



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

4702 -- HONOURS PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCHOL 4000B)

CURRENT TOPICS IN HUMAN INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

NOVEMBER 2007

Time: 3 hours

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

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PLEASE TURN OVER

**ANSWER ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION**

**Section A**

- Q1. The most controversial aspect of the Cattell-Horn model of intelligence is the exclusion of a general factor from the elaborated framework. Why does Horn not include  $g$  in his model? Describe the evidence critics of Horn's position use to argue for the importance of  $g$ .
- Q2. Burns et al. (2007) studied the relationship between individual differences on solving optimisation problems and cognitive abilities. Describe the rationale for their research and critically evaluate their findings and conclusions.
- Q3. Attention is a candidate for inclusion as part of a process model account of fluid ability ( $Gf$ ). Explain what this means.

**Section B**

- Q4. "Use it or lose it" commonly refers to maintaining life-long developed activities into old age; and there appears to be some basis to the claim for pursuits like scrabble and word games, chess, cross-word puzzles, playing music, and the like. But does it apply to less crystallized mental activities? Salthouse doubts it, although Schooler remains optimistic. Outline both positions and evaluate the evidence that they advance.
- Q5. Critically evaluate Deary's claim that childhood IQ predicts health and longevity in old age.
- Q6. Evaluate the suggestion that visual inspection time provides a means for assessing departure from normal patterns of advancing age.

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**