

Advanced Information for 2022 exams  
Curriculum intent and implementation for: Psychology

**Location of Advanced Information:** <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/content/summer-2022/AQA-7182-AI-22.PDF>

**AQA states:**

- This advance information covers all examined components.
- **There is no advance information for the assessment of Research Methods throughout the papers or in Section C Paper 7182/2, due to the integrated nature of the research methods content. (THIS MEANS REVISE IT ALL! PLUS, IT CAN COME ANYWHERE)**
- For each paper the list shows the major focus of the content of the exam.
- It is not permitted to take this advance information into the exam.

**AQA Advice:**

- The aim should still be to cover all specification content in teaching and learning.
- Students and teachers should consider how to focus their revision of other non-listed parts of the specification, for example to review whether other topics may provide knowledge which helps understanding in relation to the areas being tested in 2022.
- Students will be expected to draw on knowledge, skills and understanding from across the specification when responding to synoptic questions and extended writing.
- Students will be credited for using any relevant knowledge from any non-listed topic areas when answering questions.

**Our response:**

We have nearly finished teaching all of the topics, I will finish teaching aggression. With regards to the non-listed parts of the specification I have tried to give you some ideas of what this means below (in yellow). The examples are not exhaustive and as a group we will work to make connections in each topic. Where it talks above about synoptic questions and extended writing, Synoptic questions are those that bring together knowledge, skills and understanding from across the specification, extended questions are 8/16-mark questions, most likely referring to discuss question. With this in mind Issues and Debates and Approaches are the 2 topic areas I feel you should ensure you are confident of the full topic area not just the listed ones from the advanced information. This is because they will support all other topics in terms of knowledge and evaluation.

**I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT THIS IS THE MAIN FOCUS OF THE EXAM WHICH MEANS THIS IS WHERE YOUR FOCUS SHOULD BE BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN DON'T LOOK AT THE OTHER AREAS OF THE SPECIFICATION AND IGNORE THEM COMPLETELY.**

## **7182/1 Paper 1 Introductory topics in Psychology**

### **Social Influence**

#### Advanced Information (AI)

- Explanations for obedience: agentic state and legitimacy of authority, and situational variables affecting obedience including proximity and location, as investigated by Milgram, and uniform. Dispositional explanation for obedience: The Authoritarian Personality.
- Explanations of resistance to social influence, including social support and locus of control.
- Minority influence including reference to consistency, commitment and flexibility

#### Original 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 and location, as investigated by Milgram, and uniform. Dispositional explanation for obedience: The Authoritarian Personality.
- Explanations of resistance to social influence, including social support and locus of control.
- Minority influence including reference to consistency, commitment and flexibility.
- ~~• The role of social influence processes in social change.~~

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Although Asch is not on the AI list, you would benefit from having an awareness of his work when you look resistance to social influence, for example social support can be supported by Asch group size.

## Memory

### Advanced Information (AI)

- The multi-store model of memory: sensory register, short-term memory and long-term memory. Features of each store: coding, capacity and duration.
- The working memory model: central executive, phonological loop, visuo-spatial sketchpad and episodic buffer. Features of the model: coding and capacity.
- Improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony, including the use of the cognitive interview.

### Original Specification

- The multi-store model of memory: sensory register, short-term memory and long-term memory. Features of each store: coding, capacity and duration.
- ~~Types of long term memory: episodic, semantic, procedural.~~
- The working memory model: central executive, phonological loop, visuo-spatial sketchpad and episodic buffer. Features of the model: coding and capacity.
- ~~Explanations for forgetting: proactive and retroactive interference and retrieval failure due to absence of cues.~~
- ~~Factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony: misleading information, including leading questions and post-event discussion; anxiety.~~
- Improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony, including the use of the cognitive interview.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** - Whilst types of LTM doesn't feature on the list, LTM is part of the multi store model therefore you would be able to demonstrate deeper understanding there. Although factors affecting accuracy of EWT is not on the list, you still benefit from understanding these to help you fully understanding the need for cognitive interviews.

## **Attachment**

### Advanced Information (AI)

- 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.

### Original 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.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** - Whilst Caregiver interactions is not on the list, you would be able to add depth to your discussion of Bowlby's theory for example by using the role of the father to discuss the concept of monotropy. Stages of attachment is relevant for example in discussing the effects of institutionalisation.

