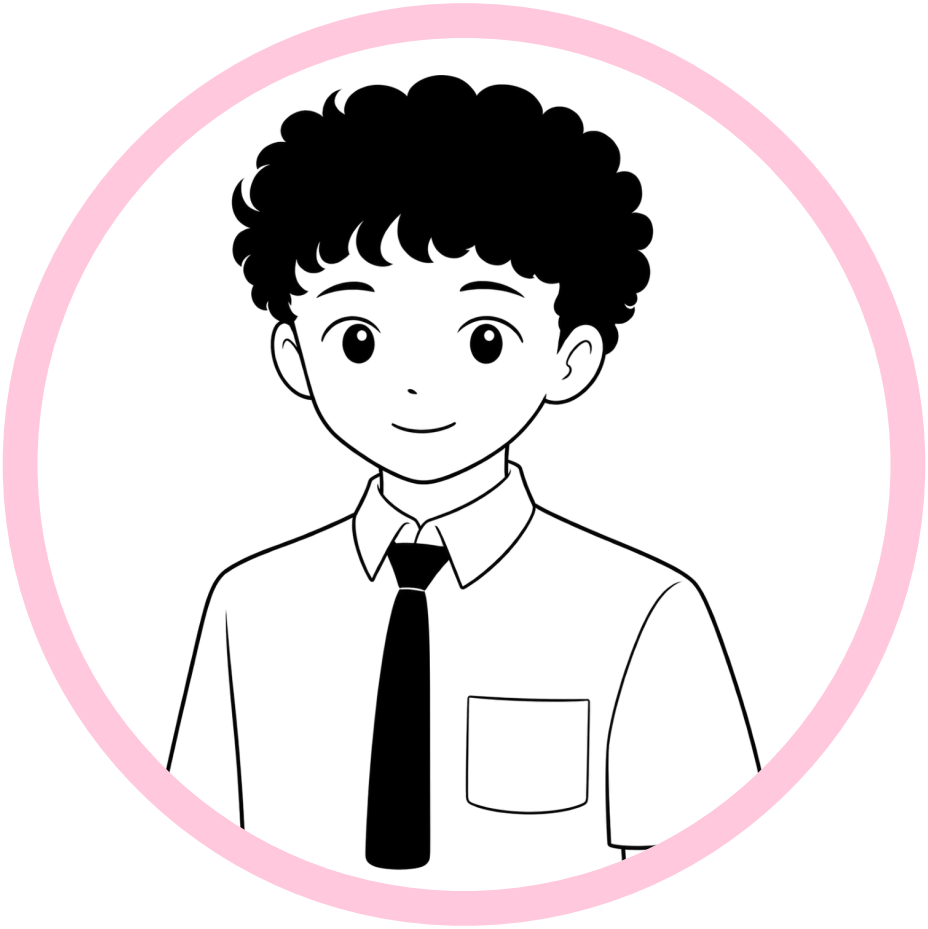
AQA A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY · 7182

PSYCHOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.2.3 CASE STUDIES

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/35	%

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Q1.

Psychologists conducted a case study of Patient X, an individual who developed severe amnesia following a car accident. Patient X has difficulty storing new long-term memories, though his short-term memory and his memory for events that happened before the accident are unaffected.

(a) Evaluate the use of case studies, like that of Patient X, in psychological research.

(5)

(b) Briefly explain how the experiences of Patient X could be interpreted as supporting the multi-store model of memory.

(2)

(c)

The same psychologists conducted an experiment with Patient X where he was given the task of tracking a rotating disc every day for a week. It was found that Patient X's performance on the task improved with practice, though he had no recollection of ever having done the task, and could not remember the names of the psychologists who conducted the experiment.

With reference to the experiment involving Patient X, outline **two** types of long-term memory.

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(4)

(b) Discuss **two** differences between the types of long-term memory you have outlined in your answer to **part (c)**.

(4)

(Total 15 marks)

Q2.

Case studies are a commonly used method of investigating abnormality.

(a) What is meant by a case study?

(2)

(b) Outline **one** weakness of using a case study as a method of investigation.

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(2)
(Total 4 marks)

Q3.

Psychologists sometimes use case studies to study children. One example was of a boy who was discovered at the age of six. He had been kept in a darkened room and had had almost no social contact with people.

(a) How could a psychologist maintain confidentiality when reporting a case study?

(2)

(b) Psychologists use a range of techniques to gather information in case studies.

Outline **one** technique which the psychologist could use in this case study.

(2)

(c) Apart from ethical issues, explain **one or more** limitations of using case studies.

Extra space

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(4)
(Total 8 marks)

Q4.

Research has suggested that institutionalisation can have negative effects on children. In the 1990s, many children were found living in poor quality orphanages in Romania. Luca had lived in one of these orphanages from birth. When he was four years old, he was adopted and he left the orphanage to live in Canada. His development was then studied for a number of years.

(a) Outline possible negative effects of institutionalisation on Luca.

Extra space

(4)

(b) The scenario above is an example of a case study. Outline **one** strength and **one** limitation of this research method.

Strength

Limitation

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_____

(4)
(Total 8 marks)

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