

THE LEARNING JOURNEY FOR PSYCHOLOGY

Unit / Block of work	Key Episodes / Questions	Additional Detail	Length of time	Learner Attribute(s)
Cognition and Behaviour: Unit 4 Research Methods	Designing Research	Quantitative and qualitative methods: IV DV and EV / hypotheses Lab experiments* Field and natural experiments* Sporting ability and height correlation	Week 2	Knowledgeable
	Structures of Memory (1)	The multi-store model of memory: sensory, short term and long term. Case studies Features of each store: coding, capacity, duration.	Week 3	Inquirer
	Structures of Memory (2)	Primacy and recency effects in recall: the effects of serial position. Murdoch's serial position curve study. Research Methods: Formulation of testable hypotheses (null and alternative), types of variables (IV, DV and extraneous) & data handling (mean, median, mode and range) Types of experiments - lab, field and natural	Week 4-6	Inquirer
	Memory as an active process (1)	The theory of reconstructive memory, including the concept of 'effort after meaning'. Bartlett's War of the Ghost Study Research Methods: target populations, samples and extraneous variables.	Week 6	Inquirer
	Factors affecting Memory	Factors affecting the accuracy of memory, including interference, context and false memories. Research Methods: ethical considerations, Design an experiment question	Week 7-9	Inquirer
Cognition and Behaviour: Unit 3 Development	Early Brain Development	A basic knowledge of brain development, from simple neural structures in the womb, the brain stem, thalamus, cerebellum and cortex. Structures reflect the development of autonomic functions, sensory processing, movement and cognition. The roles of nature and nurture.	Week 10	Open-minded
	Piaget's Stage Theory and the development of intelligence	Piaget's theory of cognitive development including the concepts of assimilation and accommodation. The four stages of development: sensorimotor, pre-operational, concrete operational, formal operational. Reduction of egocentricity including Hughes' 'Policeman Doll Study'. Research Methods: Experimental designs (independent groups, repeated measures, matched pairs) Development of conservation including McGarrigle and Donaldson's 'Naughty Teddy Study'.	Week 10-12	Open-minded
	The role of Piaget's Theory in Education	Application of the four stages in education.	Week 13	Open-minded
	The effects of learning on development	Dweck's mindset theory of learning: fixed mindset and growth mindset. The role of praise and self-efficacy beliefs in learning. Research Methods: Ethics Learning styles include verbaliser and visualiser. Willingham's learning theory and his criticism of learning styles.	Week 14-15	Reflective
Cognition and Behaviour: Unit 2 Perception	Sensation and perception	The difference between sensation and perception	Week 16	Thinkers
	Visual cues and constancies	Monocular depth cues: height in plane, linear perspective, relative size and occlusion Binocular depth cues: retinal disparity and convergence	Week 17	Thinkers
	Gibson's Direct Theory of Perception- the influence of nature	The real world presents sufficient information for direct perception without interference. The role of motion parallax in everyday perception.	Week 18	Thinkers
	Visual Illusions	Explanations for visual illusions: ambiguity, misinterpreted depth cues, fiction, size constancy. Examples of visual illusions: The Ponzo, the Muller- Lyer, the Necker Cube, the Ames Room, Rubin's Vase, the Kanizsa Triangle.	Week 19	Thinkers
	Gregory's Constructivist Theory of Perception- the influence of nurture	Perception uses inferences from visual cues and past experience to construct a model of reality.	Week 20	Thinkers
	Factors Affecting Perception (1)	Bruner and Minturn study of perceptual set. Research Methods: Design an experiment Perceptual set and the effects of expectation on perception.	Week 21-22	Thinkers
	Factors Affecting Perception (2)	The Gilchrist and Nesberg study of motivation. Research Methods: Target populations & sampling methods (random, opportunity, systematic, stratified) The effects of motivation, culture and emotion of perception.	Week 23-24	Thinkers
Cognition and Behaviour: Unit 4 Research Methods	Exam technique	AO1: Describe, Explain, State, Outline* AO2: Design an experiment AO3: 9 mark questions: Including Synopsis question Observational studies (including categories of behaviour and inter-rater reliability)	Week 25-27	Knowledgeable
	Exam technique	Mini IA: Students are to recreate the Loftus and Palmer study Collecting data and writing up the Introduction, Exploration, Analysis and evaluation Must include: Experimental methods, sampling techniques, Data handling and graphs.	Week 28-32	Inquiry