

PSYB 2 Revision Organiser

PSYB2 contains six option topics. You must answer on three of them:

- Social Influence (social psychology)
- Perceptual Processes (cognitive psychology)
- Anxiety Disorders (individual differences)

One of the topics will contain 6 marks worth of questions on Experimental Methods

Social Influence (social psychology)

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Audience effects (social facilitation & inhibition)

- Studies of audience effects (inc. Triplett; Zajonc; Michaels)
- Effects of arousal on dominant and non-dominant responses
- Causes of arousal (evaluation apprehension, distraction conflict)

Conformity

- Studies of conformity (inc. Jenness, Sherif, Asch)
- Methodological issues in conformity studies (internal & external validity)
- Factors that affect conformity (inc. Asch studies)
- Types of conformity (compliance, internalisation)
- Explanations of conformity (Informational, normative influence)

Use the studies to discuss explanations & types of conformity & ethical issues.

Obedience

- Studies of obedience (inc. Milgram, Bickman, Hofling)
- Methodological issues in obedience studies (internal and external validity)
- Factors that affect obedience (inc Milgram studies)
- Dispositional explanation of obedience (Authoritarian Personality)
- Situational explanation of obedience (Agency Theory)
- Defiance of authority (i.e. disobedience – explanations & studies)

Don't get **explanations** and **types** of conformity mixed up.

Ethical issues

- Ethical issues arising from obedience studies
- Ethical issues arising from conformity studies

Don't forget **defiance**. You can use Milgram's studies, but emphasises those PPs who didn't obey.

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Perceptual Processes (cognitive psychology)

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Basic perceptual processes

- Monocular depth cues
- Binocular depth cues

Perceptual organisation

- Perceptual constancy (size & shape)
- Gestalt principles of perception

Errors of perception

- Distortion illusions (inc. Muller-Lyer & Ponzo)
- Ambiguous figures (inc. Ruben's vase; Necker cube)
- What illusions & ambiguities tell us about perceptual processes

Perceptual set

- Studies of perceptual set including:
 - Expectation (e.g. Bruner & Minturn)
 - Motivation (e.g. Gilchrist & Nesburg)
 - Emotion (e.g. McGuinnies)
 - Culture (e.g. Seagall et al)

Theories of perception

- Gibson's 'ecological' theory
- Gregory's 'constructivist' theory

The subtopics in perceptual processes tend to link up so you can use material from different areas whatever you're discussing.

Illusions & ambiguities can tell us about **perceptual organisation** and the active, constructed nature of perception.

These studies can be used to discuss and evaluate **Gibson's** and **Gregory's** theories of perception.

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Anxiety Disorders (individual differences)

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Nature of anxiety disorders

- Phobias
- Obsessive compulsive disorders

Make sure you can describe the main features and subtypes.

Explanations of anxiety disorders

- Studies of the causes of anxiety disorders
- Behaviourist explanations
- Cognitive explanations
- Psychodynamic explanations
- Biological explanations

Don't forget to cover explanations and treatments of **both** phobia and OCD.

Treatments for anxiety disorders

- Studies of treatments for eating disorders
- Behaviourist treatments
- Cognitive treatments
- Psychodynamic treatments
- Biological treatments

Ideally you should know in detail at least one study of each disorder from within each approach.

Remember that a study that supports one theory often challenges another – this can help you with your evaluation.