

A Level Psychology

Exam Preparation

16 mark essay plans

Memory

Creating essay plans during your revision will help you to prepare for 16 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 4 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

A03 Environmental determinism - suggests we are a product of our experiences and takes a 'mechanistic' view of behaviour, therefore ignoring free will

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, there is a specimen question 'Discuss the contribution of behaviourist psychologists such as Pavlov and Skinner to our understanding of human behaviour'. Here, the answer would need to be shaped to discuss what behaviourism has taught us and how useful it is for humans.

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.

16 marker: Coding, capacity and duration of STM and LTM

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Multistore model of memory

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Working memory model

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Types of LTM

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker Forgetting - Interference

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Forgetting – Retrieval failure

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Misleading information on eyewitness testimony

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Anxiety on eyewitness testimony

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	

16 marker: Improving EWT - The cognitive interview

A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A01	
A03	
A03	
A03	
A03	