

## SECTION F

Answer all questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

\*22 Major atrocities can reveal the most aggressive side of human behaviour.

Death and destruction during war and the purposeful killing of other humans have been studied in psychology to try to discover the potential causes of these acts.

Unearthing the causes of such acts may enable them to be prevented in the future.

Stanley Milgram conducted a series of experiments to study obedience to authority. Other researchers in psychology have investigated crowd behaviour, conformity, and the bystander effect. Research, such as this, has enabled psychologists to understand ways to prevent blind obedience, and the social and cultural issues in psychology.

Assess social and cultural issues in psychology.

*Soldiers  
Situational factor (9)*

*A social issue is conflict of a situation within society. For example the persecution of Jews in world war two and rioting in crowds. Milgram can be used to show the effects of ~~conflict~~ obedience on authority and ~~how~~ can be applied to social issues. Milgram found that the closer to authority figure was to the participant, the more likely they were to give the maximum electric shock and the closer the victim was to the participant the more likely they were to give the maximum shock. The more legitimate the context, the more likely they were to give the maximum shock. Such as if the environment and setting was realistic they are more likely to believe it is a real life situation. These are all situational factors affecting obedience to an authority figure. Milgram's study can be used to explain soldiers obedience to authority.*

*2000s  
nanny*



german citizens didn't help  
Deindividuation

figures in world war two who persecuting Jews. Soldiers were more likely to conform if their commanding officer was closer. The soldiers wore uniforms. ~~De~~ Deindividuation can be used to explain why soldiers conformed. They felt a loss of personal identity in uniform so they felt less responsible for the consequences of their actions. This is because they were taking part in a group behaviour with all Nazis who persecuting Jews. ~~B~~ Pluralistic Ignorance can be used to explain why German citizens didn't help Jews being persecuted. Other people didn't help so, nobody decided to intervene. This can also be explained by cost of helping and competence. The German citizens could not help as they may have been killed themselves. A strength of Milgram's Study is that it has many practical applications to soldier behaviour and can be used to explain conformity but a weakness of Milgram's Study is that it lacks ecological validity and real life application because giving shocks doesn't occur every day. This also caused distress to participants. Overall Milgram is effective in describing and explaining conformity in soldiers.

Society is a group of people living together in a situation. Another social issue within society is clothing and behaviour in crowds. Deindividuation



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Turn over ►

can be used to explain crowd behaviour. When people are in a crowd there is a loss of personal identity and a person looks to those around them on how to behave and adopt the behaviours and beliefs of the group. This leads to blind obedience when people obey orders even if they don't know what they are agreeing to as they want to fit in. This is shown in Zimbardo's study where prisoner-guard relationships were studied. The Navy funded this study to investigate increasing violence in naval camps. In Zimbardo, the guards were in uniform so experienced deindividuation which leads to increasingly violent behaviour as they are not responsible for their actions. A strength of Zimbardo is that ~~the~~ participants were fully immersed so his findings were representative of a real prisoner guard relationship. A weakness of Zimbardo is that he only studied males so his findings lacked generalisability. ~~This means~~ Overall many studies such as Milgram and Zimbardo are effective in explaining both social and cultural issues.

(Total for Question 22 = 9 marks)

