

Psychology Knowledge Organiser – Addiction

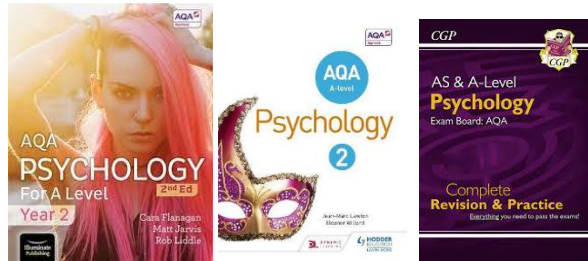
Core knowledge

- Describing addiction: physical and psychological dependence, tolerance and withdrawal syndrome.
- Risk factors in the development of addiction, including genetic vulnerability, stress, personality, family influences and peers.
- Explanations for nicotine addiction: brain neurochemistry, including the role of dopamine, and learning theory as applied to smoking behaviour, including reference to cue reactivity.
- Explanations for gambling addiction: learning theory as applied to gambling, including reference to partial and variable reinforcement; cognitive theory as applied to gambling, including reference to cognitive bias.
- Reducing addiction: drug therapy; behavioural interventions, including aversion therapy and covert sensitisation; cognitive behaviour therapy.
- The application of the following theories of behaviour change to addictive behaviour; the theory of planned behaviour and Prochaska's six-stage model of behaviour change.

Key words

Physical dependence
Psychological dependence
Tolerance
Withdrawal
Neurochemistry
Reinforcement
Social learning
Dopamine
Aversion therapy
Covert sensitisation

Wider reading



<https://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-addiction.html>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/topics/addiction>

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/basics/addiction>

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/addiction-support/drug-addiction-getting-help/>

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 meant by	Give a definition.
Write	Provide information in verbatim form.

