

# Evaluating the Psychodynamic Model



**This activity will help you to:**

- Consider some criticisms of the psychodynamic model of abnormality
- Evaluate the psychodynamic model of abnormal behaviour
- Write effective evaluative commentary

Using your text or your own ideas, make some brief notes that develop each of the ideas below into a criticism (positive or negative) of the psychodynamic model of abnormality.

The model is difficult to test.

The model is supported by clinical evidence

The model blames the parents of mental health patients

Now write up your notes as if you were responding to an essay that required you to **evaluate the psychodynamic model of abnormality**. Write a separate paragraph about each criticism. In each paragraph...

- **You must** start by making a clear statement of each criticism, and then go on to explain the criticism fully.
- **You should** use examples or evidence to support the criticism if it is appropriate for you to do so.

If you are aiming for grades A to C **you could** also come up with a response or counter-criticism to each of the criticisms you raise (i.e. a 'however paragraph'). Having raised your counter criticism, **you might** attempt to conclude which side of the argument is stronger.