



Teacher Support

GCSE Psychology

Preparing to Teach

Example Mock Exam from a
Centre:

- Candidate X

GCSE Psychology

Mock Exam

26th January 2009

CAND X
Rachel
Smith.

Time allowed: 2 hours

Instructions

- Use a black pen
- **Answer every question on the paper**
- There are 8 questions in total
- Spend about 15 minutes on each questions
- **Ignore the page numbering and the question numbering.**
- There are no pages or questions missing. (the numbers are out of order due to taking out/adding in questions to make a mock exam of topics you have covered)

Name

SECTION A: MEMORY

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

1 (a) The multi-store explanation of memory suggests that memory has three separate stores:

- A Sensory memory
- B Short-term memory
- C Long-term memory

The following table contains descriptions of these three stores. In the box next to each description write the name of the store (A, B or C) that it describes.

Holds about seven chunks of information	<input type="text" value="B"/>
Memories fade almost immediately	<input type="text" value="A"/>
Memories may remain here forever	<input type="text" value="C"/>

(3 marks)

1 (b) Use your knowledge of psychology to identify and briefly describe **one** practical application based on the multi-store model of memory.

Practical application... Rehearsing words.

Brief description... By rehearsing words the memory that has been held in the short term memory will be transferred into long term memory so you will remember them for much longer if not forever.

(3 marks)

1 (c) Look at the following examples of forgetting.

Example	Term
When Joan was asked for her telephone number, she gave her old number instead of her new one.	C
Sarah could remember French vocabulary when she was in the classroom where she had learnt it, but she forgot it when she was in the exam room.	B

From the following list of terms, choose the one which is the best explanation of forgetting and write A, B or C in the box next to each example.

- A Context
- B Interference
- C Reconstructive

(2 marks)

1 (d) (i) Describe **one** study in which eye-witness testimony was investigated. Include in your answer the reason why the study was conducted, the method used, the results obtained and the conclusion drawn.

Reason to see whether eye witness testimony is accurate

Method Participants split into 3 groups. All watched video of car crash. Group 1 asked how fast

Results Group 1 estimated a higher speed of 41mph than group 2's '34mph for the cars 'hitting.'

Conclusion Eye witness testimony is not accurate

(4 marks)

Question 1 continues on the next page

cars were going when they 'smashed. Group 2 how fast they were going when they 'hit' and the control group wasn't asked a question.

- 1 (d) (ii) Evaluate the study you have described in your answer to (d) (i).

~~An~~ A disadvantage of this study is that it is not real life so the results may not be as accurate. However an advantage is that it can be useful to the police in everyday situations on how they word thier questions

(3 marks)

SECTION D: STEREOTYPING, PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

- 4 (a) Read the following conversation between two students:

Susan: "Why does our teacher always give you higher marks than me?"

Tina: "That's easy. You've got blonde hair and he thinks all blondes are stupid."

Susan: "That's discrimination, because I'm not stupid."

- 4 (a) (i) What is meant by the term *stereotyping*? Refer to the conversation above in your answer.

Stereotyping is a rigid, generalised and simplified set of ideas that we have of a ~~part~~ person because of their membership of a particular group. Here the teacher is stereotyping Susan because she is blond and he ~~stereotypes~~ stereotypes blonds to be stupid.

(3 marks)

- 4 (a) (ii) What is meant by the term *discrimination*? Refer to the conversation above in your answer.

Discrimination is acting on a view or opinion we have of someone because of their membership of a particular group. The teacher is discriminating Susan because he thinks that all blondes are stupid so he's giving her lower marks than others.

(3 marks)

Question 4 continues on the next page

4 (b) Read the following statements about Sherif's work on prejudice and discrimination and decide whether they are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

4 (b) (i) Sherif created conflict between two groups of 12 year olds at a summer camp.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

4 (b) (ii) Sherif's study has been criticised because he only studied boys.
(tick the correct box)

(1 mark)

True	False
✓	

4 (b) (iii) Sherif's study concluded that people with an authoritarian personality are more likely to be prejudiced.
(tick the correct box)

(1 mark)

True	False
	✓

(1 mark)

- 4 (c) Using your knowledge of psychology, describe and evaluate one way that prejudice might be reduced.
(use continuous prose)

