

PiXL Independence:

Psychology – Student Booklet

KS5

OCR Style, Debates in Psychology

Contents:

- I. Multiple Choice Questions – 20 credits in total
- II. Short Answer Questions – 10 credits each
- III. Context Quiz: Debates in Psychology – 80 credits for answering all the questions
- IV. Concepts and Application to the Real World – 60 credits per question
- V. Academic Articles – 80 credits per article
- VI. Essay Style Questions – 100 credits per question

I. Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which approach demonstrates soft determinism?
 - a. Psychodynamic
 - b. Biological
 - c. Behavioural
 - d. Humanistic
 - e. Cognitive

2. What is reductionism?
 - a. Looking at one factor for behaviour
 - b. Looking at all explanations of a behaviour
 - c. Understanding how simple components relate to behaviour
 - d. A way to describe how behaviour is learnt
 - e. A feature of science

3. How many ethical principles are set out in the BPS code?
 - a. 4
 - b. 5
 - c. 6
 - d. 7
 - e. 8

4. Which approach is not seen as scientific?
 - a. Biological
 - b. Cognitive
 - c. Behavioural
 - d. Psychodynamic
 - e. Social

5. What is a weakness of reductionism?
 - a. It helps us understand the world
 - b. A behaviour might not be meaningful when isolated without context
 - c. It allows researchers to control for extraneous variables
 - d. It is easier to study one component
 - e. It is more objective

6. Which study takes a nurture approach to behaviour?
 - a. Gould
 - b. Raine
 - c. Gottesman
 - d. Bandura
 - e. Freud

7. Which study takes a soft determinism approach?
 - a. Moray
 - b. Freud
 - c. Bandura
 - d. Sperry
 - e. Maguire

8. What is a reductionist conclusion from Maguire's research?
 - a. Taxi drivers are better at navigating
 - b. Gender can affect spatial ability
 - c. Spatial navigation is localised in the hippocampus
 - d. MRI scans show neural volume
 - e. The hippocampus performs multiple memory tasks

9. Which of these is not a reductionist assumption of an approach?
 - a. Biological mechanisms cause behaviour such as brain function.
 - b. Individuals develop through stages and must achieve one stage to move on to the next.
 - c. The mind is like a machine with a selection of cognitive processors.
 - d. Behaviour is due to a complex interaction between multiple social factors in the environment.
 - e. The unconscious is the cause of all behaviour and therefore all actions can be reduced to the interaction between the id, ego and superego.

10. What does not make research useful?
 - a. Questioning previous research
 - b. Progressing understanding of human behaviour
 - c. Acting as a catalyst for further research
 - d. Providing developments for therapies
 - e. Providing funding

II. Short Answer Questions

1. How does Gould's study support the nature debate?
(4 marks)
2. Suggest one strength of stating that behaviour is deterministic. Use studies as examples.
(4 marks)
3. How is Maguire's research seen as reductionist?
(4 marks)
4. What areas of psychology tend to take a situational approach to explaining behaviour?
(4 marks)
5. Explain how one developmental study can be considered useful when explaining behaviour.
(4 marks)
6. What are the benefits of carrying out unethical research?
(4 marks)
7. Summarise the key ethical guidelines in psychology.
(4 marks)
8. What makes something a science?
(4 marks)
9. What is hard determinism?
(4 marks)
10. Define reductionism.
(2 marks)
11. How might Loftus' research be deemed socially sensitive?
(4 marks)
12. Assess how freewill is different from determinism.
(6 marks)

III. Context Quiz: Core Studies in Psychology

[What is humanistic psychology?](#)

1. What is humanistic psychology?
2. Why is humanism referred to as the Third Force?
3. How is humanism holistic?

Magic changing our expectations of autism – Kahn study

1. What is the vanishing ball illusion?
2. Describe the frames from the video clip of the vanishing ball illusion.
3. What has research into perceptual strategies of cricket players shown?
4. What are the impairments in social attention that people with autism spectrum disorder have?
5. Summarise the procedure in a cartoon strip.
6. Describe the eye tracking measures used.
7. Summarise the results.
8. How does this take a holistic approach to behaviour?

