



Paper 2 Fundamentals

Fundamental knowledge for Approaches in Psychology

Knowledge	Skills
Origins of Psychology	Explain and evaluate the ideas of Wundt. Explain Introspection and the Scientific approach. What is an approach in psychology? - define and give examples.
Behaviourist Approach	Explain the history behind the learning approaches? Define classical conditioning and explain key terms. Explain the Pavlov experiment. Define Operant conditioning. Reinforcement, reward & punishment. Explain the Skinner experiment.
Social Learning Approach	Define and explain Social Learning Theory. Define vicarious learning, imitation and modelling. Explain the Bobo Doll study. Explain how learning theory contribute to our wider understanding in society.
Cognitive Approach	Explain the history behind the cognitive approach. Describe how cognitive approach uses models to explain behaviour. Describe and give examples of schemas, computer modelling and cognitive neuroscience
Biological Approach	Explain the history behind the biological approach? Outline and give evidence for the role of genes in human/psychological development. Outline and give evidence for the role of genotype and phenotype, and the evolutionary basis of behaviour. Outline and give evidence for the role of neurotransmitters in human/psychological development.
Psychodynamic Approach	Explain the history behind the Psychodynamic approach. Outline and explain the Psychodynamic approach to behaviour. Explain the theories of Freud. Describe the role of the unconscious structure of personality (Id/Ego/superego). Describe the role of defence mechanisms and psychosexual



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	stages in behavior theory.
Humanistic Approach	Explain the history behind the Humanistic approach. Outline and give evidence for the Humanistic approach to behaviour. Describe and detail the impact of free will, self-actualisation and Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Compare and contrast the various approaches, outlining the influence and impact of each

Fundamental knowledge for Biopsychology

Knowledge	Skills
Neural system	Define and describe the functions of Neurons. Explain salutary conduction, synaptic transmission. excitation and inhibition. Explain the Peripheral Nervous System (PNS) and Central nervous system (CNS)
Endocrine system	Define and describe the Endocrine System. Explain hormones, glands and provide specific examples e.g. Adrenaline, Testosterone etc.
Neural & Endocrine co-operation	Explain the Fight or flight response. Describe and evaluate the HPAC and SAM systems. Evaluate the impact of these systems on behaviour.
Localisation & Lateralisation of the brain	Define Localisation of function in the brain. Explain sensory cortexes and language. Define Lateralisation of function in the brain. Explain and evaluate split brain research and the work of Sperry. Localization of function in the brain- plasticity. Explain ways of studying brain, including MRI, FMRI, EEG & Post-mortem
Biological Rhythms	Define circadian, infradian and ultradian rhythms. Describe examples of each rhythm and their impact of disruption on behaviour. Evaluate research into biological rhythms.



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Fundamental knowledge for Research Methods

Knowledge	Skills
Experiment types	Define and evaluate lab, natural and field experiments. Define and evaluate Questionnaires, interview and all types of observations (participant, non-participant, covert and overt.) Define and evaluate correlations, case studies, longitudinal & content studies.
Sampling	Describe and evaluate Sampling, including random, opportunistic, volunteer, systematic, snowball & stratified.
Ethics	Describe and evaluate Ethics, including the right to withdraw, psych and physical harm, confidentiality, deception and debrief.
Bias	Describe and evaluate BIAS, including experimenter and participant. Explain how bias occurs in the different methods, demand characteristics & social desirability.
Reliability	Describe and evaluate Reliability, including test-retest, inter-observer reliability and how to improve for each method.
Validity	Describe and evaluate Validity, including internal, external and temporal. Explain how to assess validity and how to improve for each method.
Pilot Studies	Describe and evaluate Pilot studies, including their effectiveness and value to research
Peer review	Describe what peer review is and its role in psychology.
Hypotheses	Explain the process of writing a hypothesis and an aim. Understand the difference between, and use of, one tailed and two tailed. Explain type 1 and type 2 errors.
Data	Describe and evaluate primary and secondary data. Explain the difference between Quantitative and Qualitative. Define and evaluate descriptive stats,



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	measures of dispersion, presenting data & distributions.
Statistical tests	Explain how to choose a test. Explain how to do the following tests: T test Wilcoxon Mann-Whitney Chi-Square Spearman's
How to write a report for psychological investigations	Write a psychological report. Explain the structure, content and purpose of the following elements: Abstract Introduction Method Results Discussion Consent letter Instruction sheet Debrief sheet
Psychology as a Science	Explain whether Psychology is a science. Explain Paradigms and Paradigm shifts, theory construction and testing, falsifiability, replicability & objectivity

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