Prejudice can be reduced by experiencing it for ourselves. As in Jane Elliott's study where blue eyed children ~~was~~ were superior to brown eyed children. The blue eyed children had dominance over the brown eyed children and they were only allowed to play with people with the same eye colour. On the second day this was reversed so brown eyed children were privileged. This taught the children ~~that~~ how it feels to be prejudiced to about something they cannot control. The blue eyed children's behaviour (extra space) changed by them looking down on the brown eyed children and the brown eyed children felt bullied. Even though this experiment was unethical it's unlikely that the children will be prejudiced because they know how it feels

(6 marks)

Turn over for the next section

SECTION E: RESEARCH METHODS

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 20 marks

5

A psychologist conducted an experiment to investigate pupil dilation. His aim was to find out if the pupils of participants' eyes were wider when they looked at a picture of a smiling face or a picture of an angry face. This is what he did:

- He used 10 volunteers to take part in both conditions of his experiment.
- In Condition A, he showed each participant a photograph of a person who was smiling.
- He then used a special camera to measure the width in millimetres of each participant's pupils.
- In Condition B, he showed each participant a photograph of the same person but this time the person had an angry face.
- He then measured the width in millimetres of each participant's pupils again.

- 5 (a) Write a suitable hypothesis for this experiment.

A suitable hypothesis could be that the pupils of participants' eyes ~~was~~ dilated wider when they saw a smiling face than when they saw an angry face.

(2 marks)

- 5 (b) (i) Identify the independent variable in this experiment.

The picture whether it was smiling or angry

(1 mark)

5 (b) (ii) Identify the dependent variable in this experiment.

The dilation of the pupils in the participants eyes (1 mark)

5 (b) (iii) Identify the experimental design used in this experiment.

Repeated measures (1 mark)

5 (c) Read each of the following statements about experimental designs and decide whether it is **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

5 (c) (i) A disadvantage of a repeated measures design is that participant variables could affect the results.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
	✓

(1 mark)

5 (c) (ii) A disadvantage of an independent groups design is that more participants are needed than for a repeated measures design.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

(1 mark)

5 (c) (iii) A disadvantage of a matched pairs design is that it can be time-consuming.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

(1 mark)

Question 5 continues on the next page

- 5 (d) Identify **one** extraneous variable that the psychologist controlled in this experiment.
(tick the correct box)

- The person used in the photograph.
- The sex of the participants.
- The width of the participants pupils

(1 mark)

- 5 (e) Identify the sampling method the psychologist used in this experiment.

~~opport~~ Opportunity sampling

(1 mark)

- 5 (f) The results of the experiment are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: The width of participants' pupils in millimetres when shown a smiling face and when shown an angry face.

Participant	Condition A (Smiling face)	Condition B (Angry face)
1	8	5
2	7	4
3	8	3
4	7	4
5	9	4
6	2	5
7	6	4
8	8	3
9	6	5
10	9	3
Total	70	40

- 5 (f) (i) The mean width of participants' pupils in Condition A is:
(tick the correct box)

- 5 mm.
- 7 mm.
- 70 mm.

(1 mark)

- 5 (f) (ii) Identify **one** anomalous result in Condition A and state what effect this has on the mean width of participants' pupils.

One anomalous result is participant 6's result of 2mm. This could lower the mean width of participants' pupils.

(2 marks)

- 5 (f) (iii) The range in Condition B is:
(tick the correct box)

2 mm.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 mm.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5 mm.	<input type="checkbox"/>

(1 mark)

- 5 (g) Explain **one** disadvantage of using the experimental method in psychological research.

Because they used repeated measures the participants did both conditions. The participants could then start to figure out the experiment and not concentrate as hard so the results would be affected.

(3 marks)

- 5 (h) (i) Identify **one** ethical issue the psychologist should have considered before conducting his experiment.

Protection of participants

(1 mark)

Question 5 continues on the next page

- 5 (h) (ii) Outline **one** way the psychologist could have dealt with the ethical issue you have identified in your answer to (h) (i).

Make sure each participant was healthy and
had good eye sight

(2 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

SECTION A: LEARNING

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

- 1 (a) Outline what is meant by the term *learning*.

Learning is a relatively permanent change
in behaviour due to experience

(2 marks)

- 1 (b) Molly is six months old. Her father warms her milk up in the microwave. He has noticed that Molly makes sucking noises when the microwave bell rings. She has also started to make the same sucking noises when the timer bell on the oven rings.

