Biological explanation and treatment of OCD ESQs

**Q1.** Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

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|  | Researchers analysed the behaviour of over 4000 pairs of twins. The results showed that the degree to which obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is inherited is between 45% and 65%. |

(a)     Distinguish between obsessions and compulsions.

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(b)     With reference to the study described above, what do the results seem to show about possible influences on the development of OCD?

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**Q2.** Describe how anti-depressants are used to treat OCD

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**Q3.**

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|  | Gavin describes his daily life.  ‘I sometimes get gripped with the thought that my family is in danger. In particular, I worry about them being trapped in a house fire. I now find that I can only calm myself if I check that every plug socket is switched off so an electrical fire couldn’t start. I used to switch each socket on and off, but now I have to press each switch six times. It takes me ages to leave the house’. |

Outline **two** characteristics of obsessive-compulsive disorder. Refer to Gavin in your answer.

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**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q4.** Two different drug therapies were tested on a group of patients. All the patients suffered with the same anxiety disorder. Half the patients were given **Therapy A** and the other half were given **Therapy B**. Improvement was assessed on a scale from 0-25, where 0 = no improvement. The table below shows the improvement made between the start and the end of the treatment.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Average** | **Range** |
|  | **Therapy A** | 6.5 | 2 – 19 |
|  | **Therapy B** | 6 | 4 – 9 |

Explain what these findings suggest about the different therapies?

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