

1.1 Psychology as a science and perspectives

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS psychology 心理学 • perspective 视角 • behavioural 行为主义 • biological 生物学

Objective

Use psychological perspectives to explain behaviour with scientific evidence.

You must be able to:

- define psychology as a scientific study
- identify major psychological perspectives
- match an explanation to the perspective named in a question

1 Worked examples

■ Use the perspective requested

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes. A behavioural explanation of aggression focuses on learned actions and consequences; a biological explanation focuses on the brain, genes, or hormones.

The **perspectives** 视角 are different explanations of the same behaviour. They are not interchangeable answers.

2 Practice

2.1 Define psychology. [1]

2.2 Name one psychological perspective. [1]

2.3 Explain why a biological answer may not gain full marks for a question asking for a behavioural explanation. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Explain aggression from a behavioural perspective. [4]

3.2 Explain why psychology needs systematic evidence rather than personal opinions about behaviour. [4]

Solutions

2.1

- The scientific study of behaviour and mental processes.

2.2

- Biological, behavioural, cognitive, humanistic, or psychodynamic.

2.3

- It explains behaviour at a different level.
- The answer does not address the perspective named by the question.

3.1

- Behaviour can be learned from observed actions or direct experience.
- Aggression that is rewarded may be repeated.
- Consequences can strengthen or reduce the learned behaviour.
- This explains aggression through learning, not brain chemistry.

3.2

- Personal opinions can be selective or biased.
- Systematic evidence makes the method and result checkable.
- Other researchers can test whether the finding is repeated.
- Conclusions are more credible when based on evidence.