

# Oxford Revise | AQA A Level Psychology | Answers

## Chapter 16

All exemplar answers given would achieve full marks or the top level.

### 1. Marks for this question: AO1 = 1

The child identifies with an excessively strict parent, so feels crippled by guilt. They commit crimes with the aim of being caught so that the punishment will reduce guilty feelings.

### 2. Marks for this question: AO2 = 6

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the differential association theory of offending is clear and generally well detailed.</li> <li>Application is mostly clear and effective.</li> <li>The answer is generally coherent with appropriate use of specialist terminology.</li> </ul>
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the differential association theory of offending is evident.</li> <li>There is some effective application.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the differential association theory of offending is limited.</li> <li>Application is either absent or inappropriate.</li> <li>The answer as a whole lacks clarity and has inaccuracies.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

### Possible AO2 application:

- Sylvie has learned the values, attitudes, and behaviours of shoplifting from her new social group. She is interacting with the group all the time, which means she will adhere more to their criminal behaviour.
- Sylvie's attitude to the law has become the same as the people she associates with. She models her behaviour on theirs and identifies with them. Her friends value shoplifting cigarettes and alcohol because they have a lot of fun.
- Sylvie has learned vicariously to shoplift as she sees the benefits of it.
- Sylvie has directly learned techniques for shoplifting such as tearing holes in her jacket to conceal items.

- Sylvie has likely learned the attitude that it's okay to steal from large organisations but not small shops as the group she associates with has that opinion.

Credit other relevant applications.

### 3. Marks for this question: AO1 = 4

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of two aims of custodial sentencing is clear and accurate.</li> <li>The answer is mostly coherent with effective use of specialist terminology.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of two aims of custodial sentencing is briefly stated with little elaboration.</li> <li>The answer may include inaccuracies and be poorly organised.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b> one aim of custodial sentencing is present at Level 2.</p>
	0	No relevant content.

#### Possible AO1 content:

- Incapacitation: to remove a person from society with the aim of protecting the public, especially from violent and dangerous criminals who are unable to control themselves.
- Deterrence: to create a punishment that is harsh enough to discourage people from offending or repeat offending.
- Retribution: to elicit justice for the victim and/or their loved ones by the offender 'paying a price' for their crime
- Rehabilitation: to reform prisoners through therapy or opportunities to develop skills and training, so they are better able to function upon release.

Credit other relevant material.

### 4. Marks for this question: AO3 = 3

**3 marks** for a clear, coherent strength or limitation of minimalisation as a cognitive distortion which might explain offending, using appropriate terminology.

**2 marks** for a strength or limitation of minimalisation as a cognitive distortion which might explain offending that lacks some clarity or detail.

**1 mark** for a brief or muddled strength or limitation of minimalisation as a cognitive distortion which might explain offending.

#### Possible AO3 evaluation:

- Evidence for minimalisation: researchers found that sex offenders minimised their crimes by downplaying their behaviour, suggesting that the victim's behaviour contributed to the crime, or denying it happened

at all. Researchers suggested that it is normal for people to blame negative behaviour on external sources, to protect the self. This supports the idea that this kind of cognitive distortion may underpin offending behaviour.

- Treatment for cognitive distortions: a study used CBT techniques on young men from disadvantaged backgrounds to reduce their cognitive distortions. Participants had a 44% reduction in arrests compared to controls. This suggests that if CBT is an effective treatment, the cognitive explanation for offending is valid in at least some cases.

Credit any valid strength or limitation.

