



# ATAR Psychology

## Attitudes and Stereotypes Short Answer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Instructions -

- Attempt all questions
- Answer questions clearly and concisely on the space provided
- Ensure handwriting is legible
- If you need more space for a response, use the additional pages at the back of this book.

### Time allowed -

- Perusal time — 5 minutes
- Working time — 70 minutes

There are **six** pages in this test.

### QUESTION 1 (9 marks)

Sarah owns a small café in a busy part of town. She recently introduced a new rule: all employees must work 8-hour shifts, with only one short break allowed during their shift.

One of Sarah's employees, Aisha, is a Muslim and observes regular prayer times throughout the day. The new rule makes it difficult for her to find time to pray while working mandatory shifts.

a) Distinguish between Direct and Indirect Discrimination (4)

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- b) Explain how Sarah's rule is an example of indirect discrimination (1)

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When Aisha confronts Sarah, Sarah's attitude towards Aisha religion is positive; she believes that everyone has the right to their own religious beliefs. However, she still refuses to provide for Aisha's prayer breaks.

- c) Discuss how Sarah's cognitive dissonance might change her feelings if she were made aware that her rule is indirectly discriminating against Sarah. (2)

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- d) Describe how Sarah's rule affects the social identity of her employees (3)

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## QUESTION 2 (9 marks)

a) Briefly explain the theory of cognitive dissonance proposed by Festinger (1957) (4)

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b) Identify three ways which individuals respond to cognitive dissonance (3)

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c) Describe implicit attitudes and explain how cognitive dissonance may reveal them (2)

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### QUESTION 3 (6 marks)

a) Describe prejudice and provide two examples (4)

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b) Identify one strength and one limitation of social identity theory (2)

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## QUESTION 4 (8 marks)

Miller (1984) asked groups of middle-class adults and children aged 8, 11 and 15 from two different cultures to narrate antisocial behaviours and explain what prompts them. The proportion of dispositional attributions for each culture are shown.

Group	Culture 1	Culture 2
8-year-olds	0.13	0.08
11-year-olds	0.13	0.07
15-year-olds	0.30	0.07
Adults	0.45	0.15

- a) Explain what attribution theory is (3)

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- b) Describe dispositional attributions and identify two observed differences between cultures 1 and 2. Use data to explain your reasoning (5)

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## QUESTION 5 (11 marks)

The Robbers Cave Experiment is a classic study in social psychology by Muzafer Sherif which investigated the cause of prejudice and the effectiveness of contact hypothesis in reducing prejudice.

- a) Identify the year in which the experiment took place (1)

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- b) Discuss the aim and main findings in the Robbers Cave Experiment (5)

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- c) Explain how contact hypothesis reduces prejudice (3)

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- d) Identify and explain one ethical concern with the Robbers Cave Experiment (2)

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Clearly indicate the question number you are responding to.

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7 of 8

Clearly indicate the question number you are responding to.

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8 of 8