

TOPICAL PAST PAPER QUESTIONS WORKSHEETS

AS & A Level Psychology (9990) Paper 4

Exam Series: Feb/Mar 2018 – May/Jun 2023

Format Type B:

Each question is followed by its answer scheme



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Introduction

Each Topical Past Paper Questions Workbook contains a comprehensive collection of hundreds of questions and corresponding answer schemes, presented in worksheet format. The questions are carefully arranged according to their respective chapters and topics, which align with the latest IGCSE or AS/A Level subject content. Here are the key features of these resources:

1. The workbook covers a wide range of topics, which are organized according to the latest syllabus content for Cambridge IGCSE or AS/A Level exams.
2. Each topic includes numerous questions, allowing students to practice and reinforce their understanding of key concepts and skills.
3. The questions are accompanied by detailed answer schemes, which provide clear explanations and guidance for students to improve their performance.
4. The workbook's format is user-friendly, with worksheets that are easy to read and navigate.
5. This workbook is an ideal resource for students who want to familiarize themselves with the types of questions that may appear in their exams and to develop their problem-solving and analytical skills.

Overall, Topical Past Paper Questions Workbooks are a valuable tool for students preparing for IGCSE or AS/A Level exams, providing them with the opportunity to practice and refine their knowledge and skills in a structured and comprehensive manner. To provide a clearer description of this book's specifications, here are some key details:

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Contents

1	Psychology and abnormality	7
1.1	Schizophrenic and psychotic disorders	7
1.2	Bipolar and related disorders	38
1.3	Impulse control disorders and non-substance addictive disorder	61
1.4	Anxiety disorders	101
1.5	Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders	127
2	Psychology and consumer behaviour	159
2.1	The physical environment	159
2.2	The psychological environment	192
2.3	Consumer decision-making	239
2.4	The product	263
2.5	Advertising	292
3	Psychology and health	317
3.1	The patient practitioner relationship	317
3.2	Adherence to medical advice	344
3.3	Pain	372
3.4	Stress	402
3.5	Health promotion	431
4	Psychology and organisations	463
4.1	Motivation to work	463
4.2	Leadership and management	495
4.3	Group behaviour in organisations	526
4.4	Organisational work conditions	545
4.5	Satisfaction at work	579

Chapter 1

Psychology and abnormality

1.1 Schizophrenic and psychotic disorders

1. 9990_s23_qp_41 Q: 9

'Biochemical techniques, such as the use of drugs, can treat all patients with schizophrenia effectively.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
	<p><i>'Biochemical techniques, such as the use of drugs, can treat all patients with schizophrenia effectively.'</i></p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C. Syllabus: biochemical (antipsychotics and atypical antipsychotics) and also electro-convulsive therapy, token economy (Paul and Lentz, 1977) and cognitive-behavioural therapy (Sensky et al., 2000) Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited):</p> <p>Agree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drugs easy to take; swallowing a pill; drugs such as anti-psychotics and atypical anti-psychotics • drugs mean the patient is passive in their treatment (and advantage for many people) • drugs have been shown to be effective in many studies and the 'third generation drugs' such as aripiprazole have fewer side effects <p>Disagree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drugs are addictive so should be short-term use only • drugs may not be taken as prescribed (non-adherence) because of the side effects such as tardive dyskinesia • drugs ignore the role of alternative explanations of schizophrenia (treat symptom, not cause) alternatives such as the cognitive approach (e.g. Frith) 	12

2. 9990_s23_qp_42 Q: 1

Paul and Lentz (1977) conducted a study with 84 patients with schizophrenia, allocating each patient to one of three types of treatment, including token economy. After more than four years, the effectiveness of each treatment was compared. Alternatively, schizophrenia can be treated using biochemical techniques.

