

A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 2 Section A: Approaches in Psychology

From the specification

- The Origins of Psychology: Wundt, introspection and the emergence of psychology as a science.
- The basic assumptions of the following approaches:
- Learning approaches: the behaviourist approach, including Classical conditioning, Pavlov's research, Operant conditioning, types of reinforcement & Skinner's research.
- Social learning Theory – including the role of imitation, identification, modelling, vicarious reinforcement, the role of mediational processes and Bandura's research.
- The cognitive approach: the study of internal mental processes, the role of schemas, the use of theoretical and computer models to explain and make inferences about mental processes. The emergence of cognitive neuroscience.
- The Biological approach: the influence of genes, biological structures and neurochemistry on behaviour, evolution and behaviour.
- The Psychodynamic approach: the role of the unconscious, the structure of personality, id, ego and superego, defence mechanisms including repression, denial and displacement, psychosexual stages.
- Humanistic psychology: free will, self-actualisation and Maslow's hierarchy of needs, focus on the self, congruence, the role of conditions of worth. The influence of counselling in Psychology.
- Comparison of approaches

	Requirements broken down Research studies are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
The origins of Psychology	1. Discuss the origins of psychology including reference of Wundt.			
	2. Discuss the emergence of psychology as a science.			
	Discuss Classical conditioning as an explanation for human behaviour			
The cognitive approach	3. Discuss Pavlov's research			
	4. Discuss Operant conditioning as an explanation for human behaviour			
	5. Discuss Skinner's research			
	6. Discuss Social learning theory as an explanation for human behaviour			
	7. Discuss Bandura's research			
	8. Discuss the cognitive approach as an explanation for human behaviour			
The cognitive approach The biological	9. Discuss The emergence of cognitive neuroscience in psychology			
	10. Discuss the biological approach as an explanation for human behaviour			
The psychodynamic approach	11. Discuss the psychodynamic approach as an explanation for human behaviour.			
The humanistic approach	12. Discuss the humanistic approach as an explanation for human behaviour			
Comparison of approaches	13. To be able to compare and contrast the various approaches using similarities and differences of each.			

Key terms for Approaches Unit

Empiricism	Imitation	Physiological	Psychodynamic Approach
Reliability	Identification	Genetic	Unconscious
Validity	Vicarious Reinforcement	Genotype	Three-part personality
Introspection	Mediational Processes	Phenotype	Id
Behaviourist	Causality	Neurons	Ego
Classical Conditioning	Cognitive approach	Nervous system	Super-ego
Positive Reinforcement	Inference	Neurochemistry	Defence Mechanisms
Negative Reinforcement	Schemas	Neurotransmitters	Denial, Displacement
Punishment	Theoretical model	Hormones	Repression
Behaviour	Computer model	Evolution	Psycho-sexual stages
Social Learning Theory	Cognitive Neuroscience	Hereditary	Natural selection
Modelling	Biological approach	Humanistic approach	Congruence
Free-will	Hierarchy of needs	Self-actualisation	Conditions of worth

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Personal Learning Checklist for Memory 7181

	Sub-sections	Red	Amber	Green
Characteristics of memory, STM, LTM, Episodic, Semantic & Procedural	Summary of a study on encoding in STM and LTM eg. (Baddeley)			
	Summary of study on capacity of STM and LTM (Miller)			
	Summary of study on duration of STM (Peterson & Peterson)			
	Summary of study on duration of LTM (Bahrick)			
	Description of LTM - Episodic			
	Description of LTM - Semantic			
	Description of LTM - Procedural			
Models of memory	Description of the multi-store model of memory, plus evaluation inc. research (Atkinson & Shiffrin)			
	Description of the working memory model, plus evaluation inc. research (Baddeley & Hitch)			
Explanations for forgetting	Description of interference Theory: Retroactive interference with supporting research / evaluation (Miller)			
	Description of interference Theory: Proactive interference with supporting research / evaluation (Underwood)			
	Retrieval Failure Description of retrieval failure & evaluation / supporting research (Tulving & Pearlstone)			
Accuracy of eye witness testimony / Improving Accuracy of EWT	Misleading Information: Leading Questions (Loftus & Palmer)			
	Post-Event Discussion			
	Knowledge of the factors which affect the accuracy of EWT - anxiety			
	Supporting / refuting research in real life (Yuille & Cutshall)			
	Features of the cognitive interview plus evaluation (Milne & Bull)			

