

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

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Candidate number

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Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Candidate signature _____

I declare this is my own work.

INTERNATIONAL AS PSYCHOLOGY

Unit 2 Biopsychology, Development and Research Methods 1

Friday 22 May 2026

08:00 UK Time

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- a calculator, which you are expected to use where appropriate.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- All working must be shown.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.

For Examiner's Use	
Section	Mark
A	
B	
C	
TOTAL	



Section A: Biopsychology

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outside the
box

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

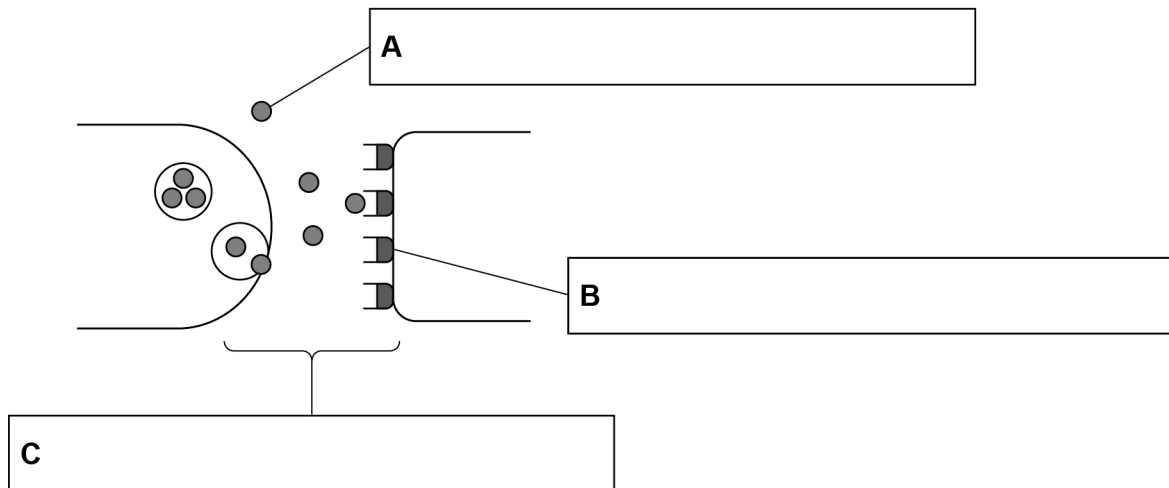
0 1

Figure 1 is a diagram showing synaptic transmission.

Complete **Figure 1** by writing the names of the structures in the boxes provided.

[3 marks]

Figure 1



Only **one** answer per question is allowed.

For each multiple-choice question completely fill in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

CORRECT METHOD



WRONG METHODS



If you want to change your answer you must cross out your original answer as shown. 

If you wish to return to an answer previously crossed out, ring the answer you now wish to select as shown. 

0 2

Which of the statements below does **not** describe a function of a relay neuron?

Shade **one** box only.

[1 mark]

A To connect different parts of the central nervous system.

☐

B To detect stimuli from the environment.

☐

C To receive electrical impulses.

☐

D To transmit electrical impulses.

☐

Turn over for the next question



[6 marks]

[illegible]



You may use this space to plan your answer.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Extra space



Section B: Cognitive DevelopmentAnswer **all** questions in the spaces provided.**0 5**

What is meant by equilibration in Piaget's theory of cognitive development?

[2 marks]

0 6

What is meant by conservation in Piaget's theory of cognitive development?

[2 marks]

0 7

What is meant by object permanence in Piaget's theory of cognitive development?

[2 marks]



0	8
---	---

Jing, a 5-year-old, takes part in a research study. The researcher shows Jing a set of toy animals.

The set includes five dogs and three cats. The researcher asks Jing, "Are there more dogs or more animals in the set?". Jing replies, "There are more dogs".

Using your knowledge of Piaget's theory of cognitive development, explain why Jing gave this response.

[4 marks]

Turn over for the next question



[6 marks]

[illegible]



1	0
---	---

Explain **one** strength of Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development.

[3 marks]

1	1
---	---

In an experiment, a researcher is measuring the brain activity of Paolo. When Paolo observes Lucia drinking a glass of water, the researcher measures neural activity in Paolo's brain as if he lifts up the glass and drinks water himself, even though he does not move.

Using your knowledge of the mirror neuron system in social cognition, briefly explain Paolo's neural activity.

[2 marks]

Turn over for the next question



Turn over ►

[6 marks]

[illegible]



1 3Explain **one** limitation of the Sally-Anne studies.**[3 marks]**

30**Turn over for the next section**

Section C: Research Methods 1

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

1	4	1
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A psychologist had read a research report which suggested that children solve problems more effectively in a group. The psychologist wanted to investigate this.

The psychologist approached a local primary school and was given access to two classes of 7-year-olds.

The teachers of both classes were asked to set the same 10 mathematical problems for the children to solve.

The children in **Class A** were put into groups of five to solve the 10 mathematical problems.

The children in **Class B** were asked to solve the 10 mathematical problems as individuals.

Identify the experimental method used by the psychologist in this investigation. Justify your answer.

[3 marks]



1 4 . 2

Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of the experimental method you identified in Question 14.1.

[4 marks]

Strength _____

Limitation _____

1 5

The psychologist used a directional hypothesis.

Briefly explain why a directional hypothesis was suitable for this investigation.

[2 marks]

1 6

Write a suitable directional hypothesis for this investigation.

[3 marks]



The teachers marked the number of mathematical problems that had been correctly solved out of 10.

The psychologist calculated the range and mean number of correctly solved mathematical problems for **Class A** and **Class B**.

The results are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Mean and range of correctly solved mathematical problems for groups of five and as individuals.

	Class A: Groups of five	Class B: As individuals
Mean	6	7
Range	2	8

1 7

Draw a suitable graph to show the mean data from the results shown in **Table 1**. Your graph must include a title and labelled axes.

[4 marks]

Title: _____



1 8

Explain what the mean and range values in **Table 1** suggest about solving mathematical problems in a group of five or as individuals. Justify your answers.

[4 marks]

Mean _____

Range _____

1 9

Name the sampling technique used by the psychologist. Briefly explain your answer.

[2 marks]

2 0

The psychologist was concerned about a possible sample bias.

Briefly explain why the psychologist might have concerns about a possible sample bias in this experiment.

[2 marks]



2 1

Outline **one** ethical issue the psychologist needed to consider when conducting this experiment, **and** explain how the psychologist might have dealt with this ethical issue.

[4 marks]

2 2

The psychologist was not concerned about possible demand characteristics.

Briefly explain why demand characteristics are unlikely to be an issue in this experiment.

[2 marks]

30**END OF QUESTIONS**

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[illegible]

[illegible]

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