- 1 (b) (i) Molly making sucking noises when the microwave bell rings is an example of the following:
(tick the correct box)

A conditioned response
An unconditioned response

(1 mark)

- 1 (b) (ii) When the microwave bell rings, this is an example of the following:
(tick the correct box)

An unconditioned stimulus
A conditioned stimulus

(1 mark)

- 1 (b) (iii) Molly making sucking noises when the timer on the oven rings is an example of the following:
(tick the correct box)

Discrimination
Generalisation

(1 mark)

- 1 (b) (iv) Who described the principles of classical conditioning?
(tick the correct box)

Pavlov

Skinner

(1 mark)

- 1 (c) Read the following letter which appeared in the problem page of a popular magazine:

Dear Jo,

My daughter Abbie won't go to sleep. I put her to bed and then go downstairs. After a few minutes she gets up. She says she is scared so I let her watch television with me. Then she is happy. Why can't I get her to stay in bed?

Yours sincerely,

Mrs B Skinner

- 1 (c) What is meant by *positive reinforcement*? Refer to the letter in your answer.

Positive reinforcement is rewarding good behaviour with something positive like praise or sweets. Mrs Skinner could tell Abbie she'll get a reward if she stays in bed. If she does this then she should carry out the reward and Abbie will learn to stay in bed.

(3 marks)

Question 1 continues on the next page

1 (d) The table below describes attempts to apply conditioning procedures to phobias.

Description	Treatment
Claire is given a sticker every time she can face her fear. When she has 10 stickers she exchanges them for something she wants.	D
Gary has been taught relaxation techniques. He has been taught to gradually face his fear.	C
Olga has been made to face her most feared situation immediately until she is comfortable with it.	B

From the following list of treatments, choose the one that matches each description and write A, B, C or D in the box next to the description.

- A Aversion therapy
- B Flooding
- C Systematic desensitisation
- D Token economy

(3 marks)

1 (e) Explain one ethical implication of using flooding to treat phobias.

As it faces the participants fears immediately and they can't escape it causes the ethical implication of distress. The participant gets distressed as they can't escape from thier fear.

(3 marks)

SECTION B: SOCIAL INFLUENCE

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

- 2 (a) Look at the table below which contains examples of social behaviour.

Description	Term
Lucy picks up litter from the playground because her teacher tells her to.	C
William always wears a certain brand of trainers because all his friends do.	B
Adam likes working in a group because he can get away with doing less work.	D

From the following list of terms, choose the one that matches each description and write A, B, C or D in the box next to the correct description.

- A Bystander intervention
- B Conformity
- C Obedience
- D Social loafing

(3 marks)

- 2 (b) Look at the following factors which affect obedience and decide whether they are likely to **INCREASE** or **DECREASE** obedience.

- 2 (b) (i) The authority figure is wearing a uniform.

Increase	Decrease
✓	

(tick the correct box)

(1 mark)

- 2 (b) (ii) The order is given in a run-down office block.

Increase	Decrease
	✓

(tick the correct box)

(1 mark)

Question 2 continues on the next page

- 2 (c) Outline what is meant by the term *deindividuation*.

Deindividuation can be defined as the loss of self awareness and personal belonging when in a group or crowd.

(2 marks)

- 2 (d) Describe **and** evaluate **one** study in which bystander intervention was investigated. Include in your answer the method used in the study, the results obtained, the conclusion drawn and an evaluation of the study described.
(use continuous prose)

Aim → To see how long it takes people to report an incident when alone or in a group.

Method → Participants were asked to complete a questionnaire in a room ~~with~~ alone and then with 2 others. Steam was poured in through a vent in the room for 6 minutes and researchers watched through a one way mirror.

Results → It took people longer to report the incident when they were in a group because they saw it as less serious.

Conclusion → People think incidents are less serious when in a group. Took longer to report the incident (extra space) in a group.

Evaluation → Because ~~both~~ participants took part in both conditions they could have started to work out the experiment so the results may not be reliable

(6 marks)

- 2 (e) Outline **one** practical implication of the findings of studies of bystander intervention.

People don't react as quickly when they're in a group to a situation which is seen as much more serious when they're alone.

(2 marks)

Turn over for the next section

SECTION C: SEX AND GENDER

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

- 3 (a) Two fathers were discussing the behaviour of their young children.

William: "I think boys and girls behave differently just because of their biology."

Gareth: "I don't agree, I think the differences are psychological."

- 3 (a) (i) What is meant by the term *sex identity*? Refer to the conversation above in your answer.

Sex identity is the biological status of being male or female. William thinks this is why boys and girls act differently.

