00159

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELLING
ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025 – SEMESTER II

Department of Psychology & Counselling
16 JUL 2025
The Open University of Sri Lanka

BSC HONS IN PSYCHOLOGY
PLU3204 – ETHICS IN PSYCHOLOGY – LEVEL 3
CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT TEST – NBT I
DURATION: 1 HOUR

DATE: 16TH JULY 2025 TIME: 9.00 AM – 10.00 AM

INDEX NO: .....

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS/ INFORMATION TO CANDIDATES

- This question paper consists of **10 pages** with **TWO** sections

  Section 1: 20 Multiple Choice Questions - (40 Marks)

  Section 2: 12 Short Answer Questions - (60 Marks)

- Write your INDEX number in the space provided.
- **Multiple Choice Questions (Section 1):** Indicate answers in the **ANSWER SHEET** provided by placing a cross **(X)** in **INK** in the relevant cage (answers in pencil will **NOT** be marked)
- **Short Answer Questions (Section 2):** Write the answer within the space provided.
- Do **NOT** remove any page/part of this question paper from the examination hall.
- Do **NOT** keep unauthorized materials, including mobile phones and other electronic equipment, with you during the examination.

SECTION 1: Multiple Choice Questions (20 Questions – 40 Marks)

1.1 According to Kohlberg's theory of moral development, which of the following levels best identifies the stage where judgments are based on more abstract and personal principles of justice?

a. Pre-conventional level
b. Conventional level
c. Post-conventional level
d. Concrete operational level

1.2 Which of the following best describes the relationship between values, morals and ethics?

a. Values judge right or wrong; morals are social standards; ethics are subjective opinions.
b. Values are widely accepted rules; morals are personal beliefs; ethics describe good or bad.
c. Values are personal standards; morals judge right or wrong; ethics are widely accepted principles.
d. Values define legal codes; morals are universal laws; ethics focus on individual choices.

1.3 Dr. Nimal, a clinical psychologist, begins regularly interacting with a former client on social media shortly after the therapy ends. They eventually attend social gatherings together, and Dr. Nimal shares personal updates on social media. What ethical issue does this scenario most likely illustrate?

a. Breach of confidentiality
b. Professional malpractice due to dual relationships
c. Lack of informed consent
d. Use of deception

1.4 Which of the following researchers introduced the most widely practiced four principles of ethics?

a. Bernard Gert
b. John Rawls
c. Immanuel Kant
d. Beauchamp and Childress

1.5 Which APA General Principle focuses on maintaining honesty, accuracy, and avoiding misrepresentation in psychological practice?

a. Integrity
b. Justice
c. Fidelity
d. Beneficence

1.6 Which of the following best describes the process of providing a client with all relevant information about a procedure or treatment, ensuring their voluntary agreement to proceed?

a. Debriefing
b. Acknowledgment
c. Informed Consent
d. Confidentiality

1.7 Which of the following best reflects the utilitarian view of autonomy as discussed in ethical theory?

a. A person is autonomous only when their decisions are made purely through rational reasoning, unaffected by desires or external influences.
b. A person is autonomous when they reject all forms of societal or cultural influence in decision-making.
c. A person is autonomous if they act in line with their values and desires, even if those are shaped by external or personal identity factors.
d. A person can only be autonomous if they follow moral laws that apply universally, regardless of personal beliefs or emotions.

1.8 What is the main purpose of a debriefing session in research?

a. To explain the study, clarify deception, and review privacy policies
b. To collect data and gather participants' personal information
c. To provide participants with monetary compensation for their time
d. To recruit participants for future research projects

1.9 Which of the following ethical concerns is related to the "Record Keeping & Fees" standard in professional practice?

a. Maintaining test security during psychological assessments
b. Ensuring informed consent during therapy sessions
c. Proper documentation and secure disposal of client records
d. Obtaining ethical review approval for research

1.10 When a participant refers to someone outside the study (e.g., a parent), what should the researcher do with that identifiable data?

a. Replace it with other personal data
b. Delete or anonymize it
c. Store it with the main dataset
d. Use it without concern

