



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

4702 -- HONOURS PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCHOL 4000B)

ADULT DEVELOPMENT & AGEING

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

NOVEMBER 2007

Time: 3 hours

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

PLEASE TURN OVER

ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS: ONE (1) COMPULSORY QUESTION FROM SECTION A AND ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B

ALL QUESTIONS ARE OF EQUAL VALUE

Section A

1. How do methodological issues and the complexity of the explanatory variables impact on our attempts to understand development in adulthood?

Section B

2. Discuss the assertion that "The focus on decrements in memory and universal patterns of aging-related change has resulted in the relative neglect of alternative mechanisms that might account for normative and nonnormative patterns of age-related variability. This has led to a rather unidimensional research approach that often neglects the adaptive nature of cognition as well as contextual factors..." (Hess, 2005, p383).
3. Carsten et al., (2000, p 653) conclude that "At the same time in life when cognitive speed and biological hardiness are on the decline, emotional functioning may continue to improve." Critically comment on this view
4. What matters for life satisfaction in older adults? Describe long-term trajectories of life satisfaction and critically comment on predictors of intra- and inter- individual change.

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER