MRCPsych Papers 1 and 2: 600 EMIs

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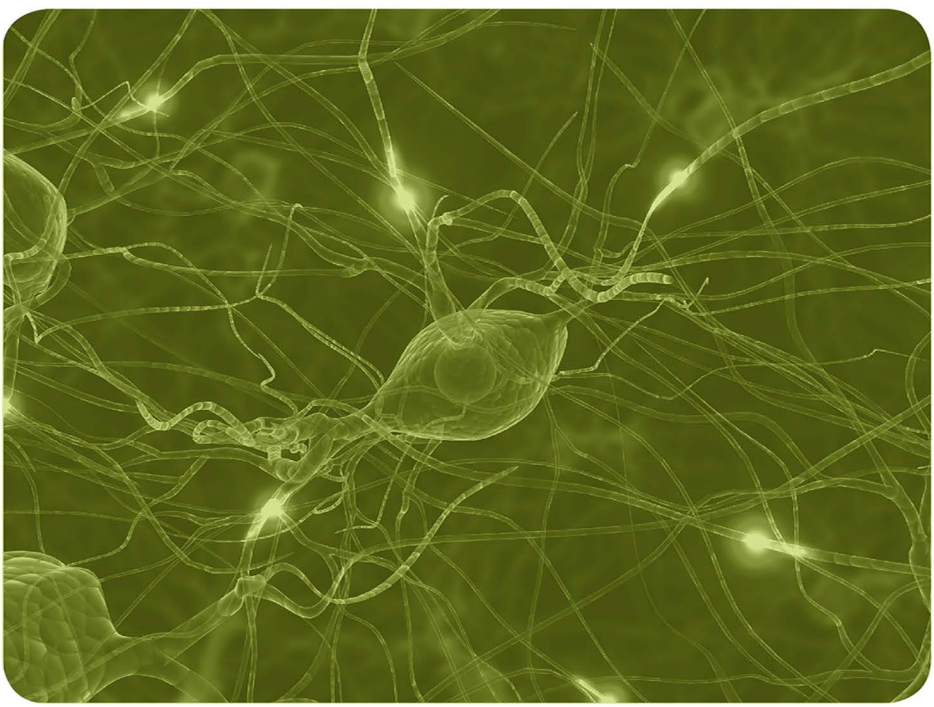

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Chapter 2

Test questions: 2

Questions: EMIs

HISTORY AND MENTAL STATE EXAMINATION

Theme: Interview techniques

Options for questions: 1–5

A Clarification
B Closed question
C Confrontation
D Empathy
E Facilitation
F Interpretation
G Open question
H Polythematic question
I Recapitulation
J Reflection
K Summation
L Sympathy

For each of the following questions, select the single most likely psychiatric interview technique. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

1. Do you hear voices or noises?

2. You seem very irritable when you talk about it.

3. What brings you to the hospital today?

4. Yes, and then? Go on 'tell me more about it.'

5. Do you hear voices throughout the day and what do these voices say?

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COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT

Theme: Disorders of speech

Options for questions: 6–9

A Broca's aphasia
B Conduction aphasia
C Global aphasia
D Nominal aphasia
E Pure word blindness
F Transcortical motor aphasia
G Transcortical sensory aphasia
H Wernicke's aphasia

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely speech disorder. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

6. A 40-year-old man presented with non-fluent aphasia

7. A 35-year-old man with the diagnosis of schizophrenia presented with jargon aphasia.

8. A 49-year-old man presented with difficulty in speech; his fluency and comprehension were intact but his ability with repetition and naming was lost.

9. A 55-year-old woman presented with speech that had intact fluency and repetition, but her ability with comprehension and naming was lost.

NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Theme: Disorders of speech

Options for questions: 10–13

A Aphonia
B Echolalia
C Flight of ideas
D Logoclonia
E Neologism
F Paragrammatism
G Parapraxis
H Stilted speech
I *Vorbeireden*

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely speech disorder. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

10. A 45-year-old man was involved in a road traffic accident a few days ago. Since then, he was suddenly unable to speak clearly although he started speaking in a whisper that was difficult to hear. When asked to speak louder, he appeared to make great efforts but was still barely audible.

11. When a 35-year-old man was asked 'What is the colour of the sky?', he replied 'green.' When he was asked 'How many legs does a horse have?', he replied 'five.'

12. A 47-year-old male company director was giving a presentation at a conference. In his introductory speech he remarked, 'Murder of these two companies is the best way to ensure survival in difficult times.'

13. A 10-year-old boy had his own words for things and expected others to know what he meant when he spoke.

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ASSESSMENT

Theme: Assessment of motor symptoms/signs in psychotic patients

Options for questions: 14–16

A Ambidextrous
B Ambitendency
C Automatic obedience
D Catalepsy
E Echopraxia
F *Mitgehen*
G Psychological pillow
H Stereotype

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely psychopathology. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

14. A 35-year-old man had had schizophrenia for many years. When his psychiatrist tried to greet him by shaking his hand, he initially put out his arm to shake hands, then withdrew it, and then extended it. He repeated this gesture at least 10 times in rapid succession before finally resting without reaching the psychiatrist's hand.

15. A 30-year-old single woman had schizophrenia and took her antipsychotic drug regularly. She attended the outpatient clinic for her 6-monthly reviews. When the psychiatrist touched the back of her left forearm with his forefinger, her arm moved up. On continued touching, her left upper arm stayed at shoulder level while the arm flexed at the elbow.

16. A 55-year-old single man had schizophrenia for several years. His mental state had remained stable on antipsychotic drugs. When his psychiatrist asked him to raise his right arm, he raised both arms and stood up with both arms raised. Every time he was asked to raise his right arm, he repeated this gesture.

AETIOLOGY

Theme: Suicide risk factors

Options for questions: 17–19

A Bereavement
B Childhood deprivation
C Life skills
D Onset of physical disease
E Relationship conflict
F Response to treatment

For each of the following factors below, select the single most likely suicide risk factor. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

17. Dynamic factor

18. Stable factor

19. Static factor

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DIAGNOSIS

Theme: ICD-10 diagnosis of common mental disorders

Options for questions: 20–22

A Adjustment disorder
B Bipolar affective disorder
C Emotionally unstable personality disorder (borderline type)
D Emotionally unstable personality disorder (impulsive type)
E Generalised anxiety disorder
F Hypochondriasis
G Post-traumatic stress disorder
H Somatisation disorder

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely diagnosis. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

20. A 48-year-old married man was involved in a road traffic accident 3 weeks ago. He complained of depressed mood, panic attacks, insomnia, and a feeling of being unable to cope with his work and home situation.

21. A 44-year-old woman has visited her general practitioner on numerous occasions over the past 2 years. She had been complaining of a variety of physical symptoms, e.g. bloating, diarrhoea, aches and pains in her abdomen, chest, head and joints, and fatigue, tingling and numbness of her hands. All investigations had proved negative and she felt reassured.

22. A 23-year-old male medical student had been concerned that the sensation of his heart beat had altered. He had been thoroughly investigated by his general practitioner. He had visited two cardiologists but was convinced that something had been missed. He was seeking another specialist opinion.

Theme: ICD-10 diagnosis of somatoform and dissociative disorders

Options for questions: 23–25

A Body dysmorphic disorder
B Conversion disorder
C Factitious disorder
D Hypochondriasis
E Malingering
F Multiple personality disorder
G Persistent somatoform pain disorder
H Somatisation disorder
I Undifferentiated somatoform disorder

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely diagnosis. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

23. A 45-year-old woman developed left-sided lower and right-sided upper limb weakness following the death of her mother a few weeks ago. Neurological assessment revealed no abnormalities.

24. A 53-year-old man repeatedly presented to his family doctor with chest pain, shortness of breath and paraesthesia in his left arm following the death of his father from myocardial infarction. He was convinced that he had 'heart disease' in spite of negative investigations and repeated reassurances from his doctor.

