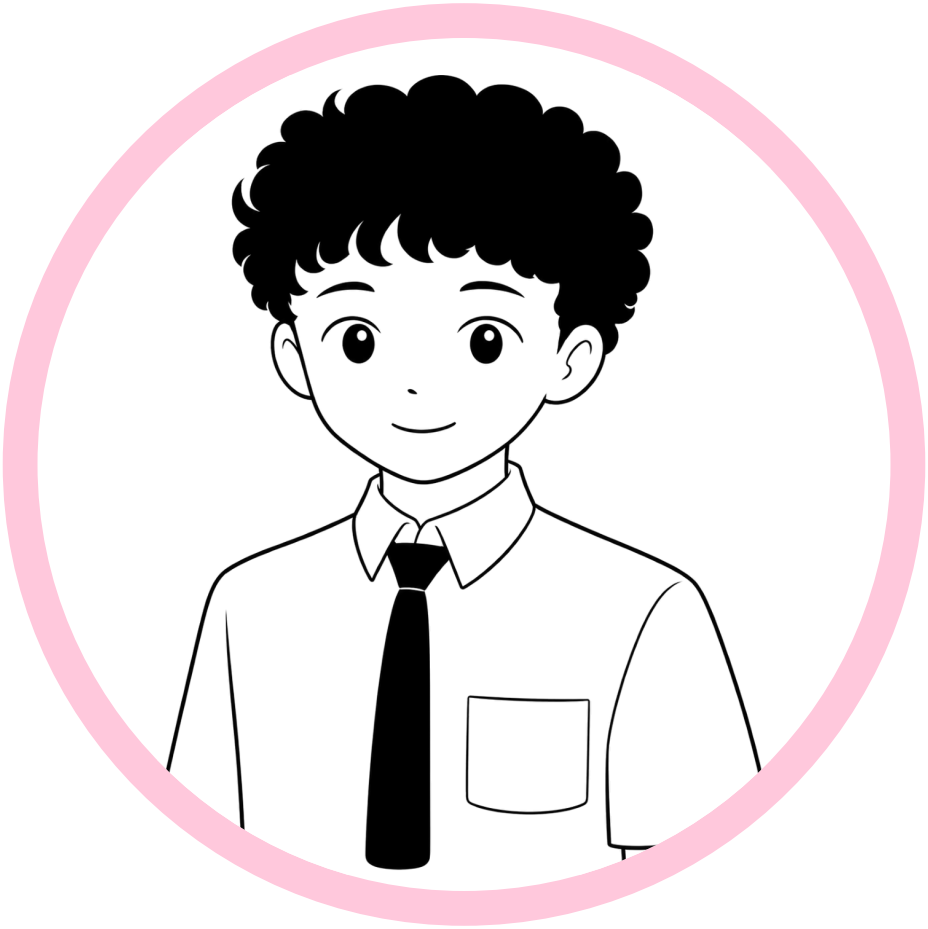
AQA A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY · 7182

PSYCHOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.1.4 DEFINITIONS OF ABNORMALITY

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/112	%

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Q1.

Outline and evaluate **two** definitions of abnormality.

(Total 8 marks)

Q2.

Rob is a sixth form student who has started hearing voices in his head. The voices come often, are usually threatening and make Rob feel frightened. The voices are making it difficult for Rob to complete his homework properly and he is worried about how this may affect his chances of going to university. Rob has not told anyone about his experiences, but his parents and teachers have noticed that he appears distracted, anxious and untidy.

Outline and evaluate failure to function adequately **and** deviation from ideal mental health as definitions of abnormality. Refer to the experiences of Rob in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)

Q3.

Read the four definitions of abnormality below (**A**-**D**).

A Failure to function adequately

B Deviation from social norms

C Statistical infrequency

D Deviation from ideal mental health

In the table below, are descriptions of abnormal behaviour. Choose the definition that best matches each description and complete the table by writing **A** or **B** or **C** or **D** in the box at the end of the statement. Use any letter only **once**.

Behaviour which is rare and not exhibited by many people	
Behaviour which does not fit the rules of expected behaviour	
Behaviour which shows an inability to cope with everyday life	

(Total 3 marks)

Q4.

What is meant by ‘statistical infrequency’ as a definition of abnormality?

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Total 2 marks)

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Q5.

Bina has been diagnosed with depression. Her doctor says that depression is a common problem but Bina is miserable. She cannot be bothered to get washed in the morning and her manager is unhappy that she is taking a lot of time off work. When she does go to work she is irritable, has temper tantrums and is rude to customers.