(2 marks)

- 3 (a) (ii) What is meant by the term *gender identity*? Refer to the conversation above in your answer.

Gender identity is the persons sense of feeling male or female. Gareth thinks this is why boys and girls are different.

(2 marks)

- 3 (b) (i) Identify the male hormone.

Testosterone

(1 mark)

- 3 (b) (ii) Identify the female chromosome.

XX

(1 mark)

3 (c) The following are examples of gender development. From the following list of terms, choose the one that matches each example. Write the correct term on the line below each example.

- Oedipus complex
- Electra complex
- Vicarious reinforcement
- Gender schema
- Imitation
- Modelling.

3 (c) (i) Leanne copies her mother putting on make-up. This is an example of:

Imitation

(1 mark)

3 (c) (ii) After Sonny sees his brother being praised for climbing a tree, he climbs a tree. This is an example of:

Modelling

(1 mark)

3 (c) (iii) Jason is five years old. He thinks that all doctors are men. This is an example of:

Gender schema

(1 mark)

3 (d) David is five years old. When he was younger he was very loving towards his mother but now he wants to be like his father. How would psychodynamic theory explain David's gender development?

He ~~is~~ sexually desires his mother which is why he was very loving to her. However he ~~feels~~ ^{fears} castration by his father if he finds out so copies him to keep him onside. Psychodynamic theory would explain he also copies his father so he knows how to seduce his mother in ^{late} life.

(3 marks)

Question 3 continues on the next page

3 (e) Read each of the following statements about the psychodynamic theory of gender development and decide whether it is **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

3 (e) (i) Freud studied a large number of children to develop his theory.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
	✓

(1 mark)

3 (e) (ii) It is difficult to test Freud's theory scientifically.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

(1 mark)

3 (e) (iii) Freud ignored social influences on gender development.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

(1 mark)

SECTION D: AGGRESSION

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 15 marks

- 4 (a) (i) Describe **one** study in which the development of aggressive behaviour was investigated. Include in your answer the reason why the study was conducted, the method used, the results obtained and the conclusion drawn.

Reason To see whether children learn aggression through observation and imitation.

Method Split children into 2 groups. One group observed aggression (hitting, kicking, shouting). Other group observed non aggressive behaviour (hugging)

Results Children that observed aggression ~~were more~~ ^{were more} aggressive whereas children that observed non aggressive behaviour were less aggressive

Conclusion Children do learn aggression through observation and imitation.

(4 marks)

- 4 (a) (ii) Evaluate the study you have described in your answer to (a) (i).

Can be seen as unethical because the children may take this aggression away with them and use it on others. Also it wasn't very realistic as you wouldn't normally see an adult hitting a bobo doll.

(3 marks)

Question 4 continues on the next page

4 (b) Look at the following explanations of aggression.

Explanations of aggression	Term
A drive which satisfies our instinct for self-destruction	B
Increased levels of the hormone testosterone	A
Observing and imitating the behaviour of an aggressive role model	C

From the following list of terms, choose the one that matches each explanation of aggression and write A, B or C in the box next to each explanation:

- A Biological
- B Psychodynamic
- C Social learning

(2 marks)

4 (c) Using your knowledge of psychology, describe and evaluate **one** way of reducing aggression.
(use continuous prose)

One way of reducing aggression is to shield children away from aggression so they never see it. This however can be very hard because aggression is in many places like on television and in every day life. Also some types of punishment may be aggressive so you wouldn't be able to punish children very strongly as this could influence them into being aggressive.

(extra space).....

(6 marks)

SECTION E: RESEARCH METHODS

Answer all questions.

Total for this question: 20 marks

5

A psychologist working at a phobia treatment centre conducted a survey to find out which of its two treatments was more successful, *flooding* or *systematic desensitisation*. This is what she did:

- From the target population of all patients being treated at the centre, she randomly selected 10 participants who experienced flooding and 10 participants who experienced systematic desensitisation.
- At the end of their treatment, all participants were given a questionnaire asking them to say whether their symptoms were better, worse or the same as before.

- 5 (a) Describe **one** way the psychologist could have chosen a random sample of patients who experienced flooding.

~~She~~^{They} could have asked the participants their names and wrote them down on separate pieces of paper. Then put them into a hat and draw them out at random.

(2 marks)

- 5 (b) Identify **one** advantage of random sampling.

~~Very~~ Every participant has a fair chance of being picked.