25. A 47-year-old married woman had a 10-year history of multiple and frequent symptoms of abdominal pain, bloated feeling, chest pains, dysmenorrhoea, copious vaginal discharge and fatigue. Multiple physical examinations and investigations had proved negative.

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Theme: Diagnosis of personality disorders

Options for questions: 26–29

A Anankastic personality disorder
B Anxious personality disorder
C Dissocial personality disorder
D Emotionally unstable personality disorder (borderline type)
E Emotionally unstable personality disorder (impulsive type)
F Histrionic personality disorder
G Paranoid personality disorder
H Narcissistic personality disorder
I Schizoid personality disorder
J Schizotypal personality disorder

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely diagnosis. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

26. A 29-year-old woman presented with shallow and labile affect; she sought excitement and activities where she was centre of attention and was inappropriately seductive in her behaviour.

27. A 27-year-old man presented with excessive feelings of doubts, perfectionism, checking and preoccupation with details.

28. A 30-year-old house wife presented with persistent feelings of tension, apprehension, a feeling of being inferior to others and avoidance of social activities.

29. A 25-year-old woman with a tendency to act unexpectedly without caring about the consequences presented with frequent outbusts of anger and violence. She was quarrelsome and got upset easily.

BASIC PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY

Theme: Mechanism of side effects of antipsychotic drugs

Options for questions: 30–32

A Akathisia
B Blurred vision
C Constipation
D Delayed ejaculation
E Hyperprolactinaemia
F Hypothermia
G Postural hypotension
H Prolonged QT interval
I Urinary retention
J Weight gain

For each of the following receptor blockades, select the most likely side effect as instructed. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

30. D_2-receptor-like blockade (select THREE options).

31. Acetylcholine blockade (select THREE options).

32. Noradrenergic α_1-receptor blockade (select TWO options).

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BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

Theme: Emotions

Options for questions: 33–36

A Cannon and Bard
B Darwin
C Ekman
D Fish
E James-Lange
F Pavlov
G Schachler and Singer
H Skinner

For each of the following descriptions, select the single person most likely to be involved. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

33. The expression of emotion in man: stated that particular emotional responses, e.g. facial expressions, tend to accompany the emotions in humans of all races and cultures, even those who are born blind.

34. The subjective emotion is quite independent of psychological changes. The thalamus processes the emotion-producing stimulus and sends the information to the cortex, where emotion is consciously experienced, and to the hypothalamus which sets in motion the autonomic psychological changes.

35. Cognitive labelling of emotions.

36. Peripheralist theory of emotion.

HUMAN PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Theme: Piaget's stages of cognitive development

Options for questions: 37–40

A Animism
B Circular reaction
C Conservation
D Egocentrism
E Hypothetico-deductive reasoning
F Lack of conservation
G Logical thought
H Object permanence
I Propositional thought
J Syncretism
K Transductive reasoning

For each of the following stages of Piaget's cognitive development, select the two most likely concepts. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

37. Concrete operational stage

38. Formal operational stage

39. Preoperational stage

40. Sensorimotor stage

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SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Theme: Neuropsychological tests

Options for questions: 41–44

A Test of face processing
B Test of language function
C Test of reading ability
D Test of working memory
E Test of writing ability
F Tests for unilateral neglect
G Test of visual object agnosias

For each of the following neuropsychological tests, select the single most likely use of the test. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

41. Letter or star cancellation tests

42. Peabody picture vocabulary test

43. Single-letter identification

44. Spontaneous writing of sentences

DESCRIPTION AND MEASUREMENT

Theme: Assessment of personality

Options for questions: 45–48

A 16 Personality factor questionnaire
B Draw-a-person test
C Eysenck personality questionnaire
D Minnesota multiphasic personality inventory
E Personality diagnostic questionnaire IV
F Rorschach's test
G Sentence completion test
H Thematic apperception test

For each of the following descriptions, select the single most likely test that describes it best. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

45. This instrument was developed through factor analysis. It measures dimensions of introversion, extroversion, psychoticism and social desirability.

46. This instrument was developed empirically with the original intent to create a measure of psychopathology. It provides scores on 10 clinical domains.

