VCE Psychology: Performance descriptors

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| **PSYCHOLOGY**  **SCHOOL-ASSESSED COURSEWORK** | | | | | |
| **Performance descriptors** | | | | | |
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| ***Unit 3***  ***Outcome 1***  ***Explain how the structure and function of the human nervous system enables a person to interact with the external world and analyse the different ways in which stress can affect nervous system functioning.*** | **DESCRIPTOR: typical performance in each range** | | | | |
| **Very low** | **Low** | **Medium** | **High** | **Very high** |
| Limited understanding and description of the structure and function of the human nervous system. | Some understanding and explanation of the structure and function of the human nervous system. | Sound understanding and explanation of the structure and function of the human nervous system. | Detailed understanding and explanation of the structure and function of the human nervous system. | Comprehensive understanding and explanation of the structure and function of the human nervous system. |
| Limited description of how human nervous system structure and function enables human interaction with the external world. | Some explanation of how human nervous system structure and function enables human interaction with the external world. | Appropriate explanation of how human nervous system structure and function enables human interaction with the external world. | Well-developed explanation of how human nervous system structure and function enables human interaction with the external world. | Insightful and integrated explanation of how human nervous system structure and function enables human interaction with the external world. |
| Very limited analysis of the usefulness and limitations of models that explain stress as both a biological and a psychological process. | Limited analysis of the usefulness and limitations of models that explain stress as both a biological and a psychological process. | Satisfactory analysis of the usefulness and limitations of models that explain stress as both a biological and a psychological process. | Well-considered analysis of the usefulness and limitations of models that explain stress as both a biological and a psychological process. | Sophisticated analysis of the usefulness and limitations of models that explain stress as both a biological and a psychological process. |
| Limited description of the effects of stress on nervous system functioning and mechanisms of coping. | Some analysis of the effects of stress on nervous system functioning and mechanisms of coping. | Relevant analysis of the effects of stress on nervous system functioning and mechanisms of coping. | Well-considered analysis of the effects of stress on nervous system functioning and mechanisms of coping. | Comprehensive analysis and discussion of the effects of stress on nervous system functioning and mechanisms of coping. |

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|  | Very limited use of psychological terminology, representations, conventions and scientific data. | Some appropriate use of psychological terminology, representations, conventions and scientific data. | Satisfactory use of most psychological terminology, representations, conventions and scientific data. | Effective and appropriate use of psychological terminology, representations, conventions and scientific data. | Proficient, complete and appropriate use of psychological terminology, representations, conventions and scientific data. |

KEY to marking scale based on the outcome contributing 50 marks

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| Very Low 1–10 | Low 11–20 | Medium 21–30 | High 31–40 | Very High 41–50 |