(1 mark)

Question 5 continues on the next page

5 (c) Read each of the following statements about questionnaires and decide whether it is **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

5 (c) (i) Questionnaires can be used to gather information from a large number of people.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
✓	

(1 mark)

5 (c) (ii) Identify **one** disadvantage of using questionnaires in psychological research.

People may lie on them so the evidence obtained would not be reliable

(1 mark)

5 (d) The psychologist discovered that in the group of 10 patients who experienced systematic desensitisation:

- one patient said he felt worse than before;
- three patients said they felt the same as before;
- six patients said they felt better than before.

She converted these results into percentages.

5 (d) What percentage of patients said they felt better than before?

(tick the correct box)

6%	
30%	
60%	✓

(1 mark)

5 (e) The psychologist decided to carry out a case study of the patient who felt worse than before.

5 (e) Outline what is meant by a *case study*.

An in depth and personal study on one person.

(2 marks)

- 5 (f) (i) Identify **one** ethical issue the psychologist should have considered before conducting her case study.

Debriefing

(1 mark)

- 5 (f) (ii) Outline how the ethical issue you have identified in your answer to (f) (i) could have been dealt with by the psychologist.

She should tell the participant what she is going to do and write.

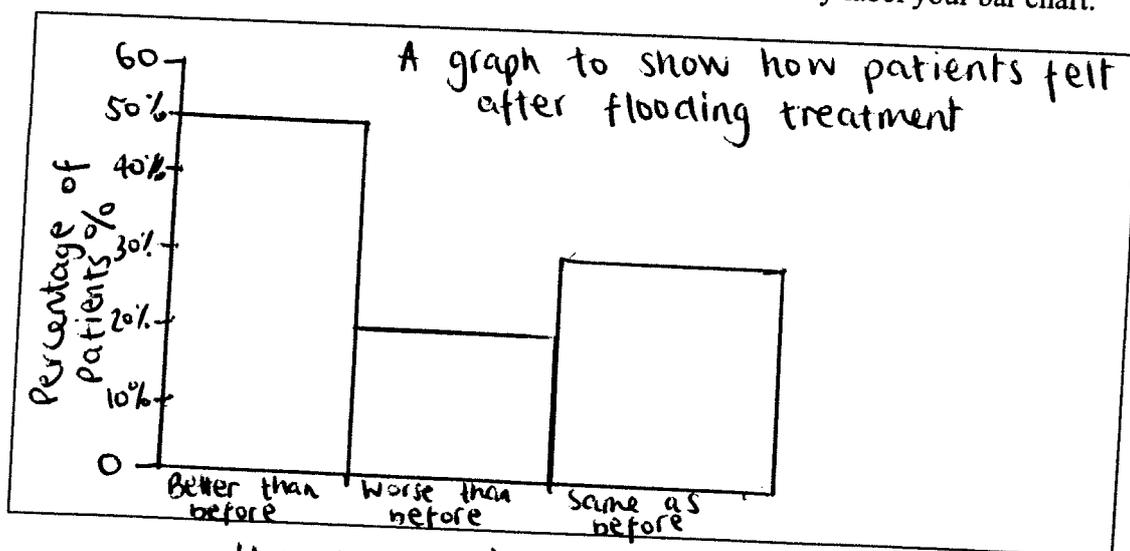
(2 marks)

- 5 (g) The results from the group of patients who experienced flooding are displayed in Table 1.

Table 1: Percentage of patients who said they felt better, worse or the same as before.

	%
Better than before	50
Worse than before	20
Same as before	30

- 5 (g) Use the graph paper below to draw a bar chart to display the percentages shown in Table 1. Provide a suitable title for this bar chart and fully label your bar chart.



How the patient felt after treatment (5 marks)

Question 5 continues on the next page

5 (h) The psychologist decided to interview the participants who said they felt better than before.

5 (h) (i) Write **one closed** question the psychologist could have asked the participants in the interview.

Do you feel much happier with your fear?
 Yes No Unsure

(1 mark)

5 (h) (ii) Write **one open** question the psychologist could have asked the participants in the interview.

Tell me how you feel the treatment went?

(1 mark)

5 (i) Read each of the following statements about interviews and decide whether it is **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

5 (i) (i) An interview can be structured or unstructured.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(1 mark)

5 (i) (ii) Interviews can allow participants to explain their answers.
(tick the correct box)

True	False
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(1 mark)

END OF QUESTIONS