A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 2 Section C: Research Methods

Year one and two

From the specification

Students should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the research methods below;

This includes scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, be familiar with their use and be aware of their strengths and limitations.

	Requirements broken down Familiarity, strengths and weakness'	Notes?	Positives?	Negatives	Got this?	Exam Q?
Types of Experiment	1. Lab					
	2. Field					
	3. Natural					
	4. Quasi					
Observational Methods	5. Naturalistic					
	6. Covert					
	7. Overt					
	8. Participant					
	9. Non-Participant					
Self report technique	10. Questionnaires (Structured / Unstructured)					
	11. Interviews (Structured / Unstructured)					
Correlations	12. Analysis of relationship between co-variables (Strength and direction of correlation)					
	13. The difference between a correlation and an experiment					
Qualitative measures	14. Content analysis					
	15. Case Studies					
	Scientific Process					
Hypothesis & aims	16. Aims - To be able to write an aim					
	17. Write and understand a hypothesis -					
	18. Directional / non-directional – one or two tailed and reasons why					
	19. State the difference between an aim and a hypothesis					

Sampling - including issues, generalisation and bias in each technique	20. Explain the term population and sample					
	21. Random					
	22. Systematic					
	23. Stratified					
	24. Opportunity					
	25. Volunteer					
Pilot Studies	26. Understand what a pilot study is					
	27. Explain the aims of a pilot study					
Experimental designs - explanation and issues	28. Repeated Measures +ives / -ives					
	29. Independent groups +ives / -ives					
	30. Matched pairs +ives / -ives					
Observational design	31. Behavioural categories					
	32. Event sampling					
	33. Time Sampling					
Questionnaire Construction	34. Use of open and closed questions					
	35. Design of Interviews					
Variables ; control, manipulation & operationalisation	36. Identification of IV / DV					
	37. Extraneous variables					
	38. Confounding variables					
	39. Operationalisation of variables					
Methods of control	40. Randomisation					
	41. Counterbalancing					
	42. Randomisation					
	43. Standardisation					
	44. Demand Characteristics					
	45. Investigator effects					

Ethics and control in the research process	46. The role of the BPS code of ethics					
	47. Ethical issues in the design and conduct of Psychological studies					
	48. Dealing with ethical issues in research					
	49. The role of peer review in the scientific process					
	50. The implications of psychological research for the economy					
Types, assessment and improvement of Validity	51. Face validity					
	52. Concurrent validity					
	53. Ecological validity					
	54. Temporal validity					
	55. Assessment of validity					
	56. Improving validity					
Features of Science	57. Objectivity					
	58. Empirical Method					
	59. Replicability					
	60. Falsifiability					
	61. Theory construction					
	62. Hypothesis Testing					
	63. Paradigms / Paradigm shift					
Reporting Psychological investigations	64. Abstract					
	65. Introduction					
	66. Method					
	67. Results					
	68. discussion					
	69. Referencing					
Data Handling & Analysis	70. Distinction between quantitative and qualitative data techniques					
	71. Primary data					