47. This instrument consists of 10 symmetrical inkblots and participants are asked to describe them.

48. This instrument consists of 20 cards presenting vague pictures on black and white blank cards. The participants are asked to create a story to fit each picture and explain what led up to the event in the picture.

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DESCRIPTIVE PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

Theme: Disorders of perception

Options for questions: 49–51

A Autoscopic hallucination
B Delusional perception
C *Écho de la pensée*
D Elementary hallucination
E Extracampine hallucination
F *Gedankenlautwerden*
G Hypnagogic hallucination
H Hypnopompic hallucination

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely psychopathology. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

49. A 19-year-old man complained that his friends anticipated his thoughts and spoke them out loud just before he could think of them.

50. A 45-year-old woman complained of being very frightened as she could hear a bell tolling wherever she was.

51. A 31-year-old woman believed that she had been bewitched because she could see herself in front of where she was standing.

Theme: Disorders of perception

Options for questions: 52–54

A Affect illusion
B Autoscopic hallucination
C Eidetic imagery
D Elementary hallucination
E Extracampine hallucination
F Haptic hallucination
G Hyperschemazia
H Paraschemazia
I Pareidolia

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely perceptual disorder. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

52. A 36-year-old woman described being able to see an intense, detailed picture even when there was nothing there. She could also make it go away.

53. A 17-year-old girl became convinced that she had a twin for a few minutes at a time. She often saw herself sitting just in front of where she was.

54. A 78-year-old woman described seeing several noisy people sitting behind her. However, when she turned around they would disappear.

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BASIC ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHIATRY

Theme: Ethical principles in clinical practice

Options for questions: 55–58

A Autonomy
B Beneficence
C Empiricism
D Justice
E Non-maleficence
F Paternalism
G Therapeutic privilege
H Utilitarianism

For each of the following cases, select the single most likely ethical principle that describes it best. Each option may be used once, more than once or not at all.

55. The psychiatrist informed a 55-year-old man with Alzheimer's disease about his diagnosis, treatment and prognosis to enable him to make decisions about the future.

56. The psychiatrist informed a 78-year-old woman with Alzheimer's disease that the best thing to do to enable her to have a good quality of life was to go into a care home. In order not to make it too complex for her, the psychiatrist did not explain her other alternatives.

57. The psychiatrist decided not to tell a 72-year-old man with Alzheimer's disease about his diagnosis and prognosis despite the request to do so. The psychiatrist had judged that the patient was too emotionally unstable to cope with the consequences of his illness and that he might kill himself.

58. The psychiatrist who was treating a 64-year-old man with Alzheimer's dementia believed that prescribing antipsychotic medication to inpatients with behaviour problems was part of the requirement to do good to the patient.

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Answers: EMIs

1. B Closed question

This is one of the directive techniques which includes when, how and what questions. Closed questioning expects a limited range of replies. In general, start the interview with open questions and proceed with more focused and closed questions to clarify the factual points.

2. F Interpretation

This means interpreting the situation, non-verbal and verbal communication with the patient and explaining it to him or her.

3. G Open question

Open-ended questions are used to initiate the interview and allow free narration. They usually start with 'Describe', 'Tell me', etc. They reflect an area for further exploration by the psychiatrist.

4. E Facilitation

This helps the patients to continue the conversation using verbal or non-verbal gestures to express interest. 'Yes', 'go-on', 'proceed', 'and then', 'uh-huh' are some of the facilitation techniques.

5. H Polythematic question

Reflections are repetitions of the patient's statements to let the patient know that the psychiatrist is taking an interest. Polythematic questioning, compound questioning or run-on questioning is an obstructive technique with two or more questions in a single statement confusing the patient.

6. A Broca's aphasia

Aphasia is a problem of language reception, production and processing. Most of the time aphasia is organic. Fluency depends on intact Broca's area and its forward connections. A defect in naming the objects is called anomia and it accompanies any aphasia to varying degrees. In Broca's motor aphasia, fluency, repetition and naming are lost but comprehension is intact.

