

PAPER 1

CORE: BIOLOGICAL LEVEL OF ANALYSIS		Completed
General Learning Outcomes	Outline principles that defines the biological level of analysis	
	Explain how principles that define the biological level of analysis may be demonstrated in research	
	Discuss how and why particular research methods are used at the biological level of analysis	
	Discuss ethical considerations related to research studies at the biological level of analysis	
Physiology	Explain one study related to localization of function in the brain	
	Using one or more examples, explain effects of neurotransmission on human behaviour	
	Using one or more examples, explain functions of two hormones in human behaviour	
	Discuss two effects of the environment on physiological processes	
	Examine one interaction between cognition and physiology in terms of behaviour	
	Discuss the use of brain imaging technologies in investigating the relationship between biological factors and behaviour	
Genetics	With reference to relevant research studies, to what extent does genetic inheritance influence behaviour?	
	Examine one evolutionary explanation of behaviour	
	Discuss ethical considerations in research into genetic influences on behaviour	

CORE: COGNITIVE LEVEL OF ANALYSIS		Completed
General Learning Outcomes	Outline principles that define the cognitive level of analysis	
	Explain how principles that define the cognitive level of analysis may be demonstrated in research	
	Discuss how and why particular research methods are used at the cognitive level of analysis	
	Discuss ethical considerations related to research studies at the cognitive level of analysis	
Cognitive Processes	Evaluate schema theory with reference to research studies	
	Evaluate two models or theories of one cognitive process	
	Explain how biological factors may affect one cognitive process	
	Discuss how social or cultural factors affect one cognitive process	
	With reference to relevant research studies, to what extent is one cognitive process reliable	
	Discuss the use of technology in investigating cognitive processes	
Cognition and Emotion	To what extent do cognitive and biological factors interact in emotion	
	Evaluate one theory of how emotion may affect one cognitive process	

PAPER 1
(continued)

CORE: SOCIOCULTURAL LEVEL OF ANALYSIS		Completed
General Learning Outcomes	Outline principles that define the sociocultural level of analysis	
	Explain how principles that define the sociocultural level of analysis may be demonstrated in research	
	Discuss how and why particular research methods are used at the sociocultural level of analysis	
	Discuss ethical considerations related to research studies at the sociocultural level of analysis	
Sociocultural Cognition	Describe the role of situational and dispositional factors in explaining behaviour	
	Discuss two errors in attributions	
	Evaluate social identity theory, making reference to relevant studies	
	Explain the formation of stereotypes and their effect on behaviour	
Social Norms	Explain social learning theory, making reference to two relevant studies	
	Discuss the use of compliance techniques	
	Evaluate research on conformity to group norms	
	Discuss factors influencing conformity	
Cultural Norms	Define the terms “culture” and “cultural norms”	
	Examine the role of two cultural dimensions on behaviour	
	Using one or more examples, explain “emic” and “etic” concepts	

PAPER 2

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY OPTION		Completed
General Framework	To what extent do biological, cognitive and sociocultural factors influence abnormal behaviour?	
	Evaluate psychological research relevant to the study of abnormal behaviour	
Concepts and Diagnosis	Examine the concepts of normality and abnormality	
	Discuss validity and reliability of diagnosis	
	Discuss cultural and ethical considerations in diagnosis	
	Describe symptoms and prevalence of one disorder from two of the following groups: anxiety disorders, affective disorders, eating disorders	
	Analyse etiologies of one disorder from two of the following groups: anxiety disorders, affective disorders, eating disorders	
	Discuss cultural and gender variations in prevalence of disorders	
Implementing Treatment	Examine biomedical, individual and group approaches to treatment	
	Evaluate the use of biomedical, individual and group approaches to the treatment of one disorder	
	Discuss the use of eclectic approaches to treatment	
	Discuss the relationship between etiology and therapeutic approach in relation to one disorder	

PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS OPTION		Completed
General Framework	To what extent do biological, cognitive and sociocultural factors influence human relationships?	
	Evaluate psychological research relevant to the study of human relationships	
Social Responsibility	Distinguish between altruism and prosocial behaviour	
	Contrast two theories explaining altruism in humans	
	Using one or more research studies, explain cross-cultural differences in prosocial behaviour	
	Examine factors influencing bystanderism	
Interpersonal Relationships	Examine biological, psychological and social origins of attraction	
	Discuss the role of communication in maintaining relationships	
	Explain the role that culture plays in the formation and maintenance of relationships	
	Analyse why relationships may change or end	
Violence	Evaluate sociocultural explanations of the origins of violence	
	Discuss the relative effectiveness of two strategies for reducing violence	
	Discuss the effects of short-term and long-term exposure to violence	

PAPER 3

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN PSYCHOLOGY		Completed
Theory and Practice in Qualitative Research	Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative data	
	Explain strengths and limitations of a qualitative approach to research	
	To what extent can findings be generalized from qualitative studies?	
	Discuss ethical considerations in qualitative research	
	Discuss sampling techniques appropriate to qualitative research	
	Explain effects of participant expectations and researcher bias in qualitative research	
	Explain the importance of credibility in qualitative research	
	Explain the effect of triangulation on the credibility/trustworthiness of qualitative research	
	Explain reflexivity in qualitative research	
Interviews	Evaluate semi-structured, focus group and narrative interviews	
	Discuss considerations involved before, during and after an interview	
	Explain how researchers use inductive content analysis (thematic analysis) in interview transcripts	
Observations	Evaluate participant, non-participant, naturalistic, overt and covert observations	
	Discuss considerations involved in setting up and carrying out an observation	
	Discuss how researchers analyse data obtained in observational research	
Case Studies	Evaluate the use of case studies in research	
	Explain how a case study could be used to investigate a problem in an organization or group	
	Discuss the extent to which findings can be generalized from a single case study	