## 5. Marks for this question: AO1 = 4

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of the genetic explanation of offending behaviour is clear and accurate.</li> <li>• The answer is mostly coherent with effective use of specialist terminology.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of the genetic explanation of offending behaviour is briefly stated with little elaboration.</li> <li>• The answer may include inaccuracies and be poorly organised.</li> <li>• Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

### Possible AO1 content:

- The genetic explanation says that individuals inherit one or more genes which predispose them to criminality.
- A review of twin studies found 52% concordance rates for MZs compared to 21% for DZs for delinquent behaviour, which supports the view that offending may have a genetic component.
- Candidate genes are the MAOA and CDH13 genes. DNA analysis of 28 members of a Dutch family with a history of violent crimes found they had an abnormal MAOA gene, leading to lower levels of serotonin in the brain.
- A study that analysed the genetics of 900 offenders found low activity from the abnormal MAOA and CDH13 genes. Offenders with a combination of the two abnormal genes were 13 times more likely to have been violent.
- Although someone may have been born with a diathesis (genetic predisposition) for offending, it's thought that criminal behaviour won't necessarily occur unless it's triggered by something stressful in the environment, such as childhood abuse.

Credit other relevant material.

## 6. Marks for this question: AO1 = 1

**1 mark** for a clear, coherent outline of what is meant by recidivism.

### Exemplar answer:

*Recidivism refers to criminals who reoffend. This may be the same crime or a similar one.*

## 7. Marks for this question: AO3 = 6

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation of atavistic form as a biological explanation of offending behaviour is thorough and effective.</li> <li>The answer is clear, coherent, and focused.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used effectively.</li> </ul>
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation of atavistic form as a biological explanation of offending behaviour is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation of atavistic form as a biological explanation of offending behaviour is limited.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity and organisation.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

### Possible AO3 evaluation:

- Lombroso shifted the study of crime towards an evidence-based approach, which he tried to do through anthropometry. Although his methods were flawed, he paved the way for modern criminology. His work on linking specific types of people to specific crimes is thought to be the beginnings of offender profiling.
- Lombroso only studied criminals rather than comparing them to non-criminals (controls). If he had used controls, he may have found just as many atavistic characteristics in the non-criminals. In 1913, a researcher compared 3000 convicts to non-convicts and found no differences, except that the convicts were slightly smaller.
- Lombroso's theory is criticised for racism. Atavistic characteristics, such as dark skin and curly hair, are more likely to be found in people of African descent. At the time, the eugenic philosophy of some advocated enforced sterilisation to remove those 'unfit to reproduce' from the gene pool, putting many non-white criminals at risk.

- Lombroso's views on women were typical of nineteenth century androcentric attitudes. He believed women were unintelligent, maternally minded, and passive, so were unlikely to become criminals. He believed that female criminals had masculine characteristics that turned them into monsters. His theory was gender biased and his attitudes to women were based on stereotypes rather than empirical evidence.
- Lombroso's claim that criminal behaviour was caused by atavistic characteristics is questioned because criminals' facial/cranial differences could have been influenced by environmental factors such as poverty. Lombroso himself later acknowledged environmental influences on offending behaviour.

Credit other relevant evaluations.

#### 8. Marks for this question: AO1 = 4

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of geographical profiling is clear and accurate.</li> <li>• The answer is mostly coherent with effective use of specialist terminology.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of geographical profiling is briefly stated with little elaboration.</li> <li>• The answer may include inaccuracies and be poorly organised.</li> <li>• Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

#### Possible AO1 content:

- Geographical profiling analyses the location of crime scenes to make inferences about where the offender lives or has their criminal base. It assumes that serial offenders will commit crimes in familiar locations as it involves the least effort.
- Circle theory involves plotting crimes of a similar nature on a map and joining the dots to create a circle. 'Marauders' have their home in the centre of the circle, while 'commuters' travel into the area to commit their crimes.
- Criminal geographic targeting produces a 3D map displaying spatial data related to time, distance, and movement to and from crime scenes. The map indicates likely proximity to a criminal's residence and allows investigators to hypothesise where the next crime might occur.

Credit other relevant material.

