

Psychology AQA A Level		Knowledge Organizer Forensic Psychology	Year 13 Term 1	Page 1	Characteristics of Murder	Likely Characteristics of Offender
Offender profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Top down approach</b> = using the organised/disorganised typology to categorise criminals from the crime scene</li> <li>Organised offenders = will show evidence of planning the crime in advance and will leave no evidence.</li> <li>Disorganised offenders = will show little evidence of planning</li> <li><b>Bottom up approach</b> = <b>investigative psychology</b> (interpersonal coherence, time &amp; place and forensic awareness) and <b>geographical profiling</b> (finding the location of the offender through crime mapping. Offenders will have a jeopardy surface which will determine where they will act next. They will either be a marauder – commit crime locally or a commuter – travel for crime.</li> </ul>	<b>Evaluation (AO3)</b>  <b>Top down approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only applies to crimes that reveal something about the offender e.g. DNA</li> <li>Outdated model of personality</li> <li>No evidence for the disorganised offender</li> </ul> <b>Bottom up approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scientific basis using computer data</li> <li>Evidence to support investigative and geographical profiling.</li> </ul>			<b>Organised</b> Crime is planned Shows self control at the crime scene Leaves few clues Victim is a targeted stranger Attempts to control the victim	Above average IQ Socially and sexually competent Married/co-habiting Experiencing anger/depression at the time of the offence Follows media coverage of crime Skilled occupation
					<b>Disorganised</b> Little planning/preparation Little attempt to hide the evidence at the scene Minimum use of constraint Random, disorganised behaviour	Lives alone, near to crime scene Sexually and socially inadequate Unskilled occupation or unemployed Physically/sexually abused in childhood Frightened and confused at the time of the attack.

## Ways of dealing with crime

Custodial sentencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 aims: deterrence (to deter people away from prison), incapacitation (to be removed from society), retribution (to make the level of suffering proportionate to the crime) and rehabilitation (to reform individuals to avoid recidivism)</li> <li>Psychological effects: Stress &amp; depression with high suicide rates, institutionalisation and prisonisation.</li> </ul>	<b>Evaluation (AO3)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bartol = offenders have a 15x higher rate of suicide in prison with 25% of women reporting psychosis</li> <li>Opportunities for training and treatment</li> <li>Could turn into a university of crime</li> </ul>
Behaviour modification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the behaviourist approach (operant conditioning) to replace negative behaviour with positive behaviour.</li> <li>Tokens act as a secondary reinforcer and are given for positive behaviours in prisons</li> <li>The behaviour is broken down into simple steps (increments) and everyone in contact with the offender must follow the same regime.</li> </ul>	<b>Evaluation (AO3)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easy to implement and require little training</li> <li>Ethically imoral to remove basic human essentials</li> <li>The effects may not transfer to real life as we are not rewarded in the same way in society therefore reduces validity.</li> </ul>
Anger management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A form of CBT whereby offenders are able to identify their triggers and encouraged to develop techniques to bring about conflict resolution</li> <li>3 stags: Cognitive preparation (reflect on experience) skill acquisition (gain the skills to reduce anger) and application practice (role play of a similar situation to practice skills)</li> </ul>	<b>Evaluation (AO3)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anger may not be the direct cause of offending behaviour</li> <li>Expensive and relies on commitment and identification of anger</li> <li>Could reduce recidivism rates</li> </ul>
Restorative justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restorative justice is a collaboration between victim and offender with a trained mediator</li> <li>The victim gives their account of the crime and the offender can see the consequences of their actions in order to try and reduce recidivism</li> <li>Focus is on positive change, active participation etc.</li> <li>Mediated by the restorative justice council (RJC)</li> </ul>	<b>Evaluation (AO3)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shapland (2007) found that for every £1 spent on RJ it would save the criminal justice system £8 through less offending.</li> <li>Relies on the offender showing remorse</li> <li>The programme can be tailored to the situation – more useful</li> </ul>

<b>Biological explanation: Atavistic form</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminals = genetic throwbacks that cannot conform to the rules of society with distinctive facial features</li> <li>• Biological makers = strong jaw, prominent cheek bones etc.</li> <li>• Lombroso (1876) 40% of criminal have atavistic features</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helped to develop offender profiling which has real life application</li> <li>• Scientific racism</li> <li>• Goring (1913) contradictory evidence</li> </ul>
<b>Biological explanation: Genetic &amp; Neural explanations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twin studies = 10/12 MZ twins and 2/17 DZ twins had a co-twin in prison</li> <li>• Candidate genes = MAOA gene &amp; CDH13 gene leads to an increased tendency for crime</li> <li>• Diathesis stress model = biological effects are mediated by the environment e.g. dysfunctional role models or upbringing</li> <li>• Raine (2000) found that individuals with antisocial personality disorder (APD) had reduced activity in the prefrontal cortex &amp; 11% reduction in grey matter in the prefrontal cortex</li> <li>• Mirror neurons = Keyser (2011) people with APD have a neural switch which can turn mirror neurons on and off, when asked to empathise with others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twins used in the studies were judged on physical appearance rather than DNA testing meaning the validity is reduced</li> <li>• Support for the diathesis stress model – both nature and nurture interact. Mednick (1984) found that 24.5% criminals had a criminal set of parents compared to 13.5% who didn't.</li> <li>• Biological determinism</li> </ul>
<b>Psychological explanations: Eysenck's personality theory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personality = introversion/extraversion, neuroticism/stability and psychoticism.</li> <li>• Extraverts have an underactive nervous system where they seek excitement and engage in risk seeking behaviours making them more prone to criminality.</li> <li>• Introverts have an overactive nervous system</li> <li>• Criminal personality = high levels of neuroticism, extraversion and psychoticism.</li> <li>• Socialisation is important and extraverts cannot be conditioned and therefore cannot learn.</li> <li>• PEN levels are measured by the Eysenck Personality Inventory (EPI)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are other personality traits such as openness, agreeableness and conscientiousness that should be considered.</li> <li>• Research has suggested the scale is culturally bias with offenders in African prisons being less extraverted</li> <li>• Considers genetics as well as psychological</li> </ul>
<b>Psychological explanations: Cognitive explanations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kohlberg (1973) criminals have lower levels of moral reasoning than non-criminals.</li> <li>• Criminals are more likely to be in the pre-conventional level (stages 1 &amp; 2). This is the need to avoid punishment and gain rewards and is associated with a child like reasoning.</li> <li>• Cognitive distortions such as hostile attribution bias and minimisation can create criminality.</li> <li>• Hostile attribution bias = judging others behaviour as aggressive when it's not.</li> <li>• Minimisation = denying or downplaying the serious effects of criminal behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive explanations have led to cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which can be used to alter cognitive distortions.</li> <li>• Doesn't explain criminality but describes it</li> <li>• Other factors may have better explanatory power such as IQ rather than moral reasoning.</li> </ul>
<b>Psychological explanations: Differential association theory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sutherland (1924) criminals learn the values, attitudes and techniques through association and interaction with different people.</li> <li>• Criminality arises from two factors: Learned attitude towards crime and learning of specific criminal acts</li> <li>• Pro-criminal attitudes: when a person is socialised they internalise the groups values. If the values are pro-criminal, the individual will be more likely to adopt these values as well as adopting criminal techniques.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to scientifically test whether someone has adopted the pro-criminal values of a group</li> <li>• Successful at moving emphasis from atavistic theories</li> <li>• Able to explain most crimes – more valid</li> </ul>
<b>Psychological explanations: Psychodynamic explanations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn (1993) if the superego is inadequate or deficient, it gives the ID the free will to control behaviour.</li> <li>• Weak superego – if the same sex parent is absent during the phallic stage, the child cannot internalise the fully formed superego and therefore cannot lead to identification increasing criminality.</li> <li>• Deviant superego – if the superego the child has internalised is immoral, this could lead to deviant values and increased criminality.</li> <li>• The over-harsh superego – the individual feels guilt and anxiety unconsciously leading to crime.</li> <li>• Bowlby (1944) maternal deprivation can lead to affectionless psychopathy (14/44 juveniles)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freud believed that girls have a weaker superego than boys therefore females are more prone to criminal behaviour but this is not the case.</li> <li>• Difficult to test unconscious drives such as the superego</li> <li>• Children from families without the same sex parent do not always turn criminal.</li> </ul>

Psychology AQA A Level KO Forensic Psychology Year 13 Term 1 Page 3	Counter-arguments (GRAVE)			Key terms	
	Key researchers/studies			Offender profiling	A tool to predict and profile the characteristics of unknown offenders.
Offender profiling	Lombroso (1876)	Found that from 383 dead and 3839 living criminals, 40% had atavistic features.	No control group - lowers validity 60% offenders did not have atavistic features - questions internal validity	Top down approach	Using a typology (organised/disorganised) to profile offenders
Biological explanation: atavistic form				Bottom up approach	Using evidence from the crime scene to develop a hypothesis about the offender
Biological explanation: Genetic and neural explanations	Lange (1930)	10/13 MZ twins and 2/17 DZ twins had a twin in prison	Low sample size which leads to low generalisability	Atavistic form	Offenders are genetic throwbacks that do not conform to society through crime
	Tihonen et al (2014)	Individuals with the MAOA and CDH13 gene were 13x more likely to be a criminal	It's only a correlation between the genes and criminal behaviour therefore reduces internal validity of the claims	Genetics	DNA that produces instructions for physical features of an organism
Psychological explanations: Eysenck's theory	Raine (2000)	Found less activity and 11% reduction of grey matter in the prefrontal cortex of individuals with APD.	Only used individuals with antisocial personality disorder (APD) therefore it may not be generalisable	Neural explanations	Activity of the brain such as neurotransmitters, nervous system etc.
Psychological explanations: Cognitive theory	Justye (2014)	Found that violent offenders were more likely to percieve facial images as angry or hostile.	Had a control group - increased validity Small sample size of 55 violent offenders - not generalisable	Cognitive distortions	Irrational and faulty ways of thinking and perceptions of ourselves and others
				Moral reasoning	Drawing upon your own moral value system to determine right and wrong.
Psychological explanations: Differential association theory	Barbaree (1991)	Out of 26 rapists, 54% denied causing offence and 40% minimised the harm caused to their victims	Only used one type of offender thererfore it may not be generalisable	Hostile attribution bias	Judging ambiguous situations as aggressive or threatening
Psychological explanations: Psychodynamic explanations	Bowlby (1944)	Found that 14/44 juvenile theives had affectionless psychopathy and 12/14 experienced maternal deprivation	Low sample size therefore it cannot be generalised. Maternal deprivaition and criminality is only correlational.	Minimalisation	Deception that downplays the significance of an event or emotion
				Differential association theory	Individuals learn the values, attitudes, techniques, and motives for criminal behaviour
Links to other topics	Keyzers (2011)	Found that APD individuals have a neural switch which can be turned on or off when asked to empathise	Used brain scans in their methodology which increases credibility and internal validity.	Psychodynamic explanations	Unconscious conflicts drive future behaviour (e.g. parents and childhood)
Issues & Debates Nature/Nurture, Determinism/freewill				Recidivism	A convicted criminal reoffending
Approaches Biological, cognitive, psychodynamic	Holt (1976)	Found a significant difference in positive behaviour due to token economy programmes.	Used a control group who did not have a token economy programme. This increases internal validity.	Behaviour modification	Application of the behaviourist approach to replace undesirable behaviour.
	Keen et al (2000)	Offenders reported increased awareness of their anger and self control	Only used young offenders between 17-21 therefore it cannot be generalised to older/younger offenders.	Anger management	A programme used to identify triggers of anger and how to treat it.
Attachment Maternal deprivation				Restorative justice	Rehabilitation of the offender through reconciliation with victims or victims family.