

Faculty: Humanities  
Subject Area: Psychology

# GCSE Y10 – PSYCHOLOGY



## 1 Research Method

- How to design and conduct investigations.
- Analysis and interpretation of data.
- Hypotheses, variables, research procedures.
- Sampling, ethics, reliability, and validity.
- Data handling (computation, descriptive statistics, types, interpretation, display).
- Sources of bias.

## 2 Psychological problems

- Definitions and prevalence of mental health problems, and their effects.
- In-depth study of schizophrenia and clinical depression (characteristics, theories, treatments).
- Development of treatments for mental health issues

## 3 Criminal psychology

- Different types of crime and how incidence is measured.
- Theories explaining criminal behaviour (e.g., Social Learning Theory, Eysenck's Criminal Personality Theory).
- The role of rehabilitation and punishment.

## 4 Developmental

- Stages of development (pre-natal to adulthood).
- Brain structure and function changes with age.
- Cognitive development (e.g., Piaget's theory).
- Learning theories (e.g., Dweck's mindset theory, Willingham's learning theory) and their application to education.

## 5 Revision

Remaining time will be for revision and revisiting topics to prepare for the examination

## 6 Y10 MOCK

GCSE mock exams include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to: draw together their knowledge, understanding and skills from across the course of study so far as well as provide extended responses.

# GCSE Y11 – PSYCHOLOGY



## Sleep and dreaming

- Features and benefits of sleep.
- Brain structures involved in sleep and dreaming.
- Theories of dreaming.
- Treatments for insomnia.

## Memory

- How memories are stored and forgotten.
- Brain's role in memory formation (neuropsychology).
- Theories of memory (e.g., Multi-store Model, Reconstructive Memory).
- Techniques for recall.

## Social Influence

- How personality and social factors influence pro-social or anti-social behaviour.
- Conformity to group pressure.
- Obedience to authority figures.
- Key studies in social influence.
- Minority and majority influence on social change (e.g., mental health stigma).

## Research methods

It's important to note that the Research Methods content is crucial and integrated throughout all topics, as you need to be able to apply research methodology knowledge to the specific areas of psychology

## Revision

Remaining time will be for revision and revisiting topics to prepare for the examination

## Final Examination

GCSE exams include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to: draw together their knowledge, understanding and skills from across the full course of study as well as provide extended responses.

## 01. Research methods

Research methods and technique  
 Planning and conducting research  
 Data recording „analysis, presentation  
 Report writing  
 Methodological issues  
 How science works  
 Practical activities

## 02. Core studies

- Cognitive Psychology:
- Attention (e.g., Moray, Simons & Chabris)
- Memory (e.g., Loftus & Palmer, Grant et al.)
- **Taught alongside..**
- Social Psychology:
- Responses to people in authority (e.g., Milgram, Bocchiaro et al.)
- Responses to people in need (e.g., Piliavin et al., Levine et al.)

## 03. Core studies

- Biological Psychology:
- Brain plasticity (e.g., Blakemore & Cooper, Maguire et al.)
- Regions of the brain (e.g., Sperry, Casey et al.)
- Individual Differences:
- Understanding disorders (e.g., Freud, Baron-Cohen et al.)
- Measuring differences (e.g., Gould, Hancock et al.)

## 04. Core studies

- Developmental Psychology:
- External influences on children's behaviour (e.g., Bandura et al., Chaney et al.)
- Moral development (e.g., Kohlberg, Lee et al.)

## 05. Issues and debates

- areas and perspectives in psychology • methodological issues relating to the core studies • debates in psychology.
- This is covered throughout but we focus on this in preparation for mock exams

## Mock Examination

Preparation for mock exams

## 06. Applied Psychology

### Issues in mental health

- The historical context of mental health
- The medical model
- Alternatives to the medical model

### Taught alongside..

### Sport and exercise psychology.

- Arousal and anxiety (
- Exercise and mental health
- Motivation
- Personality
- Performing with others
- Audience effects

## 07. Applied Psychology

- Criminal psychology.
- What makes a criminal?
- The collection and processing of forensic evidence
- Collection of evidence
- Psychology and the courtroom
- Crime prevention
- Effect of imprisonment

## 08. Research methods – stats

- Inferential statistics
- normal distribution curves
- skewed distribution curves
- probability • significance levels • using statistical tables of critical values • criteria for using a parametric test

## 09. Issues and debates

- areas and perspectives in psychology • methodological issues relating to the core studies • debates in psychology.
- This is covered throughout but we focus on this in preparation for exams

## Revision

- Remaining time will be for revision and revisiting topics to prepare for the examination

## Examination

A level exams include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to: draw together their knowledge, understanding and skills from across the full course of study as well as provide extended responses.