- (a) Outline how operant conditioning explains token economy. [2]
- (b) Outline the findings about the effectiveness of token economy from this study. [4]
- (c) Suggest **two** reasons why an independent measures design was a better choice for this study than any other experimental design. [4]
- (d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using biochemical techniques to treat schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section A: Stimulus question Psychology and abnormality		
	Paul and Lentz (1977) conducted a study with 84 schizophrenic patients allocating each to one of three types of treatment, including token economy. After more than 4 years the effectiveness of each treatment was compared. Alternatively, schizophrenia can be treated using biochemical techniques.	
(a)	<p>Outline how operant conditioning explains token economy.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> giving a token is positive reinforcement (1 mark) and so desirable patient behaviour is likely to be repeated (2 marks) Behavioural approach and behaviourists believe that all behaviour is learned (1 mark). This means that appropriate behaviour for patients is learned through token economy (2 marks) <p>Note: Any relevant comment about operant conditioning (1 mark) relevant to token economy and schizophrenia / Paul and Lentz (+1 mark) Note: answers outlining classical conditioning receive no marks. Marks: 1 mark for identification; 2 marks for elaboration/example</p>	2
(b)	<p>Outline the findings about the effectiveness of token economy from this study.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> effective: a reduction in positive symptoms effective: reduction in negative symptoms effective: reduction in catatonic behaviour effective: 97% were able to live independently for 1.5–5 years (compared to milieu or hospital therapy) effective in withdrawal / social behaviour effective in interacting with others less effective: in reducing hallucinations and delusional thinking <p>Note: Question states 'findings' (plural) so two (or more) findings are required. Marks: 1 mark basic answer +1 (or +2) marks for elaboration or example <u>OR</u> 1 mark for each different (specific) finding (4 max) <u>OR</u> can be 3 marks + 1 mark Note: 0 marks for general 'was highly effective' (OWTTE) Note: two 'general findings' = 1 mark e.g. 'displaying normal behaviour' and 'highly effective'.</p>	4

Question	Answer	Marks
(c)	<p>Suggest <u>two</u> reasons why an independent measures design was a better choice for this study than any other experimental design.</p> <p>Most likely answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if patients used a different design, i.e. repeated measures (participants do all treatments) the study would not be valid as it would not be known which technique was the most effective. • if two designs were used there could be cross-over effects where one treatment might interfere with the other. <p>Marks: 1 mark basic reason plus 1 mark for elaboration/example ×2</p>	4
(d)	<p>Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of using biochemical techniques to treat schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer.</p> <p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drugs (such as anti-psychotics and atypical anti-psychotics) are easy to take; swallowing a pill • drugs mean the patient is passive in their treatment (an advantage for many people) • drugs have been shown to be effective in many studies <p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drugs are addictive so should be short-term use only • drugs may not be taken as prescribed (non-adherence) • drugs ignore the role of alternative explanations of schizophrenia (treat symptom, not cause) <p>Conclusion: any appropriate conclusion drawn from the discussion that has been presented. 1 mark if appropriate. A conclusion is a 'decision reached by reasoning' and so a summary of points already made scores 0 marks.</p> <p>Marks: Question requires discussion; always plural of each argument, and always requires conclusion. 1 mark for each advantage/disadvantage (however detailed) and related to the question up to 4 max. 2 marks max for two strengths/weaknesses unrelated to the question. 1 mark for conclusion.</p>	5

3. 9990_s23_qp_42 Q: 5

(a) Design a study using observation to investigate the frequency of the characteristics of schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section B		
(a)	<p>Design a study using observation to investigate the frequency of the characteristics of schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response Design a study question part (a). Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method is: observation.</p> <p>Specific features: Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling, number of observers.</p> <p>General features of research methodology: sampling technique and sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis.</p>	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (b). Note: If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max 5 marks Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research. Additional: candidates are expected to justify their decisions or evidence presented regarding the design made in answer to question part (a). Syllabus: Characteristics of schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders</p> <p>Psychological: Most likely: hallucinations, disorganised thoughts, (observation of associated behaviours) catatonic behaviour, negative symptoms (loss of normal functioning such as loss of speech, lack of typical facial expressions. Crucial is duration and severity of these symptoms</p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using general and specific features as above.</p>	8

4. 9990_s22_qp_42 Q: 1

Schizophrenia can be treated with medical techniques and it can be managed with psychological techniques. Medical treatments include the use of electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) and drugs such as antipsychotics and atypical antipsychotics. Schizophrenia can be managed psychologically using token economy and cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT).

