

- *25 Samantha has just made friends with a group of girls at school. The group always does what one girl, called Molly, asks them to do.

~~Amnesia~~
~~Obedience~~

While at school, Samantha was asked by Molly to punch a boy in the face, but she refused. The group of girls are told by Molly to gang up against Samantha during lunchtime in the canteen and she suffers a head injury.

Samantha's teacher asks her what happened during the incident and she cannot remember.

Assess Samantha's behaviour using **two** areas of psychology that you have studied.

(9)

Amnesia is a partial loss of long term memory that occurs as a result of ~~brain~~ brain damage or disease. The two types are retrograde amnesia (memory loss of events before brain damage) and anterograde amnesia (memory loss of events after brain damage). Obedience is behaving as instructed, usually in response to the orders of an authority figure.

Amnesia can be used to explain Samantha's behaviour as she ~~was~~ told the teacher that she could not remember what happened during the incident. This implies that she had retrograde amnesia, as she forgot about what happened before she ~~was~~ suffered the head injury, which must have been what caused her to forget. Obedience can be used to explain Samantha's behaviour as she is new to the friendship group, so does not yet see Molly as an authority figure like the other girls do. This explains why Samantha did not punch the boy in the face.



when Molly told her to, however the girls ganged up on Samantha after being instructed to.

~~The~~ ~~as Patient HM's~~ The case study on patient HM can explain help to explain why Samantha may have suffered amnesia, as HM suffered from retrograde amnesia for a short time after his surgery. ~~However~~ However, the case study on patient HM was only about one person so the ~~the~~ ~~findings~~ findings may not be generalisable to Samantha's situation.

~~At~~ Zimbardo's prison study can ~~be use~~ also be used to explain Samantha's situation, as the ~~guards~~ ~~in the study~~ ~~were~~ ~~abusive~~ prisoners in the study rebelled ~~against~~ against the guards on the second day, which is similar to how Samantha refused to do what Molly asked her to. However, this study was ~~not internally valid~~ only used male university students, and as Samantha is neither of those the results may not be representative of ~~the~~ what would happen in situations like Samantha's.

Overall, Samantha's behaviour can be explained by her having amnesia and therefore not remembering what happened, and her not seeing Molly as an authority figure, so she disobeyed her.



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* which is similar to how samantha could not remember
the events leading up to her ~~brain~~ ~~damage~~ head injury.

(Total for Question 25 = 9 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION F = 18 MARKS

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 98 MARKS

