

Psychology Knowledge Organiser – Paper 3 Issues and Options in Psychology

Aim A – Demonstrate understanding of key issues & debates within psychology, including in relation to topics, research & approaches studied throughout the course.	Aim B – Assess models/theories/research to determine how well they explain how children develop, as well as consider how they can be applied to real life settings.	Aim C - Demonstrate knowledge of the process of diagnosis & the theories which have been proposed to explain schizophrenia, whilst assessing how well they have been tested & the success of the treatments developed based on these theories.	Aim D – Describe the key features of addiction, as well evaluate the various theories proposed to explain nicotine & gambling addictions & the various treatment/models of behaviour change used to reduce addiction.
<p>In this section you will be considering the reasons for behaviour by reflecting on four key psychological debates, as well as two key issues within psychology. You will also assess the ethical implications of psychological research.</p> <p>Gender & culture in Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Universality & bias - Alpha & beta bias - Ethnocentrism & cultural relativism <p>Free will & determinism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hard & soft determinism - Biological, environmental & psychic determinism - The scientific emphasis on causal explanations <p>The nature-nurture debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relative importance of heredity & environment in determining behaviour - The interactionist approach <p>Holism & reductionism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Levels of explanation in Psychology - Biological & environmental reductionism <p>Idiographic & nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation</p>	<p>In this section you will be considering how children develop cognitively & socially by looking at the theories & research of key psychologists in the field of cognitive development. You will also assess how research findings can be applied to support the development of children in the real world.</p> <p>Piaget’s theory of cognitive development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schemas - Assimilation - Accommodation - Equilibration - Characteristics of intellectual stages of development <p>Vygotsky’s theory of cognitive development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zone of proximal development - Scaffolding <p>Baillargeon’s explanation of early infant abilities, including knowledge of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The physical world - Violation of expectation research <p>The development of social cognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selman’s levels of perspective-taking - Theory of mind as an explanation for autism - The Sally-Anne study - The role of the mirror neuron system in social cognition 	<p>In this section you will be considering how psychologists apply various psychological approaches to schizophrenia in order to form theories to explain the disorder & suggest treatments for the disorder. You will also assess the validity & reliability of diagnosing this complex disorder.</p> <p>Classification of schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive symptoms - Negative symptoms <p>Reliability & validity in diagnosis and classification of schizophrenia, including reference to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-morbidity - Culture - Gender bias - Symptom overlap <p>Biological explanations for schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genetics - Neural correlates - The dopamine hypothesis <p>Psychological explanations for schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family dysfunction - Cognitive explanations 	<p>In this section you will be considering the key features of addiction & various theories which have been proposed to explain two common addictions. You will also evaluate the treatment options available to addicts, as well as models of behaviour change.</p> <p>Describing addiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Physical & psychological dependence - Tolerance - Withdrawal syndrome <p>Risk factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genetic vulnerability - Stress - Personality - Family influences - Peers <p>Explanations for nicotine addiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brain neurochemistry - Learning theory <p>Explanations for gambling addiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning theory - Cognitive theory <p>Reducing addiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drug therapy - Behavioural interventions - Cognitive behaviour therapy

<p>Ethical implications of research studies and theory, including reference to social sensitivity</p>		<p>Drug therapy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Atypical antipsychotics- Typical antipsychotics <p>Therapy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cognitive behaviour therapy- Family therapy- Token economies <p>The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining & treating schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The diathesis-stress model	<p>The application of theories of behaviour change to addictive behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The theory of planned behaviour- Prochaska's six-stage model of behaviour change
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Key Words	Career Paths	Skills & Assessment Objectives
<p>Nature Nurture Reductionism Holism Free will Determinism Nomothetic Idiographic Socially sensitive research Gender bias Culture bias Schemas Object permanence Egocentrism Conservation ZPD/Scaffolding Theory of mind Mirror Neuron System Hallucinations/Delusions Avolition/Poverty of Speech Comorbidity Symptom Overlap Bias The dopamine hypothesis Genetics Antipsychotics Therapy Diathesis-stress model Dependency Tolerance Withdrawal Dopamine Cue reactivity Reinforcement Cognitive Bias Behaviour change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychologist (occupational; forensic; educational; clinical) • Lawyer • Police officer • Prison officer • Teacher • Psychiatrist • Mental health nurse/support worker • Many more..... 	<p>Knowledge & understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues</p> <p>Apply psychological knowledge & understanding in a range of contexts</p> <p>Analyse, interpret & evaluate psychological concepts, theories, research studies & research methods</p> <p>Evaluate therapies & treatments including in terms of their appropriateness & effectiveness</p> <p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge & understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques & procedures</p> <p>AO2: Apply knowledge & understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in a theoretical context - in a practical context - when handling qualitative data - when handling quantitative data <p>AO3: Analyse, interpret & evaluate scientific information, ideas & evidence, including in relation to issues, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - make judgements & reach conclusions - develop & refine practical design & procedures
	<p>Key Questions</p> <p>Is behaviour the result of nature or nurture? Is behaviour best understood through reductionism or holism? Is behaviour predetermined? Should psychologists investigate behaviour nomothetically or idiographically? Is there bias within psychology? What are the ethical implications of research? How do children develop cognitively and socially? How can autism be explained? What are the symptoms of schizophrenia? Can schizophrenia be diagnosed in a valid & reliable manner? How can schizophrenia be explained/treated? What is addiction? How can addiction be explained/treated/prevented? Who is most at risk of addiction?</p>	