudes and explain how cognitive dissonance may reveal them. [2 marks]

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b) Describe identification as a form of social influence and explain how it could lead to cognitive dissonance. [2 marks]

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Question 2 (6 marks)

Pathological gambling and other impulse control disorders have similar positive emotional effects to natural rewards such as food and social interaction. Research has shown that impulse control and learning can be negatively influenced by the high levels of dopamine provided in dopamine replacement therapy (DRT).

DRT is used to treat symptoms of Parkinson's disease (PD), such as rigidity, bradykinesia and resting tremor. Avanzi et al. (2006) examined PD patients undergoing DRT and found that their prevalence of pathological gambling was significantly higher than that of control subjects.

- a) Describe the physical and psychological functions of dopamine, providing an example of each from the investigation. [4 marks]

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b) Discuss the impact of DRT on PD patients. [2 marks]

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Question 3 (9 marks)

This question refers to an experiment based on methodology used by Bandura, Ross and Ross (1961; 1963a; 1963b).

Children were placed in an experimental or control group. In the three experimental groups, children observed adult models demonstrating aggressive behaviour towards an inflatable doll. They then saw different levels of reward or punishment following this behaviour.

Group 1: Adult rewarded.

Group 2: Adult punished.

Group 3: Adult received no reward or punishment.

Group 4 (the control group): Children saw the doll in the room. No adult interacted with it.

The children were then placed alone in the room with the doll, and their behaviour was observed through a one-way mirror. The groups were ranked according to the children's behaviour from most to least aggressive. Experimenters found the order to be Group 1, Group 3, Group 4 and Group 2.

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a) Explain how explicit long-term memory is required for observational learning. Support your response by providing an example from the experiment. [2 marks]

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b) Describe vicarious reinforcement, using an example from the experiment. [2 marks]

c) Compare observational learning with operant conditioning, using examples from the experiment. [5 marks]

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Question 4 (6 marks)

This question refers to the social psychological research conducted by Milgram (1963).

- a) Draw a conclusion about obedience, using evidence from the research. [2 marks]

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People interpreting the findings of this experiment may conclude that the participants were cruel.

b) Describe fundamental attribution errors and explain why this interpretation can be seen as a fundamental attribution error. [2 marks]

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In a variation on the Milgram experiment (Slater et al. 2006), participants administered a series of word association memory tests to a female virtual character referred to as 'the Learner'. They were instructed to deliver electric shocks to the Learner in response to errors on the tests. Group 1 saw and heard the Learner as an animation on a screen, whereas Group 2 communicated with her only through a text interface.

Despite all participants knowing that both the Learner and the shocks were not real, they tended to behave as if the situation was real.

- c) Predict whether the two groups were likely to demonstrate similar levels of obedience. Justify your prediction based on Milgram's (1963) findings. [2 marks]

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Question 5 (8 marks)

a) Describe how memory retrieval errors occur through interference effects and identify an example, referencing one component of Baddeley and Hitch's (1974) working model of memory. [2 marks]

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The graph represents findings of an investigation that tested participants' recall and recognition of word lists from working memory. Error bars reflect 95% confidence intervals.

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b) Describe recall and recognition and conclude which is more effective for eliciting information from working memory. Justify your conclusion by referring to the graph. [4 marks]

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c) Distinguish between working memory and long-term memory, using an example that demonstrates their difference. [2 marks]

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Question 6 (4 marks)

This question refers to an investigation by Simpson (1987) into the romantic relationships of university students. Participants completed initial surveys about their current relationships, addressing elements like satisfaction, closeness, duration, availability of alternative partners and exclusivity.

Three months later, participants were asked if they were still dating the same person. If participants answered 'no' and were not yet seeking a relationship, a second survey was completed, focusing on the difficulty of emotional adjustment after the dissolution.

