# Personality TEST

*(5 minutes reading time. Do not write in your booklet during this time. Make notes on the scribble paper provided.)*

**SECTION A: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

(20 marks)

1. Describe one criticism of psychodynamic theories of personality.

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2 marks

1. Donna has a personality disorder which interrupts her ability to function effectively on a daily basis. To overcome her illness, Donna is seeking help in the form of psychotherapy.

Describe one form of psychotherapy that may assist Donna to overcome her mental health illness.

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4 marks

1. As a result of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), many companies are tightening their strings and doing whatever they can to maintain their operation and profit. One company has decided to hire an organisational psychologist to conduct personality assessments on the workers with the aim to increase their productivity.

(a) Describe one form of personality test that you could use.

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2 marks

(b) Describe what is involved in this personality test.

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2 marks

(c) Explain how the information obtained from the personality test could increase the workers productivity for the company.

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4 marks

(d) Describe one limitation associated with this personality assessment.

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2 marks

1. Henry is an inexperienced school principal who often finds himself in situations that require him to deal with conflict. To improve his communication ability when dealing with conflict, Henry undertakes assertiveness training.

Describe the assertiveness training Henry will be undertaking and how it will help him as school principal.

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4 marks

1. The training to become a psychiatrist is long and demanding. Many psychiatrists who begin training do not finish. Selecting psychiatrists with suitable personalities might increase the proportion of students who complete the training.
2. Describe one way to assess psychiatrists to select those with the most suitable personalities.

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4 marks

1. Describe an ethical consideration that would be involved in this process.

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2 marks

1. Maxine has repressed her traumatising childhood memories. Explain how psychoanalysis would be used to help Maxine overcome her trauma.

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4 marks

(20 marks)

*Answer the following question in this section on the pages provided. You should spend 5 minutes planning and 20 minutes writing.*

1. Erin Brockovich has always loved going head to head with the big boys and was never intimated by their bravado. She learned how to come out on top from her tight-knit mid-western family in Lawrence, Kansas. Erin was the youngest child of an industrial engineer father and journalist mother. Her parents always believed that she could do anything she set her mind to if she learned to focus her amazing energy.

After a few years roaming around at various colleges, Erin decided that she wanted to be a California girl. She first landed a job as a management trainee for K-Mart but when that didn’t make her swagger, she decided to study electrical engineering. But that wasn’t enough for the Kansas beauty… on a fluke, she entered the Miss Pacific Coast beauty pageant… and, not surprising, won the title.

When she realised that beauty pageants weren’t her thing, Erin, her husband and two children settled in Reno, Nevada. After divorcing, the single mother became a secretary at a brokerage firm where she met and married her second husband. But that marriage was short lived and the now mother of three was solo again. Up until this point, Erin was the average divorced single mother trying to make a living… until she crossed paths with lawyer, Ed Masry, and changed the course of both their lives.

After being seriously injured in a traffic accident in Reno, Erin moved back to California’s San Fernando Valley, and hired Masry & Vititoe to represent her. They won a small settlement but she still needed work so she got a job at their law firm as a file clerk, it was while organising papers on a pro bono real estate case that Erin first found medical records that would explode into the largest direct action lawsuit in US history.

Erin’s exhaustive investigation uncovered that Pacific Gas & Electric had been poisoning the small town of Hinkley’s Water for over 30 years. It was because of Erin’s unwavering tenacity that PG & E had been exposed for leaking toxic Chromium 6 into the ground water. This poison affected the health of the population of Hinkley. In 1996, as a result of the largest direct action lawsuit of its kind, spear-headed by Erin and Ed Masry, the utility giant was forced to pay out the largest toxic tort injury settlement in US history: $333 million in damages to more than 600 Hinkley residents.

“Erin Brockovich” became a household name. Over time, Erin realized that she could use her notoriety to spread positive messages of personal empowerment and to encourage others to stand up and make a difference. Because of her fighting spirit, Erin has become the champion of countless women and men. Erin receives thousands of “Dear Erin” letters and emails each year from people who are begging for help and support in their own personal struggles. Erin proudly answers every one of them.

As President of Brockovich Research & Consulting, she is currently involved in numerous environmental projects worldwide. Erin is one of the most requested speakers on the international lecture circuit and travels the world for personal appearances. Erin Brockovich is a true American hero who’s icon status and “stick-to-it-iveness” only fuels her determination to expose injustice and lend her voice to those who do not have one.

She has requests for her help in ground water contamination complaints in every state of the US, Australia and other international hot spots. She is currently working on cases in California, Texas, Florida, Michigan, Illinois and Missouri.

(adapted from <http://www.brockovich.com/mystory.html>)

Discuss psychological principles of personality, including:

* a description of Erin’s personality using one humanistic theory of personality
* one criticism of the humanistic approach to personality
* a description of Erin’s personality using one trait theory of personality
* one criticism of the trait approach to personality

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