

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Candidate signature _____

A-level

PSYCHOLOGY

A-level topic mock · Based on AQA
Psychology

Paper 3 · Section D option ·

Forensic Psychology

2026

Time allowed: 1 hour

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- a black ink or black ball-point pen.

Instructions

- This paper is for **A-level only** — Forensic Psychology is a Paper 3 option topic, not assessed at AS.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Fill in the boxes above.
- 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 **Forensic Psychology** only (AQA spec 4.3.9).
- **Maximum mark: 48.** The paper includes an 8-mark essay (Q10) and a 16-mark essay (Q11).
- 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	
11	
TOTAL	

Section D

Forensic Psychology

Answer all questions in this section.

0 1

In offender profiling, the **typology approach** classifies offenders as one of which two types? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A Primary and secondary.
- B Organised and disorganised.
- C Internal and external.
- D Dispositional and situational.

[1 mark]

0 2

Which one of the following is a **neural** explanation of offending behaviour? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A Inheriting "candidate genes" such as MAOA.
- B Learning criminal attitudes from others.
- C Reduced activity in the prefrontal cortex.
- D Holding a low level of moral reasoning.

[1 mark]

0 3

According to **Eysenck**, the criminal personality scores highly on which combination of dimensions? Write A, B, C or D in your answer book.

- A Introversion, stability and openness.
- B Extraversion, neuroticism and psychoticism.
- C Agreeableness, conscientiousness and stability.
- D Introversion, neuroticism and agreeableness.

[1 mark]

0 4

Outline the **typology approach** to offender profiling. Refer to **organised and disorganised** offenders in your answer.

[3 marks]

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0 5

Tyler is serving a prison sentence for assault. He reacts aggressively whenever he feels he has been disrespected, and loses his temper very quickly. The prison psychologist enrolls him on a programme that helps him to recognise the early signs that he is becoming angry, and teaches him techniques — such as relaxation and positive self-talk — to use in situations that provoke him.

Use your knowledge of **anger management** to explain the programme Tyler has been enrolled on.

[4 marks]

0 6

A series of burglaries has taken place across one area of a city. A psychologist is asked to help the police. Rather than starting from fixed "types" of offender, the psychologist analyses the precise details and locations of all the crime scenes, looking for statistical patterns, and uses the spatial distribution of the offences to suggest the area in which the offender is most likely to live.

Explain how the **data-driven approach** to offender profiling is being used in this case. Refer to **investigative psychology and/or geographical profiling**.

[4 marks]

0 7

Outline **restorative justice** as a way of dealing with offending behaviour.

[4 marks]

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0 8

Outline the **aims of custodial sentencing** and **one psychological effect** of custodial sentencing.

[3 marks]

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0 9

Outline **behaviour modification in custody** as a way of dealing with offending behaviour.

[3 marks]

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