**9. Marks for this question: AO1 = 3, AO3 = 5**

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
4	7–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of behaviour modification in custody as a way of dealing with offending behaviour is accurate with some detail.</li> <li>Discussion is thorough and effective.</li> <li>Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking.</li> <li>The answer is clear, coherent, and focused.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used effectively.</li> </ul>
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of behaviour modification in custody as a way of dealing with offending behaviour is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies or omissions.</li> <li>Discussion is mostly effective.</li> <li>The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately.</li> </ul>
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited knowledge of behaviour modification in custody as a way of dealing with offending behaviour is present.</li> <li>Focus is mainly on description.</li> <li>Any discussion is of limited effectiveness.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity, accuracy, and organisation in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of behaviour modification in custody as a way of dealing with offending behaviour is very limited.</li> <li>Discussion is limited, poorly focused, or absent.</li> <li>The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies, and is poorly organised.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

**Possible AO1 content:**

- Behaviour modification is designed to improve the behaviour of offenders while they are in prison.
- Token economies are based on the behaviourist principle of operant conditioning and involve the reinforcement of new behaviours.

- Prisoners are given tokens for displaying specific, pre-determined positive behaviours, such as keeping their cell tidy.
- Tokens are exchanged for desirable items like tobacco, food, or time in the gym.
- Tokens are removed for non-compliance or disobedience, leading to desirable items being withheld (punishment reinforcement).
- The desirable items are primary reinforcers, and the tokens are secondary reinforcers as they are consistently presented with the reinforcing stimulus.
- Each behaviour is allocated a reward value (number of tokens) that is made clear to prisoners before the token economy system is implemented. Simply rewarding 'good behaviour' is not an economy and would be too subjective to be effective.
- It's important that all staff who work with prisoners use the token economy so that tokens are given or withdrawn immediately following specific behaviours, as reinforcement works best when performed directly after a behaviour.
- Key study: 125 12–15-year-olds from a young offender's institute were observed living in four cottages. Desirable behaviours in the token-economy cottages had an average increase of 27%. The control group showed no increase.

#### **Possible AO3 discussion:**

- Unlike other rehabilitation methods like anger management, token economies don't require experts or trained psychologists. Staff can tailor the system to specific desirable behaviours and rewards according to each institution's needs. Token economies are also cost effective and easy to follow.
- Token economy was popular in US prisons in the 1970s due to improved behaviour. However, in the UK it became limited to young offenders' institutes as it was not successful in adult prisons.
- Although token economies can be successful in establishing appropriate conduct in prison, it is unlikely to achieve rehabilitation aims upon release. Law-abiding behaviour is not likely to be rewarded outside prison. Instead, desirable rewards from offending may occur, such as wealth and respect, which would operantly condition someone to reoffend. Token economies may work well in the short term within the prison system but doesn't have a lasting effect.
- Token economies only require superficial learning, which is unlikely to persist outside prison. However, treatments like anger management require active learning, with individuals reflecting on their offending behaviour and taking responsibility for their own rehabilitation. Active learning requires depth of thought, which is more likely to elicit long-term change in attitudes and behaviour.
- Critics argue that a token economy is manipulative and dehumanising. Individuals are unable to opt out of a token economy as participation is obligatory. Withdrawing rewards such as contact with loved ones is ethically questionable and critics argue many of these 'privileges' are human rights.

Credit other relevant material.

**10. Marks for this question: AO1 = 3, AO2 = 2, AO3 = 3**

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
4	7–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of restorative justice as a means of dealing with offender behaviour is accurate with some detail.</li> <li>Application is effective.</li> <li>Discussion is thorough and effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking.</li> <li>The answer is clear, coherent, and focused.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used effectively.</li> </ul>
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of restorative justice as a means of dealing with offender behaviour is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions.</li> <li>Application and/or discussion is mostly effective.</li> <li>The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately.</li> </ul>
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited knowledge of restorative justice as a means of dealing with offender behaviour is present.</li> <li>Focus is mainly on description. Any application/discussion is of limited effectiveness.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity, accuracy, and organisation in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of restorative justice as a means of dealing with offender behaviour is very limited.</li> <li>Application/discussion is limited, poorly focused, or absent.</li> <li>The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies, and is poorly organised.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

**Possible AO1 content:**

- Restorative justice focuses on repairing the harm done by the crime to facilitate rehabilitation and atonement.
- Survivors will often meet with the offender to explain the impact of the crime on their life. This enables the offender to consider the crime from the perspective of another and take responsibility for their actions, which reduces the possibility of reoffending.