1.11 Which of the following best describes mosaic plagiarism?

a. Quoting someone else's work word-for-word without citation
b. Submitting own previously used work for a new assignment
c. Copying another's work and replacing some words with synonyms
d. Forgetting to include a citation due to carelessness

1.12 In which year was the American Psychological Association (APA) founded?

a. 1876
b. 1901
c. 1892
d. 1920

1.13 In case study and narrative research, what method is often used to protect a participant's identity?

a. Distortion of voices
b. Locking interview rooms
c. Encrypting survey data
d. Using pseudonyms

1.14 Dr. Kumar conducted a study to examine the effects of sleep deprivation on students' performance during exams. After collecting data from 20 participants, he noticed that the results did not support his hypothesis. To make the study seem more impactful, Dr. Kumar altered the test scores of a few participants in the sleep-deprived group to show lower performance, thus creating a significant difference that aligned with his expectations. What ethical issue does this case illustrate?

a. Accidental plagiarism
b. Data manipulation
c. Lack of participant debriefing
d. Informed consent violation

1.15 What is a key ethical requirement regarding a participant's right to withdraw from a study?

a. Participants must give a detailed explanation for leaving, and researchers decide if withdrawal is allowed.
b. Participants can only withdraw before data collection begins, with no exceptions.
c. Participants lose all rights to their data once the study starts and cannot withdraw afterward.
d. Participants can leave the study anytime without providing reasons, and researchers must manage any negative effects.

1.16 What is a multiple relationship in the context of psychological malpractice?

a. Having a therapeutic relationship with one client only
b. Engaging in more than one type of relationship with a client beyond therapy
c. Communicating only during therapy sessions
d. Working with multiple clients simultaneously

1.17 What is an essential feature of interview rooms to protect confidentiality?

a. Secure entry with restricted access
b. Soundproofing and privacy
c. Open-door policy
d. Large windows

1.18 Which of the following philosophers argued that "no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions"?

a. John Locke
b. Thomas Hobbes
c. Jean-Jacques Rousseau
d. John Watson

1.19 When was the first refined and approved code of ethics released by the American Psychological Association (APA)?

a. 1945
b. 1952
c. 1968
d. 1976

1.20 Which of the following was one of the first legal instruments in the UK covering human rights issues?

a. The Bill of Rights
b. The Human Rights Act
c. The Magna Carta
d. The Petition of Right

BSC HONS IN PSYCHOLOGY
PLU3204 – ETHICS IN PSYCHOLOGY – LEVEL 3
CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT TEST – NBT I – 2024/2025 – SEMESTER II

INDEX NO: .....

ANSWER SHEET FOR SECTION – 1

Q. No.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1.1				
1.2				
1.3				
1.4				
1.5				
1.6				
1.7				
1.8				
1.9				
1.10				
1.11				
1.12				
1.13				
1.14				
1.15				
1.16				
1.17				
1.18				
1.19				
1.20				

INDEX NO: .....

SECTION 2: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (60 MARKS)

All Questions are compulsory.

2.1 Briefly describe two (02) out of four principles of ethical practice. *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.2 Explain what a moral dilemma is and provide an example to illustrate your explanation. *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.3 Name five (05) ethical standards outlined by the American Psychological Association (APA). *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.4 Name two (02) national bodies of ethical guidelines in Sri Lanka and briefly explain the role of one of the bodies you mentioned. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.5 Briefly explain two (02) methods to enhance Beneficence and Non-malfeasance in professional practice. *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.6 Briefly describe two (02) causes of ethical dilemmas in a research context. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.7 Provide two (02) examples where a counsellor or therapist may be ethically justified in breaching client confidentiality. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.8 List any five (05) key components that must be included in a research consent form to ensure ethical participation. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.9 Briefly explain two (02) reasons why the "Stanford Prison Experiment" was considered unethical. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.10 Briefly explain how consent should be obtained when involving children in research. *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.11 Briefly explain <u>two (02)</u> situations where a professional may justifiably override a client's autonomy. *(5 Marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2.12 Briefly explain <u>two (02)</u> ethical issues in psychological practice in the Sri Lankan context. *(5 marks)*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

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