

Psychology A-Level March Mock Assessment & Revision List

You will be sitting 2 papers

1. Full paper 2

2. Amalgamated paper that reflects a paper 3 exam. You will cover Schizophrenia / aggression / gender / methods(*instead of debates*)

This is because you will not have been taught the whole content for debates. Methods also tends to be the area students struggle with most so assessing as much as possible will be beneficial.

1. Full paper 2

Research Methods:

- Experimental method. Types of experiments
- Observational techniques.
- Self-report techniques.
- Correlations. Analysis
- Content analysis.
- Case studies.
- Aims: the difference between aims and hypotheses.
- Hypotheses:
- Sampling:
- Pilot studies and the aims of piloting.
- Experimental designs
- Observational design:
- Questionnaire construction,
- Variables: manipulation, control and operationalisation of variables.
- Controls and standardisation.
- Ethics
- The role of peer review in the scientific process.
- The implications of psychological research for the economy.
- Reliability
- Types of validity
- Features of science:
- Reporting psychological investigations.
- Data
- Descriptive statistics:
- Presentation and display of quantitative data:.
- Distributions.
- Levels of measurement:
- Content analysis
- Inferential testing

Approaches

- Learning approaches:
 - i) the behaviourist approach, ii) social learning theory
- The cognitive approach: neuroscience.
- The biological approach:
- The psychodynamic approach:
- Humanistic Psychology:
- Comparison of approaches.

Biopsychology:

- The divisions of the nervous system:
- The structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons. The process of synaptic transmission,
- The function of the endocrine system: glands and hormones.
- The fight or flight response including the role of adrenaline.
- Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation:
- Ways of studying the brain:
- Biological rhythms:

2. Amalgamated paper reflecting a paper 3 – you will also be assessed on Methods (see previous page)

Schizophrenia:

- Classification of schizophrenia. Positive symptoms and Negative symptoms
- Reliability and validity in diagnosis and classification of schizophrenia,.
- Biological explanations for schizophrenia:
- Psychological explanations for schizophrenia:
- Drug therapy: typical and atypical antipsychotics.
- Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy as used in the treatment of schizophrenia. Token economies as used in the management of schizophrenia.
- The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia; the diathesis-stress model.

Aggression:

- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression, aggression,
- The ethological explanation of aggression,.
- Evolutionary explanations of human aggression.
- Social psychological explanations of human aggression,
- Institutional aggression in the context of prisons: dispositional and situational explanations.
- Media influences on aggression, including the effects of computer games. The role of desensitisation, disinhibition and cognitive priming.

Gender:

- Sex and gender. Sex-role stereotypes.
- The role of chromosomes and hormones (testosterone, oestrogen and oxytocin) in sex and gender.
- Cognitive explanations of gender development, Kohlberg's theory, gender identity, gender stability and gender constancy; gender schema theory.
- Psychodynamic explanation of gender development, Freud's psychoanalytic theory, Oedipus complex; Electra complex; identification and internalisation.
- Social learning theory as applied to gender development. The influence of culture and media on gender roles.
- Atypical gender development: gender dysphoria; biological and social

		explanations for gender dysphoria.
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