- The process gives survivors a voice and allows them to express their distress. Atonement ('paying' for a crime) can be achieved through monetary payment or physical work. Most importantly, it can be psychological, as the offender can show feelings of guilt and remorse.
- An independent body called the Restorative Justice Council (RJC) oversees the restorative justice process and ensures clear standards are established, to support victims and specialists in the field.

#### **Possible AO2 application**

- Miguel and the attacker took an active part in the restorative justice process.
- Miguel was able to explain the impact of the crime on his life.
- The attacker was able to consider the crime from Miguel's perspective and was genuinely shocked by what he had done.
- Atonement was achieved by the offender showing feelings of guilt and remorse.
- It's likely that rehabilitation took place as the offender became aware of the ramifications of the crime.

#### **Possible AO3 discussion:**

- Restorative justice benefits the victims of crimes across a range of offences. Avon and Somerset police reported 92.5% survivor satisfaction when the survivor had been the subject of a violent crime. The RJC reported 85% survivor satisfaction from face-to-face meetings in 2015. Survivors have reported a greater sense of satisfaction than when cases go through mainstream courts.
- Research shows that restorative justice has been successful in reducing recidivism. A review of 20 studies of face-to-face meetings in the US, UK, and Australia found reduced reoffending and none were linked to higher reoffending.
- In a study of 142 males convicted of violence and property offences, those who went through restorative justice had reoffending rates of 11% compared to 37% for matched controls given custodial sentences.
- It's considered that the unpleasantness of an offender facing their victim is a source of punishment and may act as a deterrent for future offending.
- Avoidance of custodial sentencing may reduce recidivism, as the offender won't be learning new criminal attitudes and techniques from social contacts in prison.
- Family contacts and employment can be maintained, which give the offender a better chance of contributing to society.
- An offender may agree to restorative justice to avoid a custodial sentence rather than having genuine remorse. A lack of genuine remorse is likely to be evident to the survivor, which may increase their distress. Restorative justice can therefore be limited in its effectiveness by the motivation of the offender.
- Feminist commentators are concerned that restorative justice is not suitable for cases of domestic violence due to the power imbalance in the relationship between the abuser and abused. Women's Aid called for a legislative ban for these cases.

Credit other relevant material.

**11. Marks for this question: AO1 = 6, AO3 = 10**

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of Eysenck's theory of the criminal personality is accurate and generally well detailed.</li> <li>Discussion is thorough and effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking.</li> <li>The answer is clear, coherent, and focused.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used effectively.</li> </ul>
3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of Eysenck's theory of the criminal personality is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions.</li> <li>Discussion is mostly effective.</li> <li>The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately.</li> </ul>
2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited knowledge of Eysenck's theory of the criminal personality is present.</li> <li>Focus is mainly on description. Any discussion is of limited effectiveness.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity, accuracy, and organisation in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of Eysenck's theory of the criminal personality is very limited.</li> <li>Discussion is limited, poorly focused, or absent.</li> <li>The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies, and is poorly organised.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

**Possible AO1 content:**

- Eysenck's personality questionnaire shows where an individual lies on the dimensions of extraversion-introversion (E), neuroticism-stability (N), and psychoticism-normality (P). Eysenck said the dimensions have a biological basis linked to the nervous system.
- Extroverts have an underactive sympathetic nervous system, so they engage in exciting and risk-taking behaviours to stimulate arousal.
- Those high in neuroticism have unstable nervous systems that overreact to stressful fight or flight situations.
- Psychotics have higher testosterone, so men tend to score higher on this dimension.

- The criminal personality type is high in extraversion, as they seek excitement and want the thrill from risk-taking behaviours; high in neuroticism, as they tend to overreact to threats, which could account for impulsive aggression; and high in psychoticism, as they lack empathy so have no concern for the victims of crime.
- Eysenck emphasised the combination of biology and environment in criminality, specifically conditioning. He said people high in E and N are less prone to conditioning, such as punishment reinforcement, so do not learn to avoid antisocial behaviour.

