

Activity 1: Spot the Assessment Objectives

Below are the AOs for A Level Psychology.

Looking at the exam questions opposite, can you identify which AOs they are assessing?

With regards to psychological themes, theories, terminology, concepts (ideas and processes), methods, studies and practical applications, candidates should be able to:

AO1 Knowledge and understanding: Demonstrate their knowledge and understanding

AO2 Applying knowledge and understanding: Apply their knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations and real life and theoretical contexts

AO3 Analysis and evaluation: Analyse, interpret and evaluate psychological information, ideas and evidence

Exam question	AOs being assessed
State one aim from the study by Dement and Kleitman (sleeps and dreams). [1]	
Describe what the participants were told about the purpose of the study before it began. [2]	
Describe one methodological problem that could arise if child participants were used in this study. [2]	
Studies in cognitive psychology could help workers doing repetitive jobs. Describe how the results of the study by Andrade (doodling) could be applied to help with this problem. [4]	
From the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans): Discuss at least two strengths and two weaknesses of the study. [8]	
What do Gottesman and Shields (1972) mean by the term 'genetic explanation of schizophrenia'? [2]	
Compare the cognitive explanation of schizophrenia with one other explanation of schizophrenia. [6]	
Discuss the weaknesses of pain measures for children. [6]	
Give two advantages of the treatment of applied tension for blood phobia. [4]	
Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using students in psychology experiments. You should include a conclusion in your answer. [5]	
Design a study to investigate whether obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is more effectively treated by psychological or biomedical techniques. [10]	
Explain the psychological and methodological evidence on which your study is based [8]	