

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Candidate signature _____

Qualification AS (7181) A-level (7182)

AS & A-level

PSYCHOLOGY

Paper 1 · Section C focus paper
· Attachment

Topic mock · Based on AQA
Psychology

2026

Time allowed: 45 minutes (AS) · 60 minutes (A-level)

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- a black ink or black ball-point pen.

Instructions

- This paper is for **both AS and A-level** students. Questions 01–09 are identical for both qualifications.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Fill in the boxes above and tick your qualification.
- Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided. If you need extra space, use the lined pages at the end.
- Cross through any rough work you do not want marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets. This paper covers **Attachment** only (AQA spec 3.1.3 / 4.1.3).
- **Maximum mark:** 36 (AS) · 40 (A-level). **Question 10 (essay)** is the only question where marks differ — worth **12 at AS** and **16 at A-level**.
- Answer in continuous prose. You will be assessed on use of good English, clear organisation and specialist vocabulary.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
01	
02	
03	
04	
05	
06	
07	
08	
09	
10	
TOTAL	

Section C

Attachment

Answer all questions in this section.

0 1

Which one of the following best describes the **critical period** in attachment? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A The period in adulthood when relationships have the strongest influence on personality.
- B A specific window in early life during which an attachment must form, or it will be very difficult or impossible to form one later.
- C The period during which infants learn language through interaction with caregivers.
- D The first 12 hours after birth, when imprinting occurs in human infants.

[1 mark]

0 2

Which one of the following best describes **insecure-avoidant (Type A)** attachment as identified by Ainsworth? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A The infant shows moderate distress at separation and is easily comforted on reunion.
- B The infant shows extreme distress at separation and seeks but also resists contact on reunion.
- C The infant shows little distress at separation and avoids contact with the caregiver on reunion.
- D The infant shows inconsistent and contradictory behaviour on reunion with the caregiver.

[1 mark]

0 3

Which one of the following best describes the **internal working model**? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A A learned set of behaviours used to gain attention from caregivers.
- B A mental representation of the self, the caregiver and the relationship, used as a template for future relationships.
- C The biological mechanism that drives infants to seek closeness to a caregiver.
- D A questionnaire used to measure attachment quality in adults.

[1 mark]

0 7

Briefly outline **cultural variations in attachment**. Refer to **van Ijzendoorn and Kroonenberg's (1988)** meta-analysis in your answer.

[3 marks]

0 8

Outline **Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation**. Refer to one possible consequence of maternal deprivation in your answer.

[3 marks]

0 9

Briefly explain how the **internal working model** influences **childhood and adult relationships**. Refer to research evidence in your answer.

[3 marks]