## **Psychopathology**

### Advanced Information (AI)

- Definitions of abnormality, including deviation from social norms, failure to function adequately, statistical infrequency and deviation from ideal mental health.
- The behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias: the two-process model, including classical and operant conditioning; systematic desensitisation, including relaxation and use of hierarchy; flooding.
- The biological approach to explaining and treating OCD: genetic and neural explanations; drug therapy

### Original 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 (OCD).~~
- The behavioural approach to explaining and treating phobias: the two-process model, including classical and operant conditioning; systematic desensitisation, including relaxation and 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.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** - The characteristics of each disorder is not listed; however you need to know what the characteristics of Phobias and OCD are to help you explain them. The cognitive approach to explaining depression is not on the list, however you need to understand the background of the cognitive approach to understand and explain the use CBT for treating Schizophrenia.

## **7182/2 Paper 2 Psychology in context**

### **Approaches in Psychology**

#### Advanced Information (AI)

- Learning approaches: i) the behaviourist approach, including classical conditioning and Pavlov's research, operant conditioning, types of reinforcement and Skinner's research; ii) social learning theory including imitation, identification, modelling, vicarious reinforcement, the role of mediational processes and Bandura's research.
- The psychodynamic approach: the role of the unconscious, the structure of personality, that is 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 on counselling Psychology.

#### Original Specification

~~Origins of Psychology: Wundt, introspection and the emergence of Psychology as a science.~~

- Learning approaches: the behaviourist approach, including classical conditioning and Pavlov's research, operant conditioning, types of reinforcement and Skinner's research; social learning theory including 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 schema, 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. Genotype and phenotype, genetic basis of behaviour, evolution and behaviour.~~
- The psychodynamic approach: the role of the unconscious, the structure of personality, that is 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 on counselling Psychology.
- ~~Comparison of approaches:~~

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *Although Cognitive and Biological approaches are not listed, you would still need to have a good understanding of each approach, for example you need to be able to explain the cognitive approach as an explanation for SZ and discuss the use of CBT in SZ. You can use your understanding of both of these approaches to help you discuss the other approaches, and the biological approach to be able to fully understand the biological explanations of Aggression and OCD and treatments of Schizophrenia and OCD.*

## Biopsychology

### Advanced Information (AI)

- The divisions of the nervous system: central and peripheral (somatic and autonomic).
- The structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons. The process of synaptic transmission, including reference to neurotransmitters, excitation and inhibition.
- Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation: motor, somatosensory, visual, auditory and language centres; Broca's and Wernicke's areas, split brain research. Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma.
- Ways of studying the brain: scanning techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI); electroencephalogram (EEGs) and event-related potentials (ERPs); post-mortem examinations.

### Original Specification

- The divisions of the nervous system: central and peripheral (somatic and autonomic).
- The structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons. The process of synaptic transmission, including reference to neurotransmitters, excitation and inhibition.
- ~~•• The function of the endocrine system: glands and hormones.~~
- ~~•• The fight or flight response including the role of adrenaline.~~
- Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation: motor, somatosensory, visual, auditory and language centres; Broca's and Wernicke's areas, split brain research. Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma.
- Ways of studying the brain: scanning techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI); electroencephalogram (EEGs) and event-related potentials (ERPs); post-mortem examinations.
- ~~•• Biological rhythms: circadian, infradian and ultradian and the difference between these rhythms. The effect of endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers on the sleep/wake cycle.~~

*IMPORTANT NOTE: Although the endocrine system is not on the AI, you do need to understand it because you look at the role of various glands in the release of hormones and chemicals for other topics e.g. biological approach to OCD and Aggression and biological treatments for Schizophrenia.*

**Research Methods – No advance information provided -  
REVISE IT ALL!**

## **7182/3 Paper 3 Issues and option in Psychology**

### **Issues and debates in Psychology**

#### Advanced Information (AI)

- Free will and determinism: hard determinism and soft determinism; biological, environmental and psychic determinism. The scientific emphasis on causal explanations.
- Idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation.
- Ethical implications of research studies and theory, including reference to social sensitivity.

#### Original Specification

- ~~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.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** - Referring back to this point: Students will be expected to draw on knowledge, skills and understanding from across the specification when responding to synoptic questions and extended writing. I would suggest that issues and debates is the section you would be best advised to look at all of the I&Ds because all of them form an excellent basis for evaluation. For example, reductionism and holism would be beneficial when looking at the biological explanation of OCD, Nature vs nurture would be really useful for discussing the Interactionist approach in Schizophrenia. Gender and Culture bias can be applied to most of the topic areas. So, this is another topic (like approaches) I think you would be best to look at this section more holistically.