Using your knowledge of **three** definitions of abnormality, explain whether or not Bina's behaviour might be considered to be abnormal.

(Total 6 marks)

Q6.

Which **two** of the following are examples of Jahoda's criteria for 'ideal mental health'? Shade **two** boxes only. For each answer completely fill in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

A Dependence on others ⬭

B Environmental mastery ⬭

C Lack of inhibition ⬭

D Maladaptiveness ⬭

E Resistance to stress ⬭

(Total 2 marks)

Q7.

Read the item and then answer the question that follows.

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The following article appeared in a magazine:

Hoarding disorder – A 'new' mental illness

Most of us are able to throw away the things we don't need on a daily basis. Approximately 1 in 1000 people, however, suffer from hoarding disorder, defined as 'a difficulty parting with items and possessions, which leads to severe anxiety and extreme clutter that affects living or work spaces'.

Apart from 'deviation from ideal mental health', outline **three** definitions of abnormality. Refer to the article above in your answer.

(Total 6 marks)

Q8.

(a) Outline **one** definition of abnormality.

(2)

(b) Outline and evaluate **one other** definition of abnormality.

(6)

(Total 8 marks)

Q9.

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The following statements are all linked to different definitions of abnormality.

Select the **two** statements that describe the deviation from ideal mental health definition of abnormality.

Tick **two** boxes.

Behaviour that is different from the way most people in society act	☐
Not achieving self-actualisation	☐
Not following the standards set by society	☐
Causing distress or discomfort to others	☐
Behaviour that interferes with everyday life	☐
Not being able to resist stress	☐

(Total 2 marks)

Q10.

Explain **one** limitation of the failure to function adequately definition of abnormality.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Extra space _____

_____

(Total 2 marks)

Q11.

It has been suggested that the meeting of certain criteria indicates whether or not a person has ideal mental health. Helen has been told that she has ideal mental health: for example, she adapts well to her environment.

Give **two** other criteria for ideal mental health that you would expect Helen's behaviour to show.

_____

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(Total 2 marks)

Q12.

Outline **two** limitations of the deviation from ideal mental health definition of abnormality.

Extra space

(Total 4 marks)

Q13.

(a) One definition of abnormality is deviation from social norms. Identify and explain **one other** definition of abnormality.

(3)

(b) Evaluate the definition of abnormality that you identified in your answer to (a).

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Extra space

(4)

(Total 7 marks)

Q14.

Abnormality can be defined as ‘the failure to function adequately’.

Outline and evaluate this definition of abnormality.

Extra space

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_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Total 6 marks)

Q15.

Diane is a 30-year-old business woman and if she does not get her own way she sometimes has a temper tantrum. Recently, she attended her grandmother's funeral and laughed during the prayers. When she talks to people she often stands very close to them, making them feel uncomfortable.

(a) Identify **one** definition of abnormality that could describe Diane's behaviour. Explain your choice.

Definition _____

_____

Explanation of your choice _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3)

(b) Explain **one** limitation of this way of defining abnormal behaviour.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3)

(Total 6 marks)

Q16.

Identify **one** definition of abnormality and explain **one** limitation associated with this

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definition.

(Total 3 marks)

Q17.

(a) Outline **two** definitions of abnormality.

Definition One

Definition Two

(6)

(b) Choose **one** of these definitions and describe a limitation associated with it.

(2)

(Total 8 marks)

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Q18.

"Abnormality is very difficult to define. It can be hard to decide where normal behaviour ends and abnormal behaviour begins."

Discuss **two or more** definitions of abnormality.

(Total 12 marks)

Q19.

One way of defining abnormality is to see whether or not someone meets the criteria for mental health. Ivan has high self-esteem and a strong sense of identity.

(a) Describe **two** other criteria that you would expect Ivan to display if he were psychologically healthy.

Criteria 1 _____

_____

_____

_____

Criteria 2 _____

_____

_____

_____

(4)

(b) Outline **one** weakness of defining abnormality in terms of mental health.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(Total 6 marks)

Q20.

Before leaving the house each morning, Angus has to go round checking that all the lights are switched off. He has to do this several times before he leaves and it makes him late for work.

(a) Give **one** definition of abnormality.

_____

_____

(1)

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(b) Use this definition to explain why Angus' behaviour might be viewed as abnormal.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(Total 3 marks)

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