

**NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS Part IB**  
**NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS Part II (General)**  
**NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS Preliminary Examination for Part II Psychology**

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Tuesday 5 June 2007

1.30 to 4.30

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**EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY II**

*Answer ALL questions.*

*Each section carries equal marks.*

*Within each section the first question carries one third of the marks available and the second questions carries two thirds of the marks. Candidates are advised to allocate their time to each question accordingly.*

*Answers from each Section must be tied up in a separate bundle, with the letter of the Section written on each cover sheet.*

*Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet for each Section.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*Loose script paper*

Cover sheets

<p>You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.</p>
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## SECTION A

1. *Give a short account of TWO of the following:*
  - (a) The peak shift
  - (b) Minimum audible field
  - (c) Contingency learning
  - (d) Dark adaptation
  
2. *Write an essay to answer ONE of the following questions:*
  - (a) What is meant by an 'auditory filter'? Describe how the 'shape' of the filter can be estimated, discussing the advantages and disadvantages of each method that you describe.
  - (b) Describe the type of information used in sentence processing, supporting your claims with experimental evidence.

## SECTION B

3. *Give a short account of TWO of the following:*
  - (a) The fundamental attribution bias
  - (b) Cognitive dissonance
  - (c) Factors influencing conformity
  - (d) The measurement of attitudes
  
4. *Write an essay to answer ONE of the following questions:*
  - (a) "Social psychology is the study of the distal causes of behaviour, while experimental psychology is the study of the proximal causes." Do you agree with this opinion?
  - (b) What causes aggression between humans? Illustrate your answer with reference to empirical studies.

## SECTION C

5. *Give a short account of TWO of the following:*
  - (a) Environmental influences on IQ
  - (b) The inductive reasoning biases shown by some subjects
  - (c) The heritability of schizophrenia
  - (d) Systematic desensitization
  
6. *Write an essay to answer ONE of the following questions:*
  - (a) What kind of evidence would help to resolve the debate between the idea of general intelligence and the idea that intelligence consists largely of a set of independent abilities?
  - (b) What might be the cause of hearing voices in schizophrenia?

**END OF PAPER**

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