IV. Concepts and Application to the Real World

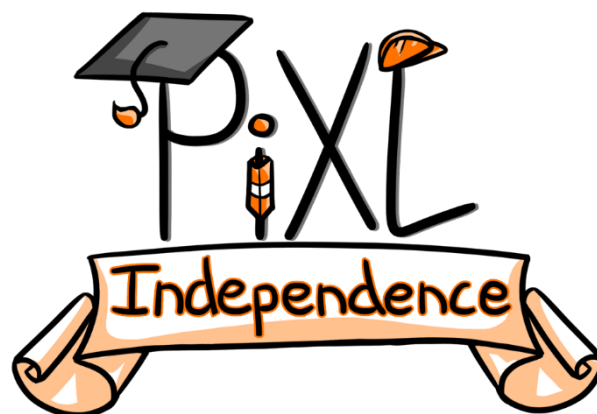
1. What are the implications for society if we believe that behaviour is solely caused by nature?
2. How can deterministic explanations lead to socially sensitive research?
3. Discuss the usefulness of providing a situational explanation for behaviour.
4. How scientific are individual explanations for behaviour?
5. How might neuroscience change our understanding of criminal responsibility?
6. What are the real world implications of Gould's findings?
7. What reductionist explanations exist for aggression?
8. How might research into delayed gratification affect parenting styles?
9. Discuss the benefits of giving a reductionist biological explanation for some psychiatric disorders.
10. How might the findings of Chaney's research be useful in the treatment of children by doctors?

V. Academic Articles

1. [Effect of neurotransmitters](#)
How could this be investigated by reductionist methods? Would it be better to take a more holistic approach?
2. [Prison experiment](#)
How does this research support a situational explanation for behaviour?
3. [Token economies](#)
Assess the usefulness of therapies based on behaviourist ideas, such as token economies.
4. [Middlemist – personal space](#)
What does Middlemist's research tell us about whether the end justifies the means of research that is unethical? How could this research have been carried out in a more appropriate way?
5. [Brunner MAOA](#)
What issues are there with socially sensitive research in regards to genetic testing. Discuss using Brunner as an example.
6. [Memory and mobile devices](#)
What are some advantages of taking a reductionist approach to research, such as here? How might you design some research that is more holistic?
7. [Nature--nurture](#)
Do you think that nature or nurture has a greater impact on the behaviour of young children? Are there any other examples that you can draw on?
8. [Is research scientific?](#)
How scientific is psychological research? What can affect whether it is classified as a science?
9. [Brain in numbers](#)
Is there any scope within the biological approach for the free will explanation of behaviour? What are the dangers of only taking a deterministic view of behaviour?
10. [Schizophrenia and neurobiology](#)
How might a holistic approach be a better explanation of mental disorders, such as schizophrenia? Is there enough evidence to support a purely reductionist approach?

VI. Essay Style Questions

1. Discuss the nature – nurture debate in psychology. Refer to core studies in your answer.
(12 marks)
2. How do Social Psychological studies support the idea of reductionism?
(8 marks)
3. Discuss the difference between an individual explanation for behaviour and a situational explanation for behaviour, using examples from core studies.
(12 marks)
4. Using research, discuss the costs and benefits of carrying out unethical research.
(12 marks)
5. Should socially sensitive research be carried out in psychology? Refer to research in your answer.
(8 marks)
6. Assess how scientific the cognitive approach is.
(12 marks)
7. What are the implications of psychology being a science for research into obedience?
(8 marks)
8. Discuss the extent to which determinism shapes our behaviour. Use examples of research in your answer.
(12 marks)
9. Discuss how the individual versus situational debate is similar to the determinism versus free will debate.
(12 marks)
10. Discuss how the individual differences approach can take a holistic viewpoint. Use examples of research in your answer.
(12 marks)



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