- (a) Suggest **one** difference between medical and psychological techniques for treating and managing schizophrenia. [2]
- (b) Explain **two** differences between antipsychotic drugs and atypical antipsychotic drugs. [4]
- (c) Explain how ECT is used to treat schizophrenia. [4]
- (d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of psychological techniques to manage schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section A		
	<p>Schizophrenia can be treated with medical techniques and it can be managed with psychological techniques. Medical treatments include the use of electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) and drugs such as antipsychotics and atypical antipsychotics. Schizophrenia can be managed psychologically using token economy and cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT).</p>	
(a)	<p>Suggest <u>one</u> difference between medical and psychological techniques for treating and managing schizophrenia.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medical requires therapist to prescribe drug/treatment; psychological does not need prescription. Psychologist cannot prescribe drugs/ECT • patient is passive with medical techniques; patient is active with psychological • medical changes physiology; psychological changes thinking/behaviour <p>Marks: 1 mark for each side of term.</p> <p>Note: Medical techniques can include ECT and psychological can include token economy and CBT.</p>	2
(b)	<p>Explain <u>two</u> differences between antipsychotic drugs and atypical antipsychotic drugs.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • antipsychotics (first generation, 1950s), atypical antipsychotics (second generation, 1990s) • antipsychotics (typical side effects more likely: ExtraPyramidal Symptoms (EPS) and tardive dyskinesia (TD: abnormal facial, tongue and mouth movements). EPS includes: dyskinesia: (chewing movements); dystonia: (muscle rigidity); akathisia (inability to keep still) • atypical antipsychotics (atypical because side effects less likely, such as EPS and TD, but weight gain, heart disease and diabetes more likely) • typical: block neurotransmitters (dopamine and serotonin); atypical block but for shorter time (so fewer side effects) <p>Marks: 1 mark for each side of term × 2. Antipsychotics more side effects, Atypical antipsychotics fewer side effects = 2 marks because both types are named correctly. No mark if they are not.</p> <p>Note: 0 marks for 'more effective' no evidence to suggest this is the case. 0 marks for descriptions.</p>	4

Question	Answer	Marks
(c)	<p>Explain how ECT is used to treat schizophrenia.</p> <p>Most likely answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • muscle relaxant given • electricity applied bilaterally or unilaterally • patient convulses (twitches because of muscle relaxant) • patient is unconscious, then wakes and recovers. <p>Marks: 1 mark for each different (correct) point of <i>how it is used</i> to treat schizophrenia.</p> <p>Note: side effects etc. are irrelevant.</p>	4
(d)	<p>Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of psychological techniques to manage schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • person has to be active in treatment, rather than passive • treatments aim to ease the symptoms; learn to cope • treatments such as CBT can be applied anywhere • no drugs are involved which cause side effects and are addictive <p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some people prefer to be passive drugs, such as swallowing a pill is easy • drugs inhibit production of neurochemicals associated with schizophrenia • CBT still needs a therapist to supervise • more costly and time-consuming than giving drug <p>Conclusion: any appropriate conclusion drawn from the discussion that has been presented. 1 mark if appropriate. A conclusion is a 'decision reached by reasoning' and so a summary of points already made scores 0 marks.</p> <p>Marks: Question requires discussion; always plural of each argument, and always requires conclusion.</p> <p>1 mark for each strength/weakness (however detailed) and related to the question up to 4 max. 2 marks max for two strengths/weaknesses unrelated to the question. 1 mark for conclusion.</p>	5

