

AS Level Psychology

Exam Preparation

12 mark essay plans

Attachment

Creating essay plans during your revision will help you to prepare for 12 mark answers. If you can remember the basic framework for each essay this will allow you to write out a plan before attempting the answer in the exam.

List 6 points that you could mention in your AO1. Then choose 3 evaluation points that you would PEEL in the exam.

For example:

Describe and evaluate the behavioural explanation for phobias

A01 Classical conditioning - learning through association

A01 For example, UCS - loud noise, UCR - fear, NS - White rat

A01 UCS is paired with the NS so NS becomes a conditioned stimulus

A01 CR (fear) now occurs in response to CS (white rat)

A01 This is reinforced through operant conditioning - avoidance

A03 Bagby - woman with phobia of running water from feet stuck in rocks near waterfall

A03 Di Gallo - 20 per cent of people experiencing traumatic car accidents developed a phobia of travelling in cars, especially travelling at speed

A03 Mowrer - rats + buzzer - fear maintained through avoidance

However, you must always *read the question carefully*. Whilst these plans will give you a framework to work from, the question may require you to adapt the information slightly or shape it to answer the question.

For example, last summer the question 'Describe and evaluate the Strange Situation procedure as a way of measuring attachment' came up in Paper 1. Therefore, the answer needed to be shaped to discuss the effectiveness of the procedure as a method for measuring attachment.

The examiner said:

The majority of discussions were pre-prepared 'Describe and evaluate the Strange Situation' answers, whilst more successful answers explicitly addressed the matter of the appropriateness or usefulness of the procedure for measuring type of attachment.

Therefore, these plans will be good preparation but you will need to think carefully about what the question is asking you and adapt your answer accordingly.

12 marker: Caregiver-Infant Interactions

AO1	
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12 marker: Multiple attachments and the role of the father

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12 marker: Schaffer's Stages

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12 marker: Animal Studies

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12 marker: Learning Theory of Attachment

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12 marker: Bowlby's Theory of Attachment

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12 marker: Strange Situation

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12 marker: Cultural Variations

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12 marker: Maternal Deprivation Theory

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12 marker: Institutionalisation

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12 marker: Effect of early attachment on later relationships

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