

Paper 1

Memory

- Multistore model of memory (including features of short and long term memory)
- Working memory model
- Theories of forgetting
- Types of long term memories
- Factors affecting eye witness testimony (misleading information, and anxiety)
- Improving eye witness testimony

Attachment

- Caregiver—infant interactions in humans
- Stages of attachment (Schaffer)
- Animal studies (Lorenz and Harlow)
- Learning theory explanation of attachment
- Bowlby's monotropic explanation of attachment
- Ainsworth's 'strange situation' and types of attachment
- Cultural variations in attachment
- Bowlby and maternal deprivation hypothesis
- Effects of institutionalisation
- Influence of early attachment on childhood and adulthood

Social influence

- Types of conformity
- Explanations of conformity
- Variables affecting conformity
- Conformity to social roles (Zimbardo)
- Explanations for obedience
- Situational and dispositional explanations of obedience
- Explanations of resistance to social influence
- Minority influence: consistency, commitment and flexibility
- Role of social influence process in social change

Psychopathology

- Definitions of abnormality
- Characteristics of OCD, Phobias and Depression
- Behavioural explanation and treatment of phobias
- Cognitive explanation and treatment of depression
- Biological explanation and treatment of OCD

Paper 2

Approaches in Psychology

- Origin of Psychology: Wundt
- Assumptions of the learning approaches (Behaviourist approach and the social learning approach)
- Assumptions of the cognitive approach and emergence of cognitive neuroscience
- Assumptions of the biological approach
- Assumptions of the psychodynamic approach
- Assumptions of humanistic psychology and the influence on counselling psychology
- Comparison of all approaches

Biopsychology

- Divisions of the nervous system
- Structure and function of neurons
- Synaptic transmissions
- Function of the endocrine system
- Localisation of function in the brain
- Language centres in the brain
- Ways of studying the brain
- Hemispheric lateralisation of the brain including split brain research
- Biological rhythms
- Effect of endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers on the sleep wake cycle

Research methods

- Experimental methods/types of experiments
- Observation techniques and design
- Self report techniques
- Correlations and co-efficients
- Content analysis and thematic analysis
- Case studies
- Aims, hypothesis and variables
- Control: random allocation, counterbalancing, randomisation and standardisation
- Sampling techniques and populations
- Pilot studies
- Experimental group designs
- Demand characteristics and investigator effects
- Ethics, BPS, and dealing with issues
- Peer review in the scientific process
- Implications of psychological research for the economy
- Reliability and validity across all methods of investigation, including types
- Ways of assessing reliability and validity
- Key features of science
- Reporting psychological investigations and sections of a report
- Qualitative and quantitative data
- Primary and secondary data
- Descriptive statistics
- Display of qualitative data
- Normal and skewed distributions
- Analysis of correlation
- Levels of measurement
- The sign test
- Choosing statistical tests
- Statistical and critical value tables
- Type 1 and 2 errors
- Probability and significance in tests

Paper 3

Option: Addiction

- Describing addiction
- Risk factors in developing addiction
- Explanations for nicotine addiction
- Explanations for gambling addiction
- Reducing addiction
- Application of behaviour change theories to addictive behaviour

Option: Schizophrenia Studied in year 2

- Classification and symptoms
- Reliability and validity issues
- Biological explanations
- Psychological explanations
- Interactionist explanation and treatment
- Drug therapies for treatment
- CBT and family therapy for treatment
- Token economies for treatment

Option: Aggression Studied in year 2

- Neural and hormonal mechanisms
- Ethological explanations
- Evolutionary explanations
- Social psychological explanations
- Institutional aggression in prisons
- Media influences on aggression

Option: Eating Behaviour

- Explanations for food preferences
- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in the control of eating behaviour
- Biological explanations of anorexia nervosa and obesity
- Psychological explanations for anorexia nervosa and obesity
- Explanations for success and failure of dieting

Option: Stress

- Physiology of stress
- Stress and illness
- Sources of stress
- Measuring stress
- Individual differences in stress
- Managing and coping with stress
- The role of social support

Option: Forensics

- Offender profiling approaches
- Biological explanations of offending
- Psychological explanations of offending
- Dealing with offender behaviour
- Recidivism

Option: Gender Studied in year 2

- Sex, gender, stereotypes and androgyny
- The role of hormones and chromosomes
- Atypical sex chromosome patterns
- Cognitive explanations of gender
- Psychodynamic explanations of gender
- Social learning theory applied to gender
- The influence of culture and media
- Atypical gender development: Explanations of gender dysphoria

Option: Relationships

- Evolutionary explanations for partner preference
- Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships
- Theories of romantic relationships
- Virtual relationships in social media
- Parasocial relationships

Option: Cognition & development

- Piaget's theory of cognitive development
- Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development
- Baillargeons' explanation of early infant abilities
- Development of social cognition
- The role of mirror neurons

Issues and Debates Studied in year 2

- Gender and culture bias in psychology
- Free will and determinism
- Reductionism and holism
- Idiographic and nomothetic approaches in psychological investigation
- Ethical implications of research, including social sensitivity
- The nature and nurture debate (including the interactionist approach)



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