

What you Need to know to get a 4-6 in Psychology

	RAG	Revised	Practice questions completed	Checked with Ms Zloh
MEMORY				
Can I explain the processes of encoding, storage and retrieval?				
Can I describe the three types of long-term memory: episodic, semantic and procedural?				
Can I explain the differences between the three types of long-term memory?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe the multi-store model of memory? (sensory, short-term and long-term stores)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the multiple-store model of memory? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Murdock's study? (aim, method, results, conclusion)				
KEY STUDY: Can I explain what is meant by primary effects and recency effects?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Murdock's study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Bartlett's 'War of the Ghosts' study? (aim, method, results, conclusion)				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Bartlett's study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe the theory of reconstructive memory? (social/cultural influences, effort after meaning)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the theory of reconstructive memory? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain the different factors affecting accuracy of memory including interference, context and false memories?				
PERCEPTION				
Can I explain the difference between sensation and perception?				
Can I identify the four monocular depth cues?				
Can I identify the two binocular depth cues?				
Can I describe how four monocular depth cues work: height in plane, relative size, occlusion and linear perspective?				
Can I describe how binocular depth cues work: retinal disparity and convergence?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Gibson's direct theory of perception? (motion parallax				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Gibson's direct theory of perception? (two strengths/weaknesses)				

Can I explain the role of motion parallax in perception?				
Can I understand how the following can create visual illusions: ambiguity, misinterpreted depth cues, fiction and size constancy?				
Can I explain how the following visual illusions work: the Ponzo illusion, the Muller-Lyer illusion, Rubin's vase, the Ames Room, the Kanizsa triangle and the Necker cube?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Gregory's constructivist theory of perception?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Gregory's constructivist theory of perception? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain what is meant by perceptual set?				
Can I identify the four factors that affect perceptual set: culture, emotion, motivation and expectations?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Gilchrist and Nesberg's study into motivation?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Gilchrist and Mesberg's study into motivation? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Bruner and Minturn's study into expectations?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Bruner and Minturn's study into expectations?				
DEVELOPMENT				
Can I identify and describe the roles of the brain stem, thalamus, cerebellum and cortex?				
Can I explain the roles of nature and nurture in brain development?				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain Piaget's theory of cognitive development: four stages of development (sensori-motor, pre-operational, concrete operational and formal operational)?				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain the concepts of schema, assimilation and accommodation?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Piaget's theory of cognitive development? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I apply Piaget's theory to education?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe the key research study: McGarrigle and Donaldson's 'Naughty Teddy' study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate the key research study: McGarrigle and Donaldson's 'Naughty Teddy' study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe the key research study: Hughes' 'Policeman Doll' study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate the key research study: Hughes' 'Policeman Doll' study? (two				

strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Dweck's mindset theory of learning?				
KEY THEORY: Can I understand the difference between fixed and growth mindset?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Dweck's mindset theory of learning? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I describe learning styles, including verbalisers and visualisers?				
KEY THEORY: Can I outline Willingham's Learning Theory and his criticism of learning styles?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Willingham's Learning Theory? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
RESEARCH METHODS				
Can I formulate testable hypotheses?				
Can I explain the difference between the independent variable and the dependent variable?				
Can I explain what extraneous variables are and give examples?				
Can I understand how and when to use the following experimental designs: independent groups, repeated groups and matched pairs?				
Can I evaluate experimental designs: independent groups, repeated groups and matched pairs?				
Can I understand how and when to use laboratory experiments, field experiments and natural experiments?				
Can I evaluate the following research methods: laboratory experiments, field experiments and natural experiments?				
Can I understand how and when to use interviews?				
Can I evaluate the use of interviews?				
Can I understand how and when to use questionnaires?				
Can I evaluate the use of questionnaires?				
Can I understand how and when to use case studies?				
Can I evaluate the use of case studies?				
Can I understand how and when to use observations?				
Can I evaluate the use of observations?				
Can I explain what the sample and the target population are?				
Can I understand how and when to select samples using these methods: random,				