5. 9990_w22_qp_41 Q: 5

- (a) Design a longitudinal study using observation to investigate whether a token economy effectively manages schizophrenia. [10]
- (b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section B		
(a)	<p>Design a longitudinal study using observation to investigate whether a token economy effectively manages schizophrenia.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response Design a study question part (a).</p> <p>Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method is observation.</p> <p>Specific features: Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling frame, number of observers.</p> <p>General features of research methodology: sampling technique and sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis.</p>	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (b).</p> <p>Note: If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max 5 marks.</p> <p>Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research.</p> <p>Additional: candidates are expected to justify their decisions or evidence presented regarding the design made in answer to question part (a).</p> <p>Syllabus: token economy (Paul and Lentz, 1977).</p> <p>Psychological: token economy is the use of positive reinforcement whereby tokens given for correct or appropriate behaviour can be exchanged for something desirable. Paul and Lentz (1977) used this to help people with schizophrenia.</p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using general and specific features as above.</p>	8

6. 9990_w22_qp_41 Q: 9

'In the future a genetic explanation of schizophrenia will be the only explanation needed.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section C		
	<p><i>'In the future a genetic explanation of schizophrenia will be the only explanation needed'.</i></p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C.</p> <p>Syllabus: genetic (Gottesman and Shields, 1972).</p> <p>Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited):</p> <p>Only one needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genetic explanations are reductionist and can therefore be studied much more precisely than say psychodynamic explanations • Genetic findings can be replicated and generalised to everyone if a specific gene for phobias is identified • Genetic explanations provide an underlying cause for how it is possible for phobias to arise at all (an ultimate i.e. evolutionary explanation) whereas others can only provide an explanation of a specific phobia in a specific individual <p>Not only one needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other explanations are also 'scientific'; behavioural explanations are based on observable behaviour • Just because an explanation is based on science it does not mean that it is correct. The psychodynamic explanation has no science, yet it may be correct • Explanations should take a more holist view, rather than reducing the explanation to one factor 	12

7. 9990_s21_qp_41 Q: 5

- (a) Design a longitudinal study to investigate whether cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) manages schizophrenia effectively. [10]
- (b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section B		
(a)	<p>Design a longitudinal study to investigate whether cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) manages schizophrenia effectively.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response Design a study question part (a).</p> <p>Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method: longitudinal study.</p> <p>Any method can be used, provided that the data gathered is over a period of time.</p> <p>Typical features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiments: type, IV, DV, controls, experimental design. • Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling frame, number of observers. • Questionnaires/Interviews: type, setting, example questions. Scoring/rating scale, analysis of responses. <p>General features of research methodology: sampling technique & sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis.</p>	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (b). 'Psychological' = 4 marks; 'methodological' = 4 marks If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max 5 marks If 'psychological' described and not related to part (a) max 2 marks.</p> <p>Syllabus: cognitive-behavioural therapy (Sensky et al., 2000)</p> <p>Psychological: Sensky et al. (2000) used cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) to treat schizophrenia in patients already taking medication. After CBT sessions patients showed improvement. At the 9-month follow-up evaluation they continued to improve. It was concluded that CBT is effective. Note 0 marks for candidates who merely replicate this study.</p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using general and specific features as above.</p>	8

8. 9990_s21_qp_42 Q: 1

Three comments about electro-convulsive therapy (ECT):

'It was the best thing that my wife could have had at that time; a good decision by the doctors after drugs had failed.'

'It was a positive experience; worked well for my schizophrenia.'

'I was able to go home after five months of inpatient stay as a result of ECT, after years of unsuccessful psychological treatment.'

