**Discuss research into the breakdown of romantic relationships.**

***(8 marks + 16 marks)***

**AO1:**

**Either**: Duck (1999) 3 Reasons for Relationship Breakdown**: Lack of skills, Lack of Stimulation, Maintenance difficulties**

**OR** Rollie and Duck (2006): Model of Relationship Breakdown:

Breakdown,

Intra-Psychic processes,

Dyadic processes,

Social processes,

Grave-dressing processes,

Resurrection processes.

**AO2: Commentary on/Evaluation of Duck (1999)**

+ Practical application: CCET. Learn better listening/communication/problem-solving skills. Cina et al (2003) study of 50 married couples (12 yr ave. rel) higher marital quality after CCET than control group.

+ Boekhout et al (1999) Affairs are down to lack of skills in current rel or lack of stimulation. Men; sexual reasons for infidelity. Women; emotional reasons.

-Holt and Stone (1988) there is little decrease in relationship satisfaction as long as the couple can reunite regularly

-Ethical issues: vulnerability, privacy, confidentiality.