	72. Secondary data					
Descriptive Stats – Measures of central tendency and measures of dispersion	73. Meta-analysis					
	74. Mean – justification, understanding and calculation					
	75. Median – justification, understanding and calculation					
	76. Mode – Justification, understanding and calculation					
	77. Range - Justification, understanding and calculation					
	78. Standard Deviation - justification and understanding					
	79. Calculation of percentages					
Presentation & Display of quantitative data	80. Graphs					
	81. Tables					
	82. Scattergrams					
	83. Histograms					
Distributions	84. Normal distributions – presentation and characteristics					
	85. Skewed distributions – presentations and characteristics					
Correlation	86. Correlation – analysis and presentation including correlation co-efficient					
	87. Zero, positive and negative correlations Plus strength					
Levels of measurement	88. Nominal					
	89. Ordinal					
	90. Interval					
Content analysis	91. Content analysis					
	92. Thematic analysis					
Knowledge and understanding of Inferential tests	93. Sign Test - justification, understanding and calculation					
	94. Probability and significance					
	95. Use of statistical tables and critical values in interpretation of significance					
	96. Type I and type II errors					

Choice of Statistical test	97. Spearmans Rho - justification and understanding					
	98. Chi –Squared- justification and understanding					
	99. Wilcoxon T - justification and understanding					
	100. Mann-Whitney U - justification and understanding					
	101. Related T Test - justification and understanding					
	102. Unrelated T test - justification and understanding					

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A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 3 Section B, Aggression

From the specification

- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression including the role of the limbic system, serotonin and testosterone. Genetic factors in aggression including the MAOA gene.
- The ethological explanation of aggression including reference to innate releasing mechanisms and fixed action patterns. Evolutionary explanations of human aggression.
- Social psychological explanations of human aggression, including the frustration-aggression hypothesis, Social learning theory as applied to aggression and de-individuation.
- Institutional aggression in the context of prisons: dispositional and situational explanations.
- Media influences on aggression, including the effects of computer games. The role of desensitisation, dis-inhibition and cognitive priming.

Any explanations must be explicitly linked to aggression to gain credit (for example, Social Learning theory)

	Requirements broken down Research studies / Theories are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
Biological explanations of aggression	1. Neural mechanisms of aggression – Limbic system – the make-up of and role of, including the amygdala and hippocampus.			
	2. Neural mechanisms of aggression – Serotonin (the role of)			
	3. Hormonal Influences - testosterone			
	4. Genetic factors in aggression – Twin and adoption studies			
	5. Genetic factors in aggression – MAOA gene			
	6. The ethological explanation of aggression including Fixed action patterns and innate releasing mechanisms.			
	7. Evolutionary explanations of human aggression			
Social Psychological explanations of aggression.	8. Dollard – The frustration – aggression hypothesis			
	9. Bandura – Social Learning Theory			
	10. De-individuation Theory			
Institutional aggression in prison	11. Dispositional explanation – the importation model			
	12. Situational explanations of aggression – the deprivation model			
Media and aggression	13. Media influences on aggression			
	14. Role of desensitisation, disinhibition and cognitive priming			

Key concepts: Issues and debates in Aggression – Whilst not a requirement, these offer a sound way of evaluating synoptically.

Research suggests the brain's limbic system has a causal function; also the pre-frontal cortex and amygdala. But can we generalise from animal studies to humans; or from murderers to the population? Furthermore; Some biological evidence suggests aggression could be partly innate, so is this biologically deterministic? Does this absolve those people from censure?	The evolutionary explanation is an extreme nature explanation, with little nurture; making it biologically and genetically deterministic and biologically reductionist resulting in a narrow explanation when one considers the complexity of human behaviour.	The area of aggression is difficult to operationalise and measure. It's hard to agree on what constitutes aggression. Furthermore, it is difficult to prove cause and effect, for example, SLT as an explanation of aggression is problematic due to variety of variables involved. Almost impossible to state that repeated aggressive behaviour that happens at a later date is caused by previously modelled / learnt behaviour.
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Key Terms for Aggression:

Limbic system	Ethological	Vicarious reinforcement	Deprivation
Amygdala	Fixed action patterns	Observation	Media Influence
Hippocampus	Innate releasing mechanisms	Mental representation	Longitudinal
Serotonin	Ritualistic	Self – efficacy	Meta-analyses
Testosterone	Evolutionary explanation	Cultural differences	Desensitisation
Aggression	Sexual competition	De-individuation	Disinhibition
Dominance	Sexual Jealousy	Anonymity	Cognitive priming
Animal Studies	Gender differences	Focused goal	Realistic media
Twin Studies	Adaptive	Shared beliefs	
Adoption Studies	Status	Dispositional	
Genetics	Frustration aggression hypothesis	Importation	
MAOA Gene	Displacement	Situational	

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Sample papers are available from AQA.org under psychology units 7181 and 7182.