- (a) Outline the procedure of electro-convulsive therapy (ECT). [2]
- (b) (i) Outline **one** biochemical treatment for schizophrenia. [2]
(ii) Give **one** advantage of this biochemical treatment for schizophrenia. [2]
- (c) Outline **two** psychological treatments for schizophrenia. [4]
- (d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of ECT as a treatment for schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section A: Stimulus question Psychology and abnormality		
	<p>Three comments about electro-convulsive therapy (ECT):</p> <p>'It was the best thing that my wife could have had at that time; a good decision by the doctors after drugs had failed.'</p> <p>'It was a positive experience; worked well for my schizophrenia.'</p> <p>'I was able to go home after five months of inpatient stay as a result of ECT, after years of unsuccessful psychological treatment.'</p>	
(a)	<p>Outline the procedure of electro-convulsive therapy (ECT).</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscle relaxant given • Electricity applied bilaterally or unilaterally • Patient convulses/has seizures (twitches because of muscle relaxant) • Patient is unconscious, then wakes and recovers. • Applied once or twice a week for several weeks. <p>Marks: 1 mark for each correct point to 2 max.</p>	2
(b)(i)	<p>Outline <u>one</u> biochemical treatment for schizophrenia. [2]</p> <p>Most likely answer Biochemical: the giving of drugs/prescribed medication. Drugs such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • antipsychotics/neuroleptics e.g. chlorpromazine • atypical antipsychotics block dopamine receptors • 'third generation' e.g. aripiprazole <p>Marks: 1 mark basic answer ('giving drugs/identified brand name/identified type' all 1 mark, but two identifications does not = 2 marks) 2 marks detailed answer/elaboration/example (how these drugs work or 'generations'). NB: also credit side effects, such as TDK as elaboration.</p>	2
(b)(ii)	<p>Give <u>one</u> advantage of this biochemical treatment for schizophrenia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs are effective. They work, they reduce symptoms of schizophrenia. • Use of drugs can help to restore the 'chemical balance' • Drugs can be given on a fixed schedule (by the patient or by therapist) • Drugs require very little effort by the patient (are 'quick' and 'easy', they just swallow a pill) unlike non-chemical therapies • Drugs are cost effective (0 mark) but if explained e.g. 'compared to ECT, or CBT' (2 marks) <p>Marks: 1 mark basic answer (basic advantage), 2 marks detail/elaboration/example Note: if identify 'time and cost' = 0 marks, but if explained, then 2 marks.</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
(c)	<p>Outline <u>two</u> psychological treatments for schizophrenia.</p> <p>Most likely answer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • token economy (Paul and Lentz, 1977) use of operant conditioning (desirable behaviours positively reinforced) using a token. Behaviours such as self-care, attending therapy and engaging socially. Tokens later exchanged for clothing, TV use, sweets and cigarettes. • cognitive-behavioural therapy (Sensky et al., 2000) compared CBT group with control, randomly allocated. 90 patients aged 16–60 received average of 19 sessions. CBT = engaging with patient, discussing disorder, symptoms and challenged beliefs about voices. <p>Marks: 1 mark basic answer (CBT is a ‘talking therapy’), 2 marks detail/elaboration/example ×2</p>	4
(d)	<p>Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of ECT as a treatment for schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer.</p> <p>Marks: 1 mark for each strength/weakness (however basic/detailed) which is related/linked to the question (max 4 marks). 1 mark for conclusion. Conclusion: any appropriate conclusion drawn from the discussion that has been presented. 1 mark if appropriate. A conclusion is a ‘decision reached by reasoning’ and so a summary of points already made scores 0 marks.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a medical treatment, prescribed by and applied by medical doctors • It is necessary for patients where all other medications have not worked • It successfully treats many patients both with schizophrenia and depression <p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How ECT works still isn’t known • ECT can be given to a person to treat schizophrenia without their consent in some countries (person is not ‘of sound mind’) • ECT has side-effects, both long and short term: loss of memory (temporary or worse), aspects of short-term or long-term memory. In people with other conditions it may affect the central nervous system and cardiovascular system. <p>Note: do not credit ethics. This is not a study where ethics applies. It is real life, where ECT can be given without consent (‘not of sound mind’ etc.)</p>	5

9. 9990_m20_qp_42 Q: 5

(a) Design a longitudinal study to investigate whether electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) as a treatment for depression has side effects. [10]

