

AQA Paper 2 Exam Analysis



BIOPSYCHOLOGY

2026

Facts about neurons (2)

Fight or flight response – scenario (6)

Infradian rhythm with example (2)

Circadian rhythms with research study (6)

Localisation of language in the brain (8)

2025

One type of neuron and its function (2)

Endocrine system using an example hormone (4)

Process of synaptic transmission and excitation (4)

fMRI scans for memory – scenario (6)

Hemispheric lateralisation (8)

2024

Fight or flight response (2)

Hormones (other than adrenaline) (4)

Ethical issues in case studies (2)

Endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers (16)

2023

Biological rhythms; endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers (2)

Fight or flight response – scenario (6)

Plasticity and functional recovery - scenario (16)

2022

Neurons (1)

Studying the brain (1)

Divisions of the nervous system (6)

Localisation of function in the brain (16)

2021

Structure and function of a neuron (6)

Difference between Broca's area and Wernicke's area (2)

Discuss ways of studying the brain (16)

2020

Labelling areas of the brain on diagram (4)

Difference between infradian rhythms and ultradian rhythms (2)

Limitations of self-report method – scenario (2)

Process of synaptic transmission through inhibition (4)

Difference and similarity between fMRIs and ERPs (4)

Outline and evaluate split brain research (8)

2019

Studying the brain – fMRI (1)

Neuron is only found in the brain/visual system/spinal cord (1)

Neuron carries nerve impulses from the brain/spinal cord to muscles/glands (1)

Neuron carries nerve impulses between neurons (1)

Function of the endocrine system using an example of a gland and hormone (4)

Research into localisation of function in the brain and/or hemispheric lateralisation (16)

2018

Autonomic nervous system and the Somatic nervous system (1)

Label three types of neurons in diagram (3)

Neurons travelling in one direction at a synapse (3)

Fight or flight – scenario (4)

Exogenous zeitgebers – scenario (8)

Calculate mean (3)

Why the mean is the most appropriate measure of central tendency (2)

2017

Explain the process of synaptic transmission (4)

Knowledge of the functions of Broca's area and the motor cortex – scenario (4)

Knowledge of plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma (4)

One disadvantage of obtaining quantitative (2)

Write one question showing quantitative data and one question showing qualitative data (2)

Outline and evaluate one or more ways of studying the brain (8)

Specimen Practice Papers

Label brain - Broca's area, Somatosensory cortex, Visual cortex, Wernicke's area, Motor cortex (5)

One difference between the EEG and ERPs (2)

Knowledge of endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers – scenario (4)

Human female menstrual cycle (1)

Outline the structures and processes involved in synaptic transmission (6)

Explain how unusual behaviour in split brain patients could be tested in an experiment (2)

Evaluate research using split brain patients to investigate hemispheric lateralisation of function (4)

Outline the role of adrenaline in the fight or flight response (4)

Knowledge of hemispheric lateralisation and language centres in the brain has helped our understanding of case studies (16)

One problem with the design - scenario (4)



* **NOTE:** Some of the topics have been removed so will not appear in exams from 2027 onwards,
see specification for details.



STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

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