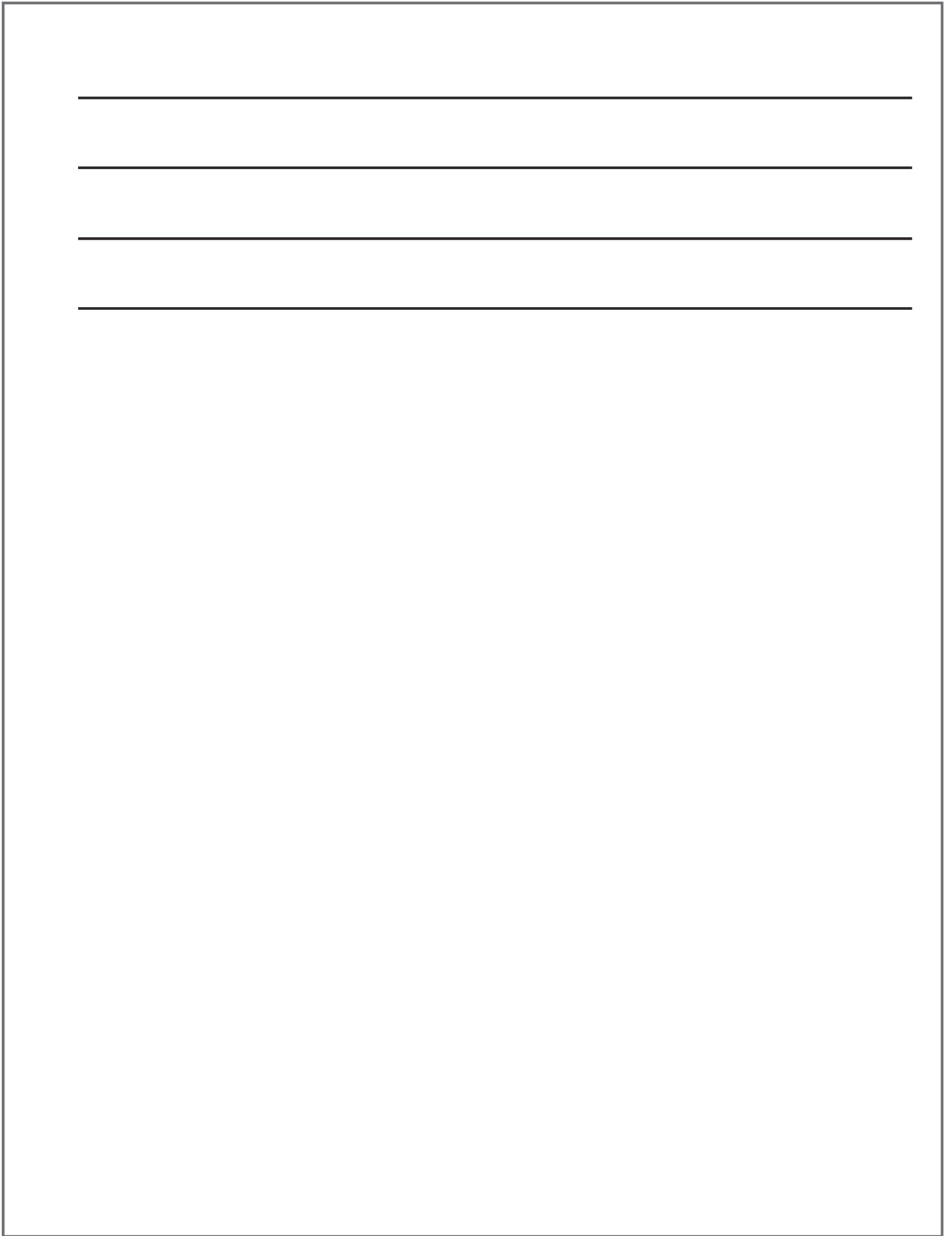
The results demonstrated that individuals experienced more intense and prolonged distress when they were closer to the former partner, had dated them for longer and believed they would have difficulty finding a suitable alternative partner.

- a) Identify the phase of Rollie and Duck's (2005) stages of dissolution that the participants completing the second survey were most likely in. Justify your response by referring to the theory. [2 marks]

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b) Predict which phase of dissolution completing the initial surveys may have triggered in some of the relationships. Justify your prediction by referring to the theory. [2 marks]