opportunity, systematic and stratified?				
Can I evaluate the different sampling methods?				
Can I understand the differences between positive correlation, negative correlation and no correlation?				
Can I explain the strengths and weaknesses of using correlation?				
Can I explain how standardised procedures are used in research?				
Can I explain how standardised instructions are used in research?				
Can I explain how to use randomisation?				
Can I explain how to control for extraneous variables?				
Can I explain informed consent, deception, protection from harm and privacy and confidentiality?				
Can I explain how to deal with these issues in psychological research including debriefing, right to withdraw, and confidentiality?				
Can I explain the difference between quantitative and qualitative data?				
Can I explain the difference between primary and secondary data?				
Can I do maths including decimals, percentages, ratios, fractions, estimates, and significant figures?				
Can I calculate the mean, mode, median and range?				
Can I draw histograms, bar charts and scattergraphs?				
Can I explain the characteristics of normal distribution?				
SOCIAL INFLUENCE				
Do I understand the difference between social factors and dispositional (personality) factors?				
Can I identify and explain how the following social factors affect conformity: group size, anonymity and task difficulty?				
Can I identify and explain how the following dispositional factors affect conformity: personality and expertise?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Asch's 'lines' study (into conformity)?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Asch's 'lines' study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Milgram's agency theory of obedience?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Milgram's agency theory of obedience? (two				

strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I identify and explain how the following social factors affect obedience: agency, authority, culture and proximity?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Adorno's theory of the Authoritarian personality?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Adorno's theory of the Authoritarian personality? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain how dispositional factors affect obedience?				
Can I identify and explain how the following social factors affect bystander behaviour: the presence of others and the cost of helping?				
Can I identify and explain how the following dispositional factors affect bystander intervention: similarity to the victim and expertise?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Piliavin's 'subway' study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Piliavin's 'subway' study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I identify and explain how the following social factors affect collective behaviour: social loafing, deindividuation and culture?				
Can I identify and explain how the following dispositional factors affect collective behaviour: personality and morality?				
LANGUAGE, THOUGHT AND COMMUNICATION				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Piaget's theory (that language depends on thought)?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Piaget's theory? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis (that thought depends on language)?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain the limited functions of animal communication: survival, reproduction, territory and food?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe von Frisch's bee study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate von Frisch's bee study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain the difference between non-verbal communication and verbal communication?				
Can I explain the functions of eye contact, including: regulating flow of conversation, signalling attraction and expressing emotion?				

Can I explain how body language is used to communicate, including: open and closed posture, postural echo and touch?				
Can I understand how the following factors affect personal space: culture, status and gender?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Darwin's evolutionary theory of non-verbal communication?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Darwin's evolutionary theory of non-verbal communication? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Yuki's emoticons study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Yuki's emoticons study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
THE BRAIN & NEUROPSYCHOLOGY				
Can I explain how the human nervous system is divided into the central nervous system and peripheral nervous system (including the somatic and autonomic nervous systems)?				
Can I describe the basic functions of these nervous systems?				
Can I explain the fight or flight response and how it is controlled by the autonomic nervous system?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe the James-Lange theory of emotion?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the James-Lange theory of emotion? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I describe differences between sensory, relay and motor neurons, and explain their functions?				
Can I explain how synaptic transmission works?				
KEY THEORY: Can I describe Hebb's theory of learning and neuronal growth?				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate Hebb's theory of learning and neuronal growth? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I identify and explain the localised functions of the following parts of the brain: the motor, somatosensory, visual, auditory and language areas (Brocas' area & Wernicke's area)?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Penfield's study of the interpretive cortex?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Penfield's study of the interpretive cortex? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I understand what cognitive neuroscience				

is?				
Can I explain how the following scanning techniques are used to identify brain functioning: CT, PET and fMRI scans?				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Tulving's 'gold' memory study?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Tulving's 'gold' memory study? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS				
Can I understand how and why the incidence of mental health problems has changed over time?				
Can I explain how mental health problems affect individuals?				
Can I explain how mental health problems affect society?				
Can I explain the differences between unipolar depression, bipolar depression and sadness?				
Can I recall the symptoms of unipolar depression?				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain how an imbalance of neurotransmitters may cause depression? (biological explanation)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the biological explanation of depression? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain how negative schemas and attributions may cause depression? (psychological explanation)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the psychological explanation of depression? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
THERAPIES: Can I explain how the use of antidepressant medications may improve mental health?				
THERAPIES: Can I evaluate the use of antidepressant medications to treat depression? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
THERAPIES: Can I explain how the use of cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) may improve mental health?				
THERAPIES: Can I evaluate the use of CBT to treat depression? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Wiles' study into the effectiveness of CBT?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Wiles' study into the effectiveness of CBT? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
Can I explain the difference between addiction and dependence?				