(b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section B: Design question (a)=10 marks, (b)=8 marks		
(a)	<p>Design a longitudinal study to investigate whether electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) as a treatment for depression has side effects.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response Design a study question part (a). Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method is: any appropriate method, but must be longitudinal.</p> <p>Typical features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiments: type, IV, DV, controls, experimental design. • Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling frame, number of observers. • Questionnaires/Interviews: type, setting, example questions. Scoring/rating scale, analysis of responses. <p>Typical features of research methodology: sampling technique and sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis. N.B.: max 1–3 marks if the design is not longitudinal [generic: The design may not be appropriate to the named investigation]</p>	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (b). N.B. If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max 5 marks Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research. Additional: candidates are expected to justify their decisions or evidence presented regarding the design made in answer to question part (a).</p> <p>Syllabus: Bipolar and related disorders: electro-convulsive therapy</p> <p>Psychological: <i>ECT: possible side effects:</i> 20% to 50% of the people who respond well to a course of ECT relapse within 6 months; Short-term memory loss is often reported. Many patients perceive the treatment as terrifying and shameful. Immediately after treatment the patient is often confused (and the confusion may not be temporary). N.B. 2 marks max if psychological knowledge is not related to answer.</p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using general and specific features as above.</p>	8

10. 9990_m20_qp_42 Q: 9

'Cognitive explanations of schizophrenia ignore the effects of nature.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section C: Evaluation question = 12 marks		
	<p><i>'Cognitive explanations of schizophrenia ignore the effects of nature.'</i></p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C. Syllabus: explanations of schizophrenia and delusional disorder: cognitive (Frith, 1992); A2 issue of reductionism. Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited):</p> <p>For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are different and what applies to some people will not apply to many others • There are alternative approaches: genetic, biochemical and cognitive • Being reductionist may exclude the role of other contributory factors <p>Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cognitive explanation is useful because schizophrenia in many people is due to 'cognitive' factors • Reducing to one explanation allows it to be studied more specifically to identify individual factors responsible. • Useful because a treatment is based on this approach – cognitive behaviour therapy. 	12

11. 9990_s20_qp_41 Q: 1

Newspaper headline: Treatment for schizophrenia is successful.
Sensky et al. (2000) conducted a longitudinal study and found that cognitive-behavioural therapy was effective. It treated both negative and positive symptoms in patients that were resistant to drug treatments for schizophrenia.

