

GCSE Psychology

Grade	Descriptors
9	To achieve grade 9, students' evidence will show that they have securely met all the statements within the grade 8 descriptor, with stronger performance in most or all aspects of the grade 8 statements.
8	<p>To achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate relevant, comprehensive knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these correctly to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts using accurate psychological terminology • accurately use a range of mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology • critically analyse psychological information, constructing a sustained line of reasoning that leads to substantiated judgements • critically evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing well-evidenced conclusions from competing viewpoints
7	<p>To achieve grade 7, students' evidence will show that they have securely met all the statements within the grade 6 descriptor, with stronger performance in most or all aspects of the grade 6 statements. However, their evidence does not meet the minimum requirements of most of the grade 8 statements.</p>
6	<p>To achieve grade 6, candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these mostly correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using mostly accurate psychological terminology • accurately use some mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology • some attempt to critically analyse psychological information, constructing an appropriate line of reasoning that leads to valid judgments supported by appropriate evidence • some attempt to critically evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing valid conclusions, supported by appropriate evidence, including from competing viewpoints
5	<p>To achieve grade 5, candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate mostly accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these mostly correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using mostly accurate psychological terminology • use some mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> analyse psychological information, constructing an appropriate line of reasoning that leads to plausible judgments supported by some evidence evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing plausible conclusions, supported by some evidence, including from competing viewpoints
4	<p>To achieve grade 4, candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate some accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these with varying degrees of accuracy to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using some accurate psychological terminology make attempts to use some mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology make attempts to analyse psychological information, constructing a line of reasoning that leads to somewhat plausible judgments with reference to relevant evidence make attempts to evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing somewhat plausible conclusions, reference to relevant evidence, including from competing viewpoints
3	<p>Characteristics that differentiate a grade 3 from a grade 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge and understanding limited in either accuracy and/or appropriateness use of psychological terminology present but often lacks accuracy analysis and judgements are attempted but limited evaluation is attempted but lacks plausibility and/or relevance
2	<p>To achieve grade 2, candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate basic psychological knowledge and understanding and apply, in a limited way, a few concepts, terms and theories using some psychological terminology use some simple mathematical skills make simple judgements with some reference to evidence make basic comments that demonstrate some awareness of competing viewpoints

To achieve a grade 1, students' evidence will show that they have demonstrated engagement with sufficient content, achieved some credit across elements of the specification content and achieved credit in some assessment objectives. Where the evidence for a student does not support this, the student should be graded unclassified (U).