Summer Examinations 2015

PSY301615N

Module Title: Forensic Psychology
Level: Six
Time Allowed: Two hours

Instructions to students:

- Enter your student number not your name on all answer books.
- Answer two questions: one question from Section A and one from Section B.
- All questions are equally weighted.
- Neither books nor notes may be taken into the examination.
- Begin each answer in a separate answer book; label each answer book clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- The same material should not constitute a substantial part of more than one question.

No. of Pages 3
No. of Questions 8
Section A

Answer one question from Section A.

1. Is schizophrenia criminogenic? Consider your response relating to the current status of our knowledge about the aetiology and symptomatology of the condition.

2. In what way, can case studies help us understand the correlation between criminogenesis and psychodynamics in violent criminals who suffer from a personality disorder?

3. According to Eysenck our personality can become a quantifiable entity that can be tested, using an inventory. Critically discuss the arguments for and against the use of personality inventories in forensic settings.

4. Correlating substance misuse in sex offenders: a mechanism to understand their offending or a justification to minimise their guilt? Consider your response by relating the positives and negatives of this particular association.
Section B

Answer one question from Section B.

5. Five women were found murdered between 30 October and 10 December of the same year. The women were found at different locations near a town. All of the bodies were discovered naked with no sign of sexual assault. Two of the victims had been killed by asphyxiation whilst for the other three no cause of death was established. You need to provide a preliminary profile of a possible suspect by identifying the nature and type of offence.

6. A 56 year old man was found dead in the cemetery of a town. The cause of death was several blows to the head making the crime a murder investigation. The motive for crime is not clear but the fact that there were no signs of struggle lead to the conclusion that the victim was surprised by the assailant who hit him on the head with a blunt object. Consider the necessary steps involved in generating a profile.

7. A young child has been found assaulted. The child, due to shock, is unable to provide the police with any evidence or information about the assault. This was the third offence involving a sexual attack on a minor in the region and the local community is getting restless. From previous accounts we know that the assailant is male, described as being in his mid-thirties, medium build, and short. He surprises the victim from behind, then using a knife, drags them into a car where he assaults them. All victims have been children under the age of 12. You are requested to provide a profile for this offender.

8. A learning disabled sex offender is offering to do the Sex Offenders Treatment Programme in prison. However the programme is not designed for people with learning disabilities. Discuss whether you will consider his offer and how an alternative plan can be devised in order to accommodate this inmate.