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term 'baseline' when gathering data. [2]
- (b) Suggest **two** weaknesses of the longitudinal method in the study by Sensky et al. (2000). [4]
- (c) A randomised controlled design was used by Sensky et al.
 - (i) Identify the **two** therapies that this design compared. [2]
 - (ii) Suggest why a randomised controlled design was used. [2]
- (d) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of cognitive-behavioural therapy as an alternative to drug treatments for schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section A: Stimulus question Psychology and abnormality		
	Newspaper headline: Treatment for schizophrenia is successful. Sensky et al. (2000) conducted a longitudinal study and found that cognitive-behavioural therapy was effective. It treated both negative and positive symptoms in patients that were resistant to drug treatments for schizophrenia.	
(a)	<p>Explain what is meant by the term 'baseline' when gathering data.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited): Gathering baseline data at the outset of a programme allows a comparison with data gathered afterward, allowing changes to be tracked to determine whether any intervention has been effective.</p> <p>Marks: 1 mark basic answer (simple description), 2 marks detailed answer/elaboration.</p>	2
(b)	<p>Suggest <u>two</u> weaknesses of the longitudinal method in the study by Sensky et al. (2000).</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants may drop out over the 9 months of therapy and 9 months of follow-up • Over time, participants may not follow the treatment programme exactly; may take other medications; may develop other symptoms and/or illnesses. <p>Marks: 1 mark generic weakness, 2 marks weakness related to this study ×2</p>	4
(c)	A randomised controlled design was used by Sensky et al.	
(c)(i)	<p>Identify the <u>two</u> therapies that this design compared.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'manualized cognitive behavioural therapy developed particularly for schizophrenia with that of a nonspecific befriending control intervention.' <p>Marks: 1 mark for each correctly identified therapy.</p>	2
(c)(ii)	<p>Suggest why a randomised controlled design was used.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers do not allocate participants to conditions so there is no bias. Instead participants are allocated randomly, by chance, so reducing extraneous variables. Use of control group etc. <p>Marks: 1 mark basic answer (identification), 2 marks detailed answer/elaboration</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
(d)	<p>Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of cognitive-behavioural therapy as an alternative to drug treatments for schizophrenia. You should include a conclusion in your answer.</p> <p>Most likely answer (other appropriate responses to be credited):</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no drugs are taken • the patient does not become addicted to drugs • the patient plays a more active role in their own treatment • a therapist is there to guide the patient through the treatment <p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more effort is needed by the patient; it isn't passive as is taking a drug • the cause of schizophrenia may be biochemical and so a drug treatment may be best • a therapist is needed, which costs more and consumes more time than does swallowing a pill <p>Conclusion: any appropriate conclusion drawn from the discussion that has been presented. 1 mark if appropriate. A conclusion is a 'decision reached by reasoning' and so a summary of points already made scores 0 marks.</p> <p>Marks: Question requires discussion; always plural of each argument, and always requires conclusion. 1 mark for each advantage/disadvantage (however detailed) and related to the question up to 4 max. 2 marks max for two strengths/weaknesses unrelated to the question. 1 mark for conclusion.</p>	5

12. 9990_s20_qp_41 Q: 9

'Symptom assessment of schizophrenia using virtual reality will one day remove the need for a doctor.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section C: Evaluation question = 12 marks		
	<p>'Symptom assessment of schizophrenia using virtual reality will one day remove the need for a doctor.'</p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C. Syllabus: Characteristics of schizophrenia: symptom assessment using virtual reality</p> <p>Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited):</p> <p>No doctor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • patients sometimes prefer to give more personal details to a computer (e.g. Robinson and West) • patients can interact with a computer/VR in a situation and show how they would actually behave rather than try to describe it to a doctor 'The practitioner has no idea of how the patient actually behaves in the real world (or whether they are telling the truth)' • patients can be dishonest to a doctor, but may be honest as the VR situation demands • in the future computers/VR may be able to interpret symptoms and diagnose also. <p>Doctor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the doctor will always need to interpret behaviour and diagnose • the doctor will always need to prescribe appropriate medication (if deemed most suitable) • the doctor has experience and that can never be programmed into a computer • the doctor can ask questions as they arise; a computer/VR cannot 'interact' 	12

13. 9990_s20_qp_42 Q: 9

'Telephone-administered cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) will never be as effective as face-to-face treatment.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section C: Evaluation question = 12 marks		
	<p><i>'Telephone-administered cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) will never be as effective as face-to-face treatment.'</i></p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C. Syllabus: treatment and management of O-C and related disorders: psychological: cognitive (Lovell et al., 2006) and exposure and response prevention (Lehmkuhl et al., 2008)</p> <p>Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited): Just as effective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no travelling time to see the therapist • takes less time – 30 mins on phone • person at home is more comfortable being in their familiar environment; is less stressful than in an office • therapy and procedures are exactly the same <p>Not as effective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no non-verbal communication • verbal communication may be restricted (may talk for longer if face-to-face but not on telephone) • therapist can't review materials (such as homework diary) • therapist can't control the environment such as no distractions in an office, but may be lots at home 	12