#### **Possible AO3 discussion:**

- A study comparing 2070 male prisoners and 2422 controls found that the prisoners scored higher for E, N, and P across all age groups, as predicted by Eysenck's theory. However, a review of several studies found that criminals had higher P scores, but not higher E and N scores.
- The biological basis for the theory has been questioned as little evidence for consistent brain activity differences measured by EEG between introverts and extroverts has been found.
- Critics argue that people don't have one personality that is consistent in all situations. A study required friends, family, and strangers to rate 63 students in a variety of situations and found almost no correlation between their personality traits across the situations. This suggests that the criminal personality theory is flawed as we behave differently depending on the situation.
- Critics argue that it is impossible to explain all offending through a single personality type. Eysenck's theory is outdated, with modern theories proposing additional dimensions of openness, agreeableness, and conscientiousness. With multiple combinations available, high E and N scores does not mean offending is inevitable.
- All self-report measures are susceptible to socially desirable answers, so a person's scores may not reflect their true personality. Also, the questions force a 'yes/no' response when the preferred answer may be 'sometimes'. This could over- or under-emphasise elements of someone's personality.
- A study of Hispanic and African-American offenders with different offences and criminal histories found they all had lower E scores than controls. The sample was a very different cultural group to Eysenck's, which questions the generalisability of the criminal personality.

Credit other relevant material.

**12. Marks for this question: AO1 = 6, AO2 = 4, AO3 = 6**

This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the top-down approach to offender profiling is accurate and generally well detailed.</li> <li>Application is effective. Discussion is thorough and effective. Minor detail and/or expansion of argument is sometimes lacking.</li> <li>The answer is clear, coherent, and focused.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used effectively.</li> </ul>
3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the top-down approach to offender profiling is evident but there are occasional inaccuracies/omissions.</li> <li>Application and/or discussion is mostly effective.</li> <li>The answer is mostly clear and organised but occasionally lacks focus.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used appropriately.</li> </ul>
2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited knowledge of the top-down approach to offender profiling is present.</li> <li>Focus is mainly on description. Any discussion and/or application is of limited effectiveness.</li> <li>The answer lacks clarity, accuracy, and organisation in places.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is used inappropriately on occasions.</li> </ul>
1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of the top-down approach to offender profiling is very limited.</li> <li>Discussion and/or application is limited, poorly focused, or absent.</li> <li>The answer as a whole lacks clarity, has many inaccuracies, and is poorly organised.</li> <li>Specialist terminology is either absent or inappropriately used.</li> </ul>
	0	No relevant content.

**Possible AO1 content:**

- The aim of offender profiling is to identify the ‘type’ of person who committed a crime. This is done by considering the crime scene and context of the crime. Offender profiling won’t catch a criminal in itself but will narrow down the list of suspects.
- The top-down approach to offender profiling relies on the intuition of the profiler, so is less scientific than the bottom-up approach.
- There are four stages to creating a profile using the top-down approach:
  - Data assimilation: scrutinising crime scene evidence.

- Crime scene classification: choosing organised or disorganised.
- Crime reconstruction: hypotheses about the crime, such as the sequence of events.
- Profile generation: hypotheses about the offender, such as their demographic background, and behaviour, which determines the type of person they are.
- Murderers and rapists are classified as either 'organised' or 'disorganised', which then informs how the police investigate.
- Organised offenders plan the crime with precision so that little or no evidence is left at the crime scene. They choose their victims carefully and often move the body from the scene. They usually have a professional occupation and a partner or family. They tend to be socially intelligent and sexually competent and follow their crimes in the media.
- Disorganised offenders carry out unplanned crimes on random victims and leave a lot of evidence at the crime scene, such as the body, weapon, and their DNA. They are socially and sexually incompetent and may perform sex acts on the body after death. They usually live alone, are unemployed or have a low skilled job, and live near to the crime scene.