## **Relationships**

### Advanced Information (AI)

- 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.

### Original Specification

- ~~The evolutionary explanations of partner preferences, including the relationship between sexual selection and human reproductive behaviour.~~
- ~~Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships: self-disclosure; physical attractiveness, including the matching hypothesis; filter theory, including social demography, similarity in 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.
- ~~Parasocial relationships: levels of parasocial relationships, the absorption addiction model and the attachment theory explanation.~~

## Schizophrenia

### Advanced Information (AI)

- Psychological explanations for schizophrenia: family dysfunction and cognitive explanations, including dysfunctional thought processing.
- Drug therapy: typical and atypical antipsychotics.
- Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy as used in the treatment of schizophrenia.
- Token economies as used in the management of schizophrenia.
- The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia; the diathesis-stress model.

### Original Specification

- ~~Classification of schizophrenia. Positive symptoms of schizophrenia, including hallucinations and delusions. Negative symptoms of schizophrenia, including speech poverty and avolition. Reliability and validity in diagnosis and classification of schizophrenia, including reference to co-morbidity, culture and gender bias and symptom overlap.~~
- ~~Biological explanations for schizophrenia: genetics and neural correlates, including the dopamine hypothesis.~~
- Psychological explanations for schizophrenia: family dysfunction and cognitive explanations, including dysfunctional thought processing.
- Drug therapy: typical and atypical antipsychotics.
- Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy as used in the treatment of schizophrenia.
- Token economies as used in the management of schizophrenia.
- The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating schizophrenia; the diathesis-stress model.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** - Issues surrounding Classification and diagnosis is not on the list however you need to know the symptoms to be able to fully understand the explanations. Also, it is useful to be able to evaluate the other explanations. You may consider that CBT is problematic due to the nature of cognitive deficits seen in people diagnosed with SZ, or you may consider the issue of symptom overlap when treating SZ. Therefore, my advice is not to ignore this subsection. The biological explanations are not on the list; however, you would need to understand the dopamine hypothesis to understand the way typical and atypical drugs work.

## **Aggression**

### Advanced Information (AI)

- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression, including the roles of the limbic system, serotonin and testosterone. Genetic factors in aggression, including the MAOA gene.
- Media influences on aggression, including the effects of computer games. The role of desensitisation, disinhibition and cognitive priming.

### Original Specification

- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression, including the roles 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 human 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, disinhibition and cognitive priming.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Although deindividuation, SLT and frustration aggression hypothesis is not on the list it will be useful when explaining media influences.**

### **Dates of final exams:**

Paper 1 – 24<sup>th</sup> May am

Paper 2 – 8th June am

Paper 3 – 16<sup>th</sup> June am

**Lesson and intervention schedule from mocks to exams:**

26	21 Feb	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aggression: Deindividuation</li> <li>2. Aggression: Institutional</li> <li>3. Aggression: Media</li> <li>4. Aggression: Media</li> <li>5. Aggression: Media</li> </ol>	All of the content for aggression will be taught with more focus on media influences because this is in the Advanced Information (AI)	
27	28 Feb	Revision for Mocks	Revision will be focused on the AI (particular focus on RM) and the mocks will reflect this.	
28	07 Mar	Yr. 13 Mock Exams	Full paper 1 and 2 and Issues and Debates, Relationships and Schizophrenia paper 3 (1.5)	
29	14 Mar			
30	21 Mar	Revision will be focused on 1 ½ hr. SI 1 ½ hr. Memory 1 hr. Attachment	Intervention sessions will run on Wednesday lunch time, the focus will be looking at questions/ answering any issues on AI so the students need to come ready having looked at the focus of this intervention session.	Wednesday - Paper 1
31	28 Mar	½ hr. Attachment 1 ½ hr. Psychopathology 1 ½ hr. Approaches 1 ½ hr. Biopsychology		Wednesday - Paper 2
32	04 Apr			
33	11 Apr			
34	18 Apr	18 Apr Bank Holiday and 19 Apr Bank Holiday 2 hr. hours RM		Wednesday - RM
35	25 Apr	1 ½ hr. Issues and Debates 1 ½ hr. Relationships 1 ½ hr. SZ ½ hr. Aggression		Wednesday - Paper 3
36	02 May	1 hr Aggression		Wednesday - AOB
37	09 May			
38	16 May			
39	23 May	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Paper 1 (AM)		
40	30 May	Holiday		
41	06 June	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June Paper 2 (AM)		
42	13 June	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June Paper 3 (AM)		