7. H Wernicke's aphasia

Comprehension depends on intact Wernicke's area and it further connections with the association cortex and sensory input. In Wernicke's aphasia, fluency is intact but repetition, comprehension and naming are lost. Comprehension is lost for both spoken and written language. Language is fluent but highly paraphasic; sometimes neologisms and circumlocution are also seen, so it is also called jargon aphasia.

8. B Conduction aphasia

Sound is received by the ears and transmitted to Wernicke's area and auditory association cortex, which is responsible for processing the language component.

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9. G Transcortical sensory aphasia

Repetition requires no higher level of functioning. Repetition can take place if Broca's area, Wernicke's area and arcuate fasciculus are intact. Therefore, in conduction aphasia, repetition and naming are lost but fluency and comprehension are intact.

In transcortical sensory aphasia, comprehension and naming are lost but fluency and repetition are intact.

10. A Aphonia

This is a common speech disorder. It can be complete (mutism) or incomplete when, within sounds produced there are usually no recognisable words at all. 'Mutism' is a condition in which the person does not speak or make attempt at spoken communication despite the preservation of an adequate level of consciousness.

11. I *Vorbeireden*

This is talking past the point, that is, the person understands what has been asked but has responded by talking about an associated topic. It occurs in dissociative/conversion disorder, i.e. Ganser's syndrome, and schizophrenia especially among adolescents and in catatonic states.

12. G Parapraxis

Freud applied the term 'parapraxis' to symptomatic acts such as slips of the tongue or mislaying of objects.

13. E Neologism

This may be new words that are constructed by the patient or ordinary words that are used in a new way. It is a term that is usually applied to new word formations produced by patients with schizophrenia.

14. B Ambitendency

This can be regarded as a mild variety of negativism or the result of obstruction. The patient makes a series of tentative movements that do not reach the intended goal when he or she is expected to carry out a voluntary action.

15. F *Mitgehen*

This can be regarded as an extreme form of cooperation because the patient moves his or her body in the direction of the slightest pressure by the examiner. When examining for *mitgehen* and cooperation, the patient must understand that he or she is expected to resist the examiner's efforts to move him or her.

16. C Automatic obedience

In this case, the patient carries out every instruction regardless of the consequence. Some psychiatrists have used the term 'command automatism' as a synonym for automatic obedience, waxy flexibility, echolalia and echopraxia.

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17. E Relationship conflict

The dynamic factors are substance abuse, anxiety symptoms, relationship conflicts, cognitions and compliance with treatment.

18. C Life skills

The stable factors are age, enduring mental illness, personality, marital/parenting status and life skills.

19. B Childhood deprivation

Bouch and Marshall suggested that the static factors in suicide are gender, family background, history of overdose and childhood deprivation.

20. A Adjustment disorder

This is state of subjective distress and emotional disturbance, which usually interferes with social functioning and performance. It arises in a period of adaptation to a significant life change or a stressful life event.

21. H Somatisation disorder

The main features of somatisation disorder are multiple, recurrent and frequently changing physical symptoms of at least 2 years' duration. Most patients have a long and complicated history of contact with both primary and secondary medical care services. Its course is chronic and fluctuating.

22. F Hypochondriasis

The essential feature of hypochondriasis is a persistent preoccupation with the possibility of having one or more serious and progressive physical disorders. Patients manifest persistent somatic complaints or a persistent preoccupation with their physical appearance.

23. B Conversion disorder

The diagnosis of a conversion disorder should be made with great caution in the presence of physical disorders of the system, or in a previously well-adjusted individual with normal family and social relationships. The symptoms can often be seen to represent the patient's concept of physical disorders which may be at variance with physiological or anatomical principles.

24. A Body dysmorphic disorder

This is the DSM term for a subgroup of the broader, but ill-defined, clinical syndrome of dysmorphophobia. The typical patient with this disorder is convinced that some part of his or her body is too large, too small or misshapen. To other people, this is normal or the abnormality is trivial.

25. H Somatisation disorder

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ISBN 978-1-907816-41-3