



DATE: 24TH OCTOBER 2025

TIME: 9.30 AM – 11.30 AM

SECTION 2: STRUCTURED ESSAY QUESTIONS (60 MARKS)

Choose 04 out of the 06 questions given below and answer using the provided answer sheets.

2.1 “Dr. Amali, a psychologist in Colombo, is conducting a research study on adolescent mental health in schools. She plans to interview students aged 12-16 about their experiences with anxiety and depression. The school principal insists that all students must participate, and some parents are reluctant to give consent. During interviews, a few students reveal that they are experiencing self-harm thoughts, and one student asks Dr. Amali not to tell anyone about it.”

- a) Identify and explain four (04) ethical issues present in this scenario. (10 marks)
- b) Briefly explain how informed consent and assent should be properly obtained in this study. (5 marks)

2.2 “Maintaining professional competence is an important ethical responsibility for psychologists.”

- a) Explain the core competences in psychology and their relevance to ethical practice. (6 marks)
- b) Briefly explain three (03) practical strategies psychologists can use to stay competent in professional practice. (9 marks)

2.3 “The American Psychological Association (APA) has outlined General Ethical Principles to guide psychologists in their professional work.”

- a) Briefly describe the five APA General Ethical Principles with examples. (7 marks)
- b) Explain the importance of applying these principles in psychological research and practice. (8 marks)

2.4 “Ethical considerations are especially important when conducting psychological research with sensitive populations and non-human subjects.”

- a) Describe the ethical issues when conducting research involving minors or other vulnerable groups. (7 marks)
- b) Explain the benefits and potential risks of conducting research with non-human subjects. (8 marks)

2.5 Discuss the major trends and issues of ethics in psychology within the Sri Lankan context, giving attention to professional psychological practice. Support your answer with relevant local examples where possible. (15 marks)

2.6 Describe three (03) of the following topics. (3*5 marks)

- a) Cultural differences in ethical dilemmas.
- b) Beauchamp and Childress’s Four Principles of Ethics.
- c) Morals versus Ethics.
- d) Privacy and confidentiality in psychological practice.
- e) Role of National Ethical Bodies in Sri Lanka.

-----END OF QUESTION PAPER-----