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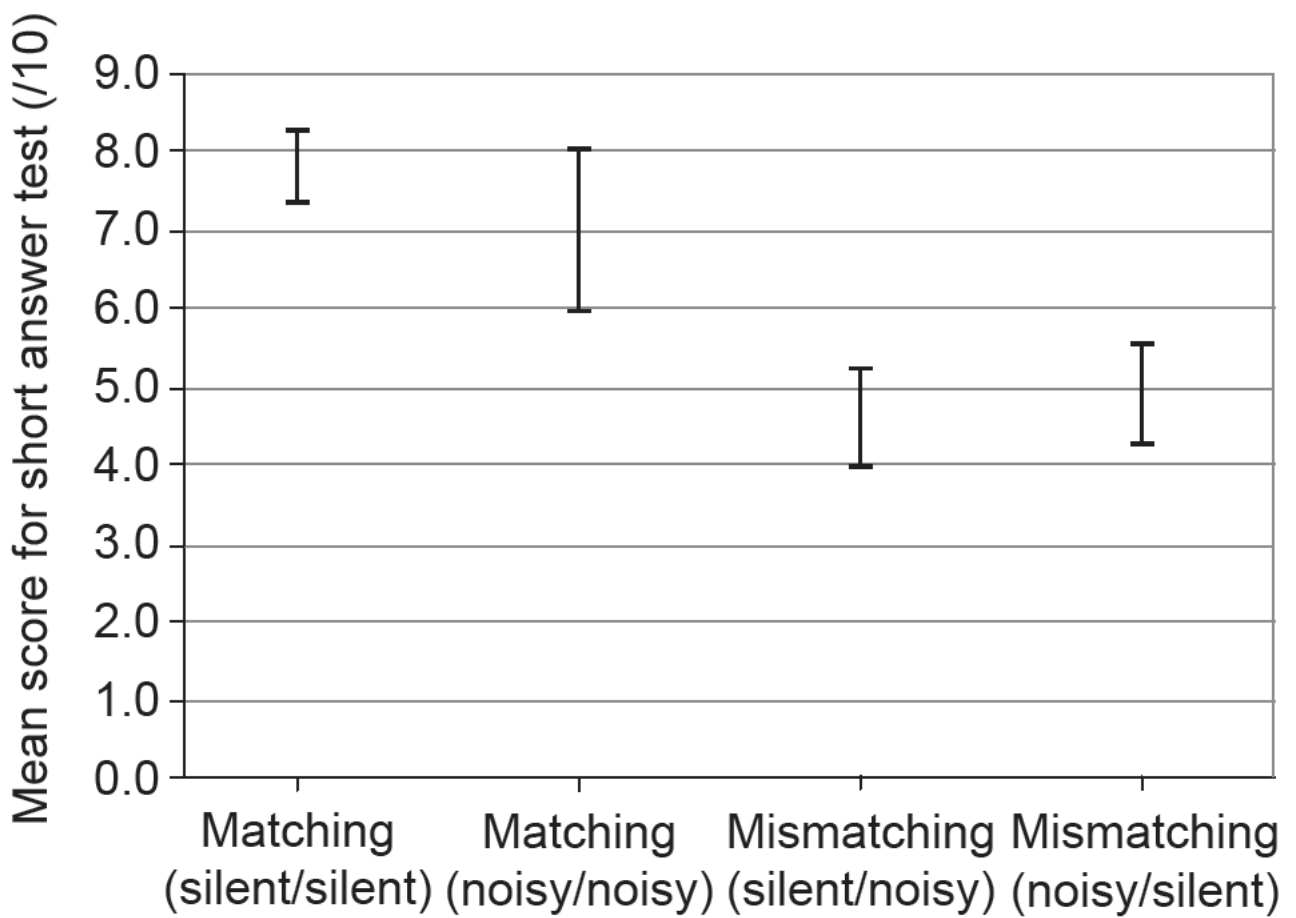
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Question 7 (7 marks)

This question refers to an experiment based on the methodology of Grant et al. (1998). In an independent groups design, students were placed in one of four conditions. They studied for and were tested with a 10-mark short answer quiz, with study and test conditions either matching or mismatching. Error bars reflect 95% confidence intervals.

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a) Determine the mean for the mismatching (noisy/silent) condition. [1 mark]

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b) Infer which condition has the least uncertainty in its measurements. Justify your inference using evidence from the graph. [2 marks]

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c) Draw two conclusions about context-dependency effects on recall. Justify your response with evidence from the graph. [4 marks]

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References

Question 1

Refers to Festinger, L 1957, *A Theory of Cognitive Dissonance*, Stanford, Stanford University Press.

Question 2

Refers to Avanzi, M, Baratti, M, Cabrini, S, Uber, E, Brighetti, G, & Bonfa, F 2006, 'Prevalence of pathological gambling in patients with Parkinson's disease', *Movement Disorders*, vol. 21, issue 12, pp. 2068–2072.

Question 3

Refers to Bandura, A, Ross, D, & Ross, S 1961, 'Transmission of aggressions through imitation of aggressive models', *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, vol. 63, pp. 575–582.

— 1963a, 'Imitation of film mediated aggressive models', *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, vol. 66, pp. 3–11.

— 1963b, 'Vicarious reinforcement and imitative learning', *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, vol. 67, issue 6, pp. 601–607.

Question 4

Refers to Milgram, S 1963, 'Behavioural study of obedience', *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, vol. 67, pp. 371–378, doi:10.1037/h0040525.

Refers to Slater, M et al. 2006, 'A virtual reprise of the Stanley Milgram obedience experiments', *Plos One*, vol. 1, issue 1, <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0000039>.

Question 5

Refers to Allen, R, Hitch, G, & Baddeley, A 2017, 'Exploring the sentence advantage in working memory: Insights from serial recall and recognition', *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, vol. 71, issue 12, pp. 2571–2585, doi:10.1177/1747021817746929.

Refers to Baddeley, AD & Hitch, G 1974, 'Working memory', *Psychology of learning and motivation*, no. 8, pp. 47–89.

Question 6

Refers to Rollie, S, & Duck, S 2006, 'Divorce and dissolution of romantic relationships: Stage models and their limitations' in MA Fine & JH Harvey (eds.), *Handbook of Divorce and Relationship Dissolution*, pp. 223–240.

Refers to Simpson, J 1987, 'The dissolution of romantic relationships: Factors involved in relationship stability and emotional distress', *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, vol. 53, issue 4, pp. 683-692.

Question 7

Refers to Grant, H et al. 1998, 'Context-dependent memory for meaningful material: Information for students', *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, vol. 12, issue 6, pp. 617–623.



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