



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

4702 – HONOURS PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCHOL 4000B)

CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

NOVEMBER 2006 EXAMINATION

Time: 3 hours

(In addition, candidates are allowed ten minutes before the examination begins to read the paper.)

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THREE (3) OUT OF FOUR (4) QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

ALL QUESTIONS ARE OF EQUAL VALUE

1. A 37 year old male was recently diagnosed with a brain tumour after undergoing a variety of investigative techniques (CT, MRI, and PET).

Write an essay in which you provide an account of: (i) the different types of brain tumours that this person may have had and (ii) the diagnostic investigations that he underwent.

2. Write an essay on clinical neuropsychology in which you discuss the main purposes of neuropsychological assessments.

3. Write an essay on memory disorders, with a particular emphasis on Korsakoff's syndrome.

PLEASE TURN OVER

4. Write an essay on malingering in neuropsychological settings. In addition, consider the following case and any evidence to suggest whether (or not) this person may be malingering and/or what other information would assist in determining whether he may be malingering. (Note: the case may be considered within your discussion of malingering *or* separately at the end of your essay)

*A 38-year-old construction worker, HR, was referred for neuropsychological testing by his lawyer after complaining of memory loss and an inability to work after he slipped and fell on a wet floor in a restaurant. On the day of his assessment, HR arrived one hour late and did not apologise. He complained of having severe problems with his recent memory and was able to provide several detailed examples of his problems. He also provided a detailed account of his fall, including striking his head on the ground and passing out. HR indicated that he was unconscious for 30 minutes. This information was not stated on his medical records, which noted that he had denied losing consciousness at the time of the accident, and that he was alert and oriented when the ambulance arrived. He declined being taken to the hospital and wanted to be seen by his own GP. He drove home and later contacted his lawyer.*

*HR tested as severely impaired on a wide variety of neuropsychological tests. His performance on the Rey 15-Item Test, a basic test of effort, was near perfect. Based on the test findings, and HR's complaints of severe cognitive problems, the neuropsychologist concluded that ....*

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**