#### **Possible AO2 application:**

- James is referring to organised offenders because he says they are clever and don't leave clues at the scene. He refers to them 'hiding behind a good job and family', which corresponds with organised offenders as they usually have a professional occupation and a partner/family.
- Maria is referring to disorganised offenders. She talks about a man who couldn't control himself so attacked the first person he came across when he left his house, which meant he left DNA at the scene, didn't hide the body, and was easy to find.

#### **Possible AO3 discussion:**

- 82% of 184 US police officers said that top-down profiling was operationally useful, and over 90% said they would use it again. Researchers identified potential uses like offering the police alternative perspectives on a crime, opening new avenues for investigation, and preventing wrongful convictions.
- Crime scenes for burglary, assault, or destruction of property can reveal little about the offender, so may not benefit from top-down offender profiling.
- The organised/disorganised classification was based on self-reported data from 36 dangerous serial killers in the USA. These highly manipulative people were unlikely to provide reliable information. They are also not typical of most criminals, which suggests that the classification system is not generalisable.
- Data from 100 murders by serial killers in the USA were analysed with reference to 39 characteristics from organised and disorganised killers. They found no clear distinction between organised and disorganised killers, which suggests the original classification system is too simplistic.
- Critics argue that profilers rely too heavily on intuition. The technique has no scientific basis and courts have referred to it as 'junk science'. The Barnum effect, where ambiguous descriptions can be made to fit any situation, could explain why profiles appear to be right.
- If a profiler is wrong, it may mislead investigations. Criminals may also purposely plant false clues to mislead a profiler. Police and courts should therefore use caution when using profiles.

Credit other relevant material.

## Questions on previous content

### 1. Marks for this question: AO1 = 3

**3 marks** for a clear and coherent explanation using appropriate terminology.

**2 marks** for an explanation that lacks some clarity or detail.

**1 mark** for a brief or muddled explanation.

#### Possible AO1 content:

- The 5% level of significance is the conventional level of probability employed by psychologists because it strikes a balance between the risks of making a Type I and Type II error.
- The 0.01 level of probability is too stringent and may cause a Type II error. This means the researcher has accepted the null hypothesis when the alternative is true.
- The 0.10 level of probability is too lenient and may cause a Type I error. This means the researcher has accepted the alternative hypothesis when the null is true.
- Higher levels of probability are used in clinical trials, but if research is investigating non-sensitive topics that are unlikely to affect health, the 0.05 level is acceptable.

Credit other relevant material.

### 2. Marks for this question: AO2 = 3

**3 marks** for a clear and coherent limitation of using a repeated measures design in a study where participants must recall facts about a crime from a video, using appropriate terminology.

**2 marks** for a limitation of using a repeated measures design in a study where participants must recall facts about a crime from a video that lacks some clarity or detail.

**1 mark** for a brief or muddled limitation of using a repeated measures design in a study where participants must recall facts about a crime from a video.

**0 marks** for general limitations of a repeated measures design without referring to the context.

#### Possible AO2 application:

- The order effect of 'practice' would invalidate the results if the videos were the same. The videos would therefore need to be different and matched for similarity in terms of crime to avoid the order effect of 'practice', but one video may still be easier to recall than other, which would invalidate the results.
- Even if the videos were evenly matched for recall of the crimes, the participants are doing both conditions of the independent variable, so may display demand characteristics where they guess that their recall should be better/worse in a certain condition and behave in a way they think they should, which would invalidate the results.

Credit any valid limitation.

**3. Marks for this question: AO1 = 4**

**1 mark** to identify inter-observer reliability as the means of assessing the reliability of an observation.

A further **3 marks** for the following points:

- Two or more observers agree behavioural categories.
- They independently observe the same situation and tally behavioural categories.
- They compare their tallies using a Spearman's Rho test. If their scores correlate by 0.8 (accept 0.7) or more, then the observation is reliable.

Credit any other relevant content.