

National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

Summer Examinations 1998

B.A. in Economic and Social Studies

Health Psychology

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Time Allowed 3 hours

Answer 4 questions

Use a separate answer book for each question

- 1) Current perspectives on health and illness involve the interplay of biological, psychological and social aspects of a person's life. Describe the emergence and relevance of this approach.
- 2) Describe how the Health Belief Model attempts to predict health behaviours, supporting your answer with two specific examples. How useful is this model in understanding health behaviour?
- 3) 'Our language of course tells us something of where we are, we now speak of coping to refer to what was once called living'. Discuss.
- 4) Outline the evidence that social support effects levels of morbidity in society. How could we apply our knowledge of social support to improve the health of individuals or communities?
- 5) '...adjustment to an illness or injury which is life-threatening or potentially disabling may require considerable coping effort' (Cohen & Lazarus, 1979). Discuss this statement with reference to current theories of coping with chronic illness.
- 6) The concept of illness behaviour draws attention to biological and non-biological factors. Discuss with examples.