



Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE
NAME



CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--

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.

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.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

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

.....
.....
.....
..... [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.

1
2
3 [3]





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

.....

.....

.....

..... [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.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]



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

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

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

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 5 Suggest **two** applications to everyday life of the study by Pozzulo et al. (line-ups). Your suggestions **must** be ethical.

suggestion 1

.....

.....

.....

suggestion 2

.....

.....

..... [4]



6 From the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans):

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

(i) minimising harm

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

(ii) right to withdraw

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

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

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]



- 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.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

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

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [5]



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.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]





- (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.

similarity

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

difference

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

[8]





- 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.

This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of multiple rows of horizontal dashed lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The background is plain white, and there are no other markings or text present.



[10]





Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (Cambridge University Press & Assessment) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in our Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Education is the name of our awarding body and a part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is a department of the University of Cambridge.

