Past paper 8 and 16 mark essay questions

Topic		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Social	16	Discuss whether these situational variables will produce obedience to Milgram's study.		Discuss the legitimacy of authority and agency state explanations of obedience. Refer to Hofling's behaviour in your answer.		Discuss what psychological research has told us about why people conform.	
	8		Discuss legitimacy of authority as an explanation for obedience.		Discuss ethical issues in social influence research.		Discuss the authoritarian personality as an explanation for obedience.
Memory	16	Discuss the MSM. Refer to Berry's behaviour in your answer.	Discuss retrieval failure and cue theories as explanations for forgetting. Refer to Baddeley's study of the effects of context on recall.		Discuss the multi-store model of memory. Refer to the information stores in your answer.		Outline and evaluate research theories and/or studies into the effects of misleading information on eyewitness testimony.
	8			Outline and evaluate research into interference in memory.			
Attachment	16	Discuss whether these studies might tell us about human behaviour.		Discuss research into caregiver-infant interactions in humans.	Discuss research into the influence of early attachments in childhood and/or adult relationships.	Discuss the learning theory of attachment and Bowlby's monotropic theory of attachment. Refer to Lorenz's imprinting study in your answer.	
	8		Discuss the influence of our fathers/mothers on childhood relationships. Refer to the Clary Lovely of the early in Experiment 4 in your answer.				Discuss findings of research into cultural variations in attachment.
Psychopathology	16		Discuss statistical infrequency and deviation from social norms as definitions of abnormality.	Discuss the two process model of phobias. Refer to Mal's phobia of the sea in your answer.		Discuss the cognitive approach to treating depression.	Outline and evaluate failure to function adequately and deviation from ideal mental health as definitions of abnormality. Refer to Thompson's phobia in your answer.
	8	Discuss the genetic explanation for OCD.			Outline and evaluate one or more neural explanations of depression or compulsive disorder.		
Approaches	16			Describe and evaluate operant conditioning as a way of explaining people's behaviour. Refer to Skinner's research involving pigeons in your answer.		Outline the behaviourist approach. Compare the behaviourist approach with the biological approach.	Outline and evaluate the humanistic approach. Refer to Tatiana's behaviour in your answer.
	8	Discuss self-actualisation and/or conditions of worth in explaining human behaviour.	Compare the humanistic approach with the psychodynamic approach.		Outline and evaluate Wundt's role in the emergence of psychology as a science.		
Biopsychology	16	Discuss localisation of function in the brain.	Discuss ways of studying the brain.		Discuss research into localisation of function in the brain and/or hemispheric specialisation. Refer to Marianne and Karen's discussion in your answer.		
	8			Outline and evaluate split brain research.		Using your knowledge of research into hemispheric specialisation, explain why Karen would think she envies Jage for badly misspelling words on sight.	Outline and evaluate one or more ways of studying the brain.
Issues and Debates	16			Discuss reductionism in psychological research. Refer to the statement above in your answer.	Discuss the nature-nurture debate in psychology.		Discuss two or more types of determinism. Refer to the case of Bertha as part of your discussion.
	8	Outline what social sensitivity means in the research psychology. Explain how researchers in psychology could deal with issues related to social sensitivity.	Discuss gender bias in psychological research. Refer to one topic you have studied in your answer.			Discuss one or more ethical implications of research in psychology. Refer to at least one topic you have studied in psychology in your answer.	
Relationships	16	Discuss self-disclosure and the dilemma of getting in to/out relationships.	Discuss what psychological research has told us about why people develop personal relationships.		Describe and evaluate the social exchange theory of human relationships.		Discuss what psychological research has told us about virtual relationships in social media.
	8			Discuss the filter theory of attraction. Refer to the Clary Lovely of the student? Lovely in Experiment 4 in your answer. Refer to romantic relationships. Explain one or more strengths of Rosland's model.	Outline and briefly discuss the relationship between romantic attraction and mate/sexual reproductive behaviour.	Discuss the attachment theory explanation of romantic relationships. Refer to at least one findings of the study where in your answer.	
Gender	16	Discuss the role of testosterone and oestrogen in sex and gender.	Discuss what psychological research has told us about the influence of social learning on gender development.		Describe and evaluate Kohlberg's explanation for gender development.		Discuss what psychological research has told us about atypical gender development.
