

AQA Paper 3 Exam Analysis



AGGRESSION

2026

Behavioural category with face validity – scenario (1)

Reliability of observations in content analysis (3)

Limitations of dispositional explanations for aggression in prisons (4)

Frustration-aggression hypothesis (16)

2025

Consequence of desensitisation (1)

Disinhibition in aggression (1)

Evolutionary explanation for human aggression (2)

Evaluate the evolutionary explanation for human aggression (4)

Situational explanation of institutional aggression in the context of prisons – scenario (16)

2024

Harvard referencing (1)

Questionnaire modification – scenario (2)

Innate releasing mechanisms (3)

Social psychological explanations for aggression – scenario (16)

2023

Reasons for choosing a chi squared test - scenario (4)

Cognitive priming - scenario (4)

Control over participant variable - scenario (4)

Describe de-individuation in aggression (6)

Evaluate de-individuation in aggression (6)

2022

Effects of computer games on aggression (4)

Evaluate the effects of computer games on aggression (4)

Influence of genetic factors in aggression (16)

2021

Testable hypothesis (1)

Institutional aggression – scenario (1)

Reducing institutional aggression – scenario (4)

Limitation of institutional aggression - scenario (2)

Biological explanations for human aggression (16)

2020

Neural mechanisms in aggression (6)

Evolutionary explanations of aggression – scenario (4)

One strength and one limitation of evolutionary explanations (6)

Frustration-aggression hypothesis (8)

2019

How two sets of images could be used in this study and why this would be an improvement (4)

Participants who had a score < the median in the before condition – stats scenario (4)

Fixed action pattern (8)

Dispositional explanation for institutional aggression in prisons (8)

2018

MAOA gene, amygdala definitions (2)

Evaluate desensitisation as an explanation for aggression – scenario (6)

Social psychological explanations for aggression – scenario (16)

2017

Briefly explain how cognitive priming in the media might influence aggressive behaviour (2)

Difference between primary and secondary data (4)

Thematic analysis of the interview recordings (2)

Describe and evaluate evolutionary explanations for human aggression (16)

Specimen Practise Papers

Evolutionary explanations of aggression – scenario (4)

Outline and evaluate the findings of one research study into genetic factors in aggression (4)

Describe and evaluate the social learning theory of human aggression (16)

Discuss the role of genetic factors in aggression (16)

Why use the median as a measure of central tendency rather than the mean (4)

Outline the possible role of cognitive priming in the effects of computer games on aggression (2)

Explain one limitation of the situational explanation for institutional aggression (2)



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



STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

• HELPING YOU ACHIEVE