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Student checklist for Mathematical Skills in A level Psychology (7181 & 7182)

Mathematical Skills	Example of use in psychology	Out-line	Eval-uate	Out-line	Eval-uate	Out-line	Eval-uate
Use a scatter diagram to identify a correlation between two variables.	For example, plotting two variables from an investigation on a scatter diagram and identifying the pattern as a positive correlation, a negative correlation or no correlation.						
Use a statistical test.	For example, calculating a non-parametric test of differences using data from a given experiment.						
Make order of magnitude calculations.	For example, estimating the mean test score for a large number of participants on the basis of the total overall score.						
Distinguish between levels of measurement.(Types of data used)	For example, stating the level of measurement (nominal, ordinal or interval) that has been used in a study.						
Know the characteristics of normal and skewed distributions.	For example, being presented with a set of scores from an experiment and being asked to indicate the position of the mean (or median, or mode).						
Select an appropriate statistical test.	For example, selecting a suitable inferential test for a given practical investigation and explaining why the chosen test is appropriate.						
Use statistical tables to determine significance.	For example, using an extract from statistical tables to say whether or not a given observed value is significant at the 0.05 level of significance for a one-tailed test.						
Understand measures of dispersion, including standard deviation and range.	For example, explaining why the standard deviation might be a more useful measure of dispersion for a given set of scores, eg where there is an outlying score.						

Mathematical Skills	Example of use in psychology	Out-line	Eval-uate	Out-line	Eval-uate	Out-line	Eval-uate
Understand the differences between qualitative and quantitative data.	For example, explaining how a given qualitative measure (for example, an interview transcript) might be converted into quantitative data.						
Understand the difference between primary and secondary data.	For example, stating whether data collected by a researcher dealing directly with participants is primary or secondary data.						
Algebra							
Understand and use the symbols: =, <, <<, >>, >, ∞, ~.	For example, expressing the outcome of an inferential test in the conventional form by stating the level of significance at the 0.05 level or 0.01 level by using symbols appropriately.						
Substitute numerical values into algebraic equations using appropriate units for physical quantities.	For example, inserting the appropriate values from a given set of data into the formula for a statistical test, eg inserting the N value (for the number of scores) into the Chi Square formula.						
Solve simple algebraic equations.	For example, calculating the degrees of freedom for a Chi Square test.						
Graphs							
Translate information between graphical, numerical and algebraic forms.	For example, using a set of numerical data (a set of scores) from a record sheet to construct a bar graph.						
Plot two variables from experimental or other data.	For example, sketching a scatter diagram using two sets of data from a correlational investigation.						
Simple fractions, percentages and decimals	How to convert between and show in simplified format.						
Significant figures	Show numbers to two significant figures.						

The sections that I have highlighted are likely to be required over the AS year and will be tested in September. The rest will be covered over the full duration of the course.

A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 1 Section A: Attachment

From the specification

- Caregiver-infant interactions in humans: reciprocity and interactional synchrony.
- Stages of attachment identified by Schaffer.
- Multiple attachments and the role of the father.
 - Animal studies of attachment: Lorenz and Harlow.
 - Explanations of attachment: learning theory and Bowlby's monotropic theory. The concepts of a critical period and an internal working model.
 - Ainsworth's 'Strange Situation'. Types of attachment: secure, insecure-avoidant and insecure-resistant. Cultural variations in attachment, including van IJzendoorn.
 - Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation. Romanian orphan studies: effects of institutionalisation.
- The influence of early attachment on childhood and adult relationships, including the role of an internal working model.