	8			Discuss sex role stereotypes. Refer to the Clary Lovely of the student? Lovely in Experiment **4/5** of Bailey Bert's research into androgyny. Explain one or more limitations of Bert's research.	Outline and briefly discuss Freud's theory of the Oedipus complex as an explanation for gender development in boys.	Discuss Bert's research into androgyny. Refer to the Clary findings of the study where in your answer.	
Cognition	16	Discuss theory of mind and Baron-Cohen's theory of computation. Refer to the development of social cognition.	Discuss what psychological research has told us about children's understanding of false beliefs.		Describe and evaluate Piaget's research in support or theory of pre-operational stage of intellectual development.		Discuss what Bellingham's research has told us about autistic children.
	8			Discuss Schaer's research into perspective taking. Refer to the Clary Lovely of the student? Lovely in your answer **4/5** Outline Bert's research into androgyny. Explain one or more limitations of Bert's research.	Outline and briefly discuss the role of the inner mental system in social cognition.	Discuss Aggarwal's theory of cognitive development. Refer to the Clary findings of the study where in your answer.	
Schizophrenia	16		Discuss the role of family therapy and cognitive behaviour therapy as treatments for schizophrenia. Refer to Lucy and Mary in your answer.	Outline one or more biological explanations (or vulnerabilities) for schizophrenia. Compare biological explanations (or vulnerabilities) with the family dysfunction explanation for schizophrenia.	Discuss the use of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia.	Discuss one or more biological explanations for schizophrenia.	
	8	Evaluate antipsychotics as a therapy for schizophrenia.					Outline and evaluate the use of antipsychotics as a treatment for schizophrenia. Refer to the Clay family dysfunction explanation for schizophrenia and explain how Lucy's family might be a threat to the family dysfunction explanation.
Eating	16		Describe and evaluate two explanations for bulimia nervosa. Refer to Kay's bulimia in your answer.	Outline one or more biological explanations (or vulnerabilities) for anorexia nervosa. Compare biological explanations (or vulnerabilities) for anorexia nervosa with the family systems explanation for anorexia nervosa.	Describe and evaluate genetic and neural explanations for obesity.	Discuss one or more biological explanations for anorexia nervosa.	
	8	Evaluate one or more psychological explanations for obesity.					Describe the family systems theory explanation for anorexia nervosa. Refer to Martha's case in order to be linked to family systems theory **AND** Outline and evaluate the family systems explanation for food addiction.
Stress	16		Discuss gender differences and the role of social support in coping with stress. Refer to Susan and Beth in your answer.	Outline one or more self-report measures of stress. Compare self-report measures of stress with physiological measures of stress.	Discuss the role of personality types and conflict in stress.	Discuss the role of stress in illness.	
	8	Evaluate drug therapy as a way of managing stress.					Describe stress inoculation therapy as a way of managing stress. Refer to Jessica's stress and the managing stress inoculation **AND** Outline and evaluate one or more ways of managing stress in order to apply to Jessica's stress.
Aggression	16	Discuss the influence of genetic factors in aggression.	Describe and evaluate one or more of the following biological explanations for human aggression: hormones, genetics.			Discuss one or more social psychological explanations for aggression. Refer to some of the comments in Table 3 in your answer.	Describe and evaluate evolutionary explanations for human aggression.
	8			Discuss the frustration-aggression hypothesis as an explanation for human aggression.	Describe what is meant by a Type A personality pattern. Refer to the study where in your answer. Describe and evaluate the Type A personality explanation for coronary heart disease. Refer to the Clay family aggression in prisons.		
Forensic	16	Discuss psychodynamic explanations of offending.	Describe and evaluate one or more of the following biological explanations for offending: evolutionary, genetics, chemical.			Discuss one or more ways of dealing with offending behaviour. Refer to some of the suggestions in Table 3 in your answer.	Describe and evaluate cognitive explanations for offending.
	8			Discuss neural explanations for offending behaviour.	Describe differential association theory in the context of offending behaviour. Refer to the study where in your answer. Outline and evaluate ethical constraints and/or practical constraints as ways of researching crime.		
Addiction	16	Discuss risk factors in the development of addiction.	Describe and evaluate one or more of the following explanations for addiction: genetics, learning theory.			Discuss one or more ways of reducing addiction. Refer to some of the suggestions in Table 3 in your answer.	Describe and evaluate cognitive theories as an explanation for gambling addiction.
	8			Discuss cognitive bias as a way of explaining gambling addiction.	Describe learning theory as applied to gambling. Refer to the study where in your answer. Describe and evaluate research into the role of risk factors in the development of addiction.		