

Psychology Units 1 & 2

Contents

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Series contents

This series comprises **ten content workbooks**, cumulative **topic tests**, and a **practice-examination booklet**, covering the complete VCAA Psychology Units 1 & 2 course. Each content workbook follows the same structure: concise theory, scaffolded and unscaffolded worked examples, graded practice questions, a compact answer key, and fully-worked solutions. The key science skills are treated as full workbooks in their own right and are also embedded as research-method and stimulus questions throughout every chapter. The complete series runs to ≈ 483 pages across twelve booklets.

Topic 1 — Research methods and the key science skills

Chapter 1 — Investigation design, ethics and safety (35 pp)

1A Investigation questions, aims, hypotheses and variables · 1B Methodologies, experimental designs and sampling · 1C Ethical concepts, guidelines and safety

Chapter 2 — Analysing data and drawing conclusions (43 pp)

2A Data, processing and measurement quality · 2B Evidence, conclusions and communication

Topic 1 Test A (multiple choice) and Test B (short answer), with fully-worked solutions, are included at the end of this workbook.

Topic 2 — Psychological development

Chapter 3 — The complexity of psychological development (37 pp)

3A Hereditary and environmental factors · 3B The biopsychosocial approach · 3C The process of psychological development across the life span · 3D Sensitive and critical periods in a person's psychological development

Chapter 4 — Defining and supporting psychological development (47 pp)

4A Criteria for categorising typical and atypical behaviour · 4B Normality and neurotypicality · 4C Normal variations of brain development: neurodiversity · 4D Supporting psychological development and mental wellbeing

Topic 2 Test A (multiple choice) and Test B (short answer), with fully-worked solutions, are included at the end of this workbook.

Topic 3 — The brain and neuroplasticity

Chapter 5 — Role of the brain in mental processes and behaviour (19 pp)

5A Approaches to understanding the role of the brain · 5B The hindbrain, midbrain and forebrain (including the cerebral cortex)

Chapter 6 — Brain plasticity and brain injury (38 pp)

6A Neuroplasticity · 6B Acquired brain injury (ABI) · 6C Contemporary research into neurological disorders, including CTE

Topic 3 Test A (multiple choice) and Test B (short answer), with fully-worked solutions, are included at the end of this workbook.

Topic 4 — Social cognition and behaviour

Chapter 7 — Social cognition (39 pp)

7A Person perception, attributions, attitudes and stereotypes · 7B Cognitive dissonance and cognitive biases · 7C Heuristics in decision-making and problem-solving · 7D Prejudice, discrimination and stigma

Chapter 8 — Factors that influence individual and group behaviour (50 pp)

8A The influence of social groups and culture on individual behaviour · 8B Obedience and conformity · 8C Positive and negative influences of different media sources on individual and group behaviour · 8D Independence and anti-conformity

Topic 4 Test A (multiple choice) and Test B (short answer), with fully-worked solutions, are included at the end of this workbook.

Topic 5 — Perception and its distortions

Chapter 9 — Perception (27 pp)

9A The role of attention (sustained, divided, selective) · 9B Perception: top-down and bottom-up processing · 9C Biological, psychological and social influences on visual and gustatory perception

Chapter 10 — Distortions of perception (39 pp)

10A Fallibility of visual perception (illusions and agnosia) · 10B Fallibility of gustatory perception · 10C Distortions of taste and vision in healthy individuals (synaesthesia, spatial neglect)

Topic 5 Test A (multiple choice) and Test B (short answer), with fully-worked solutions, are included at the end of this workbook.

Practice examinations

Chapter 11 — Practice Examinations (106 pp)

Six full practice examinations with fully-worked solutions, cumulative over the whole Units 1 & 2 course. All assessment at Units 1 & 2 is school-based; these examinations mirror the format of the VCAA end-of-year Psychology examination so that students meet that structure from Year 11. Each comprises **Section A** — 40 multiple-choice questions (40 marks); **Section B** — short-answer and extended-response questions (80 marks), including a 10-mark extended response marked against published assessment criteria. Total 120 marks; reading time 15 minutes and writing time 2 hours 30 minutes; no calculator or reference materials. The six examinations are graded across three levels of difficulty (Examinations 1–2 introductory, 3–4 standard, 5–6 challenging), so students can build from consolidation to full examination demand.