Psychology Knowledge Organiser – Cognition and Development

Core knowledge

- Piaget's theory of cognitive development: schemas, assimilation, accommodation, equilibration, stages of intellectual development. Characteristics of these stages, including object permanence, conservation, egocentrism and class inclusion.
- Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development, including the zone of proximal development and scaffolding.
- Baillargeon's explanation of early infant abilities, including knowledge of the physical world; violation of expectation research.
- The development of social cognition: Selman's levels of perspectivetaking; theory of mind, including theory of mind as an explanation for autism; the Sally-Anne study. The role of the mirror neuron system in social cognition.

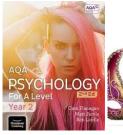
Key words

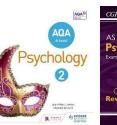
Schema
Assimilation
Accommodation
Equilibrium
Disequilibrium
Object permanence
Egocentrism

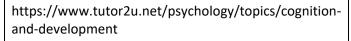
Class inclusion
Conservation
Scaffolding
Violation of expectation
Mirror neuron

Animal extrapolation

Wider reading







Exam Skill

| Analyse | Separate information into components and identify their characteristics. | | | | |
|-------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Calculate | Work out the value of something | | | | |
| Choose | Select from a range of alternatives. | | | | |
| Comment | Present an informed opinion. | | | | |
| Compare | Identify similarities and/or differences. | | | | |
| Complete | Finish a task by adding to given information. | | | | |
| Consider | Review and respond to given information. | | | | |
| Describe | Give an account of. | | | | |
| Design | Set out how something will be done. | | | | |
| Discuss | Present key points about different ideas or strengths and weaknesses of an idea. | | | | |
| Distinguish | Explain ways in which two things differ. Provide detail of characteristic that enable a person to know the difference between | | | | |
| Draw | Produce a diagram. | | | | |
| Evaluate | Judge from available evidence. | | | | |
| Explain | Set out purposes or reasons. | | | | |
| Explain how | Give a detailed account of a process or way of doing something. | | | | |
| Explain why | Give a detailed account of reasons in relation to a particular situation. | | | | |
| Identify | Name or otherwise characterise. | | | | |
| Give | Produce an answer from recall or from given information. | | | | |
| Justify | Provide reasons, reasoned argument to support, possibly provide evidence. | | | | |
| Label | Provide appropriate names on a diagram. | | | | |
| Name | Identify using a recognised technical term. | | | | |
| Outline | Set out main characteristics. | | | | |
| Select | Choose or pick out from alternatives. | | | | |
| State | Express in clear terms. | | | | |
| Suggest | Present a possible case/solution. | | | | |
| Which is | Select from alternatives. | | | | |
| What is | Give a definition. | | | | |
| meant by | | | | | |
| Write | Provide information in verbatim form. | | | | |