	Requirements broken down	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
caregiver-infant interactions	1. Reciprocity			
	2. Interactional synchrony			
	3. Multiple attachments Shaffer & Emerson (Glasgow babies)			
	4. Role of the father			
Animal studies of attachment	5. Lorenz			
	6. Harlow			
Explanations of attachment	7. Learning theory			
	8. Bowlby's monotropic theory			
	9. Concepts of the critical period			
	10. Internal working model			
Ainsworth's strange situation	11. Types of attachment: secure, insecure-avoidant and insecure-resistant			
Cultural variations in attachment	12. Van IJzendoorn			
Bowlby's theory	13. Maternal deprivation			
Romanian orphan studies	14. Effects of institutionalisation			
Influence of early attachment	15. Internal working model			

Attachment	Reciprocity	Interactional synchrony	Observation
Indiscriminate	Asocial	Discriminate	Multiple
Primary attachment	Separation anxiety	Stranger anxiety	

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A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 3 Section A: Issues and Debates in Psychology

From the specification

Issues and debates in psychology

- Gender and culture in psychology – universality and bias. Gender bias including androcentrism and alpha and beta bias; cultural bias, including ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.
- Free will and determinism: hard determinism and soft determinism; biological, environmental and psychic determinism. The scientific emphasis on causal explanations.
- The nature-nurture debate: the relative importance of heredity and environment in determining behaviour; the interactionist approach.
- Holism and reductionism: levels of explanation in psychology. Biological reductionism and environmental (stimulus-response) reductionism.
- Idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation.
- Ethical implications of research studies and theory, including reference to social sensitivity.

	Requirements broken down Research studies are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
Gender and culture bias	1. Discuss gender bias in research including universality, androcentrism and alpha and beta bias.			
	2. Discuss cultural bias in research including universality, ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.			
	3. Discuss the free will and determinism debate including hard and soft determinism, biological, environmental and psychic determinism and the scientific emphasis on causal explanations.			
	4. Discuss the nature-nurture debate including heredity, the environment and the interactionist approach.			
	5. Discuss holism and reductionism including levels of explanation, biological and environmental reductionism.			
	6. Discuss idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation.			
	7. Discuss ethical implications of research studies and theory including socially sensitive research.			

Key concepts: Issues and debates in Psychology

Gender bias Universality Androcentrism Alpha bias Beta bias Cultural bias Ethnocentrism Cultural relativism	Free will and determinism Hard determinism Soft determinism Biological determinism Environmental determinism Psychic determinism The nature-nurture debate Heredity Environment The interactionist approach	Holism and reductionism Biological reductionism Environmental reductionism Idiographic approach Nomothetic approach Ethical implications Social sensitivity
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Key terms for issues and debates

Androcentrism	Psychic determinism	Interactionist approach	
Alpha Bias	Free Will	Holism	
Beta Bias	Soft determinism	Gestalt	
Universality	Hard determinism	Idiographic	
Ethnocentrism	Nature V Nurture	Qualitative	
Cultural Relativism	Heredity	Nomothetic	
Emic	Epigenetics	Quantitative	
Etic	Diathesis - Stress	Scientific	
Determinism	Reductionism	Individual focus	
Environmental determinism	Biological Reductionism	Social Sensitivity	
Genetic determinism	Environmental reductionism	Research process	
Scientific determinism	Experimental reductionism		

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Or Log onto Tutor2U, watch a pre-recorded webinar on the section that you have covered. Make notes as you go. There are also lots of revision videos on You-tube.

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A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 1 Section D, Psychopathology

From the specification

- Definitions of abnormality, including deviation from Social norms, failure to function adequately, statistical infrequency and deviation from ideal mental health.
- The behavioural, emotional and cognitive characteristics of phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder.
- The behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias: the two-process model, including classical and operant conditioning; systematic desensitisation, including relaxation and the use of hierarchy; flooding
- The cognitive approach to explaining and treating depression: Beck's negative triad and Ellis's ABC model; cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT), including challenging irrational thoughts.
- The biological approach to explaining and treating OCD: genetic and neural explanations; drug therapy.

