

Psychology

In psychology we attempt to explain why people behave the way they do. We consider explanations linked to an individual's genetics and neurology, whilst also considering the influence of the environment around them. By analysing the influence of both nature and nurture we are able to explain complex behaviours and make practical applications to real life. For example, biological evidence indicates there is a genetic origin for many mental health disorders, however the onset of mental illness may also be linked to external experiences, such as conditioning. This has led to the development of therapies to treat mental illness, such as drug therapies and cognitive behavioural therapy. As a psychology student, you will analyse and evaluate the validity of these explanations.

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: 5+ in English, Humanities, Science and Maths

Assessment: 3 x 2 hour papers

- Paper 1: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology
- Paper 2: Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods
- Paper 3: Issues and Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Aggression

Link to exam papers:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/assessment-resources>

Recommended textbooks:

- AQA Psychology Year 1, 2nd Edition Paperback (Illuminate)
- AQA Psychology Year 2, 2nd Edition Paperback (Illuminate)
- The Complete Companions for AQA A Level Psychology 5th Edition: 16-18: The Complete Companions: A Level Year 1 and AS Psychology Student Book 5th Edition Paperback (OUP Oxford)
- The Complete Companions for AQA A Level Psychology 5th Edition: 16-18: The Complete Companions: A Level Year 2 Psychology Student Book 5th Edition Paperback



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