14. 9990_m19_qp_42 Q: 9

'A case study of a person with schizophrenia will reveal more about the disorder than any other method.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer. [12]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section C		
	<p><i>'A case study of a person with schizophrenia will reveal more about the disorder than any other method.'</i></p> <p>To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples of research you have studied to support your answer.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response in table C. Syllabus: definitions, types, examples and case studies of schizophrenia and psychotic disorders Most likely (any other appropriate responses should be credited):</p> <p>For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A case study allows a focus on an individual in depth, perhaps over time and using a range of different methods. <input type="checkbox"/> Far more can be known about the specific problems, and how it affects the life of that person. <input type="checkbox"/> A range of tests, techniques and methods can be used as appropriate. <p>Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> It is a study of one person whose problems might be unique <input type="checkbox"/> Generalising to others from one person is restricted; everyone's problems might be different. <input type="checkbox"/> What is needed is to find what those with the disorder have in common and this cannot be done with a case study. 	12

15. 9990_s19_qp_41 Q: 5

- (a) Design a study to investigate the long-term effectiveness of antipsychotic drugs in patients with schizophrenia. [10]
- (b) Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
Section B		
(a)	<p>Design a study to investigate the long-term effectiveness of antipsychotic drugs in patients with schizophrenia.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response, 'Design a study' question part (a).</p> <p>Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method is: any appropriate method.</p> <p>Specific features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Experiments: type, IV, DV, controls, experimental design. <input type="checkbox"/> Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling frame, number of observers. <input type="checkbox"/> Questionnaires / Interviews: type, setting, example questions. Scoring / rating scale, analysis of responses. <input type="checkbox"/> General features of research methodology: sampling technique & sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis. 	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response, 'Design a study' question part (b).</p> <p>Note: If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max. 5 marks</p> <p>Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research.</p> <p>Additional: candidates are expected to justify their decisions or evidence presented regarding the design made in answer to question part (a).</p> <p>Syllabus: biochemical (antipsychotics and atypical antipsychotics)</p> <p>Psychological: First generation antipsychotics work as 'chemical cosh' (e.g. chlorpromazine). Second generation = atypical anti-psychotics worked by blocking dopamine receptors and fewer side effects. Third generation (e.g. Aripiprazole).</p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using general and specific features as above.</p> <p>Note: 2 marks max. if psychological knowledge is not related to answer.</p>	8

16. 9990_m18_qp_42 Q: 5

- (a)** Design a study to assess the effectiveness of virtual reality as a way to measure symptoms of schizophrenia. [10]
- (b)** Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based. [8]

Answer:

Question	Answer	Marks
(a)	<p>Design a study to assess the effectiveness of virtual reality as a way to measure symptoms of schizophrenia.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (a).</p> <p>Additional: Candidates should design the study showing evidence of design features appropriate to the named method. The named method is: any appropriate method, but must use virtual reality.</p> <p>Typical features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Experiments: type, IV, DV, controls, experimental design. <input type="checkbox"/> Observations: type, setting, response categories, sampling frame, number of observers. <input type="checkbox"/> Questionnaires/Interviews: type, setting, example questions. Scoring/rating scale, analysis of responses. <p>Typical features of research methodology: sampling technique and sample, type of data, ethics, reliability, validity, data analysis.</p>	10
(b)	<p>Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based.</p> <p>Marks: use generic levels of response 'Design a study' question part (b). Note: If only methodological or psychological explanation is provided max 5 marks</p> <p>Candidates are expected to explain the reasons for the suggested design in part (a). Explanation should be both psychological and methodological. Psychological to include appropriate theory or research.</p> <p>Additional: candidates are expected to justify their decisions or evidence presented regarding the design made in answer to question part (a).</p> <p>Syllabus: Characteristics of schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders symptom assessment using virtual reality (Freeman, 2008)</p> <p>Psychological: <i>Quote from study: The third use of VR for psychosis would be learning to cope with symptoms as they occur. A variety of coping strategies could be tried out for learning how to remain engaged in a social situation even when symptoms occur. Clinical studies of these techniques in psychosis are yet to be carried out. VR has, however, been used in rehabilitation interventions for a range of problems.</i></p> <p>Methodological: explanation of method using typical features as above.</p>	8