	Requirements broken down Research studies / Theories are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
Definitions of abnormality	1. Deviation from social norms			
	2. Failure to function adequately			
	3. Statistical infrequency			
	4. Deviation from ideal mental health			
Mental disorders – explanations	5. The behavioural approach to explaining phobias			
	6. Two process model to gaining and maintaining a phobia			
	7. The cognitive approach to explaining depression			
	8. The biological approach to explaining OCD			
Mental Disorders – Treatments	9. The behavioural approach to treating phobias			
	10. The cognitive approach to treating depression			
	11. The biological approach to treating OCD			

Key Terms for Psychopathology

DSM	Cultural Relativism	Statistical infrequency	Abnormality
Psychopathology	Deviation	Social norms	Context
Function	Psychological	Physiological	Emotional
Behavioural	Cognitive	Two process model	Classical conditioning
Diathesis-stress model	Operant conditioning	Hierarchy	Systematic desensitisation
Counter-conditioning	Reciprocal inhibition	Flooding	Phobias
Relaxation	ABC Model	Negative triad	Irrational
Musturbatory thinking	CBT	Individual differences	COMT Gene
SERT Gene	SSRI	GABA	Noradrenaline

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A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 3 Section B, Relationships

From the specification

- The evolutionary explanations for partner preferences, including the relationship between sexual selection and human reproductive behaviour
- Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships: Self-disclosure; Physical attractiveness; the matching hypothesis; Filter theory, including social demography, similarity of attitudes and complementarity.
- Theories of romantic relationships: Social Exchange theory, equity theory, and Rusbult's investment model of commitment, satisfaction, comparison with alternatives and investment. Duck's phase model of relationship breakdown: intra-psychic, dyadic, social and grave-dressing phases.
- Virtual relationships in social media: self-disclosure in virtual relationships; effects of absence of gating on the nature of virtual relationships
- Para-social relationships: levels of para-social relationships, the absorption addiction model and the attachment theory of explanation.

	Requirements broken down Research studies / Theories are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
Evolut. Expl. Partner pref.	1. The evolutionary explanation for partner preferences			
	2. Relationship between sexual selection and human reproductive behaviour			
Factors Affecting attraction	3. Self- disclosure			
	4. Physical attractiveness, including Walster's matching hypothesis			
	5. Kerchoff & Davis' Filter theory , including social demography, similarity in attitudes and complementarity			
Theories of Romantic relationships	6. Social Exchange Theory (Thibaut & Kelly)			
	7. Equity Theory (Hatfield)			
	8. Investment model of relationships (Rusbult)			
	9. Duck's model of relationship breakdown including phases; Intapsychic, dyadic, social and grave dressing.			
Virtual relationships in social	10. Self-disclosure in virtual relationships			
	11. Effects of the absence of gating in virtual relationships			
Para-social relationships	12. Levels of para-social relationships			
	13. Absorption addiction model			
	14. Attachment theory explanation of para-social relationships			

Key concepts: Issues and debates in Relationships – Whilst not a requirement, these offer a sound way of evaluating synoptically.

<p>Evolutionary perspective – Not all preferences are universal. Not all females are looking for a high status male. Maybe a methodological flaw – many participants involved in research are graduates who would expect high income.</p> <p>Secondly, the evolutionary theory will always remain a theory – cannot be falsified making it non-scientific as an argument. Adopts a nomothetic approach but ignores individual differences.</p>	<p>Culture bias in the Mtce and breakdown theories – Not all cultures view profit and loss in the same way, when applied to a relationship this is a very Western view resulting in a Beta bias (all people are the same).</p>	<p>Ethical implications – Research in the whole of this area could be deemed to be socially sensitive. The mere process of asking individuals to comment on their personal relationships could potentially result in harm to themselves or their relationship. Therefore, researchers often resort to asking individuals to self-report retrospectively on their relationships. This methodology may result in issues with over / under exaggeration of truth, false memories and social desirability.</p>
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Key Terms for Relationships:

Sexual - Selection	Filter Theory	Fairness	Virtual relationships
Intra sexual selection	Social demography	Investment model	Strangers on a train
Inter sexual selection	Similarity of attitudes	Satisfaction	Gating
Universality	Complementarity	Investment size	Nucleus Accumbens
Culture	Perception	Quality of alternatives	Ventral tegmental area
Evolutionary	Social Exchange Theory	Commitment level	Computer aided
Matching hypothesis	Profit & Loss	Abusive relationships	Para-social Relationships
Physical attractiveness	Comparison level	Breakdown	Entertainment social
Sex differences	Comparison level for alternatives	Intrapsychic Phase	Intense-personal
Self disclosure	Reward	Dyadic Phase	Borderline pathological
Boom and Bust	Cost	Social Phase	Absorption addiction
Face to face	Equity theory	Grave-dressing phase	Internal working model

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Things you can do now:

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A Level Psychology Checklists: Paper 1 Section A, Social Influence

From the specification

- Types of conformity: internalisation, identification and compliance. Explanations for conformity: informational social influence and normative social influence, and variables affecting conformity including group size, unanimity and task difficulty as investigated by Asch.
- Conformity to social roles as investigated by Zimbardo
- Explanations for obedience: agentic state and legitimacy of authority and situational variables affecting obedience including proximity, location and uniform, as investigated by Milgram.
- Dispositional explanation for obedience – the Authoritarian personality.
- Explanations of resistance to social influence including social support and locus of control.
- Minority influence including ref to consistency, commitment and flexibility
- The role of social influence processes in social change.

	Requirements broken down Research studies / Theories are in bold	Notes on this?	Got this?	Exam Q comp on this?
Types, explanations of conformity plus variables affecting conformity	1. Types of conformity; compliance, internalisation and identification			
	2. Explanations for conformity – Normative Social Influence			
	3. Explanations for conformity – Informational Social influence			
	4. Variables affecting conformity – Key study – Asch (1956) Line study - APFCC			
	5. Variable one – Group size			
	6. Variable two – unanimity of the majority			
	7. Variable three – Task difficulty			
Conformity to social roles	8. Key Study – Zimbardo (1973) – Stanford prison study - APFCC			
	9. Alternative study for evaluation – Reicher and Haslam – BBC prison study			
Factors affecting obedience	10. Key study – Milgram (1963) Electric shock study APFCC			
	11. Situational factors affecting obedience – Proximity			
	12. Situational factors affecting obedience – location			
	13. Situational factors affecting obedience – The power of uniform			
	14. Situational factors affecting obedience – The Agentic state			
	15. Situational factors affecting obedience – legitimacy of authority			
	16. Dispositional factors affecting obedience – The Authoritarian personality			
Resistance to social influence	17. Social Support -			
	18. Locus of control			
Minority influence	19. How minorities influence majorities – Consistency, commitment and flexibility			
Social	20. Social change through minority influence			

influence processes in social change	21. Social change through majority influence (conformity)			
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Key Terms for Social Influence

Compliance	Proximity	Social context	Snowball effect
Internalisation	Location	Authoritarian parents	Social Cryptoamnesia
Identification	Uniform	Social support	
Normative Social influence	Gender	Locus of control	
Informational social influence	Ethical issues	Consistency	
Group size	Internal validity	Commitment	
Unanimity	External validity	Flexibility	
Task difficulty	Agent state	Minority influence	
Temporal validity	Binding factors	Majority influence	
Confederate	Legitimate authority	Social Change	
Demand characteristics	Authoritarian personality	Augmentation principle	
Abu Ghraib	F scale	Cognitive conflict	

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