

PSYB 1 Revision Organiser

PSYB 1 contains three sections:

- Key Approaches and Biopsychology
- Gender Development
- Research Methods

Key Approaches and Biopsychology

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Biopsychology

- Divisions of the nervous system
- Neuronal and synaptic transmission
- Localisation of function in the brain
- Methods for investigating the brain
- The ANS and the fight or flight response
- Genetic influences on behaviour (including methods for investigating these)

Be careful!

A lot of the AO2 in biopsychology comes from application and analysis, so you need to practice using ideas from biopsychology to explain different examples of behaviour.

Key Approaches to Psychology

- The Behaviourist Approach
- Social Learning Theory
- The Cognitive Approach
- The Psychodynamic Approach
- The Humanistic Approach

Be careful!

For each approach you need to be able to describe its main ideas about the causes of behaviour, apply its concepts to explain different examples of behaviour, describe and criticise its research methods and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the approach as a whole. You need to be able to compare and contrast the approaches.

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Gender Development

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Gender Concepts

- Sex and gender
- Research into androgyny
- Research into sex-role stereotypes
- Research into cultural variation in gender
- The nature-nurture debate regarding gender

Be careful!

You need to be able to discuss each approach in terms of its position in the nature-nurture debate.

Explanations of gender development

- Biological theory including chromosomal influences, chromosomal abnormalities and hormonal influences
- Social learning theory
- Cognitive theory including gender schema theory and Kohlberg's stage theory
- Psychodynamic theory

Be careful!

For each approach you need to know the specified explanations *as they apply to gender* and at least two research studies, one of which is in detail (AMRC). You need to be able to describe and criticise the research methods used in each approach and to evaluate the approach *as an explanation of gender* in terms of evidence and its strengths and weaknesses.

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Research Methods

Your folder should contain material on the following topics:

Planning Research

- Qualitative and quantitative research and research methods
- Formulating aims and hypotheses for different types of study
(descriptive, correlational, experimental)
- Sampling techniques including opportunity, systematic, stratified and random
- Pilot studies

Experimental methods

- IV & DV
- Experimental designs (IG, RM & MPP)
- Controls, extraneous and confounding variables
- Quasi-experiments
- Laboratory & field settings

Non-experimental methods

- Correlational studies including correlation coefficients
- Observational studies
- Content analysis
- Self report methods including questionnaire & interview

Data presentation & analysis

- Measures of central tendency (mode, median, mean)
- Measures of dispersion (range & SD)
- Graphs & charts

Ethics

- The BPS ethical guidelines
- Ways of avoiding ethical problems

Be careful!

The assessment is very applied so you need to be able to analyse examples to find these things, suggest how they might be used and so on. You also need to be able to explain strengths and weaknesses of each different method and technique.

Be careful!

You might be asked to write briefings or debriefings where you are expected to show due consideration of ethical issues like informed consent etc.