Can I explain the difference between substance misuse and substance abuse?				
Can I recall the symptoms of addiction?				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain how hereditary factors may cause a genetic vulnerability towards addiction (influence of nature)? (biological explanation)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the biological explanation of addiction? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY THEORY: Can I explain how peer influence may affect the development of an addiction (influence of nurture)? (psychological explanation)				
KEY THEORY: Can I evaluate the psychological explanation of addiction? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
THERAPIES: Can I explain how aversion therapy may be used to treat addiction?				
THERAPIES: Can I evaluate the use of aversion therapy to treat addiction? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
THERAPIES: Can I explain how self-management programmes may help with addiction?				
THERAPIES: Can I evaluate the use of self-management programmes to treat addiction? (two strengths/weaknesses)				
KEY STUDY: Can I describe Kaij's twin study of alcohol abuse?				
KEY STUDY: Can I evaluate Kaij's twin study of alcohol abuse? (two strengths/weaknesses)				

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Can I evaluate studies and theories using the PEE structure?				
Can I apply knowledge of key studies and theories to answer questions with a stem (scenario)?				
Can I answer Design a Study questions using knowledge of key studies?				
Can I write 9 mark essays effectively? (4 marks for description, 5 marks for evaluation)				

What you Need to know to get a 7-9 in Psychology

Below is a list of additional knowledge and skills required to help you achieve the higher grades in Psychology, in addition to the 4-6 knowledge.

	RAG	Revised	Practice questions completed	Checked with Ms Zloh
MEMORY: For Murdock's study can I explain how primacy effects are linked to LTM, and recency effects are linked to STM?				
MEMORY: Can I use McGeoch and McDonald's study to explain interference?				
MEMORY: Can I use Godden and Baddeley's study to explain context?				
MEMORY: Can I use Loftus and Pickell's study to explain false memories?				
PERCEPTION: Can I explain how inferences are used to construct a model of reality?				
PERCEPTION: Can I use Hudson's study to explain how culture affects perceptual set?				
PERCEPTION: Can I use McGinnes' study to explain how emotion affects perceptual set?				
DEVELOPMENT: Can I explain how the brain develops from simple neural structures in the womb?				
DEVELOPMENT: Can I explain how children's egocentricity and conservation skills change as they get older?				
DEVELOPMENT: Can I explain suitable strategies for children (in education) depending on their stage of cognitive development?				
DEVELOPMENT: Can I explain the role of praise in learning?				
DEVELOPMENT: Can I explain the role of self-efficacy beliefs in learning.				
RESEARCH METHODS: Can I explain the difference between the null hypothesis and the alternative hypothesis?				
LANGUAGE: Can I explain how recall of events and recognition of colours may be affected by the language we speak?				
LANGUAGE: Can I explain the properties of human communication that are not present in animal communication?				

LANGUAGE: Can I explain evidence that non-verbal behaviour is innate?				
LANGUAGE: Can I explain evidence that non-verbal behaviour is learned?				
BRAIN & NEUROPSYCHOLOGY: In relation to synaptic transmission, can I explain how excitatory neurotransmitters and inhibitory neurotransmitters affect how neurons fire?				
BRAIN: Can I explain the process of summation (in relation to excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmitters)?				
BRAIN: Can I describe the basic structure of the following parts of the brain: frontal lobe, temporal lobe, parietal lobe, occipital lobe and cerebellum?				
BRAIN: Can I evaluate the use of scanning techniques (PET, CT, fMRI)? (one strength and weakness of each)				
BRAIN: Can I explain how neurological damage can affect motor abilities and behaviour?				
PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS: Can I describe the characteristics of mental health?				
PP: Can I describe cultural variations in beliefs about mental health problems?				
PP: Can I understand how the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is used to diagnose unipolar depression?				
PP: Can I understand how the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is used to diagnose addiction?				
PP: Can I understand the differences between reductionist and holistic approaches to mental health?				

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Can I justify any decisions for Design a Study questions?				
Can I make synoptic links between different topics (across paper 1 and 2)?				
Can I understand how AO1, AO2 and AO3 marks are allocated by reading the question and looking at number of marks awarded?				