

OCR Paper 3 Exam Analysis



CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY

2026

Outline the key research by **Hall and Player (2008)** and explain how it relates to the topic area of the collection and processing of forensic evidence (10)

Discuss the issue of sampling bias in research into the collection and processing of forensic evidence (15)

Outline at least one strategy a psychologist might suggest to reduce bias in the processing of forensic evidence – scenario (10)

2025

Outline the key research by **Hall and Player (2008)** and use it to show the extent to which bias affects the collection and processing of forensic evidence (10)

Discuss to what extent research into the collection and processing of forensic evidence is scientific (15)

Outline at least one strategy a psychologist might suggest to the experts to reduce bias in the collection and processing of forensic evidence (10)

2024

Outline the key research by **Memon and Higham (1999)** and explain what it tells us about training police interviewers (10)

Discuss ethical considerations in relation to collection of evidence (15)

Outline at least one suggestion for the cognitive interview – scenario (10)

2023

Outline the key research by Wilson and Kelling (1982) and use it to explain how the features of neighbourhoods can influence crime (10)

Discuss the freewill/determinism debate in relation to research into crime prevention (15)

Outline at least one crime prevention strategy – scenario (10)

2022

Describe the key research by Dixon et al (2002) and explain how it contributes to our understanding of psychology of the courtroom (10)

Discuss whether research into psychology and the courtroom is ethnocentric (15)

Strategy to suggest how a barrister could get a jury to believe a witness (10)

2021

Outline the key research by Memon and Higham (1999) and how it could help the police (10)

Discuss the individual/situational debate in relation to collection of evidence (15)

Strategy to use when interviewing a suspect (10)

2020

Use the research by Raine (1997) to explain what makes a criminal (10)

Discuss the validity of research into what makes a criminal (15)

Biological strategies to prevent prisoners from committing crime (10)

2019

How the key research by Haney et al. (1973) to explain how prison can affect prisoners (10)

Whether research relating to the effects of imprisonment is ethnocentric (15)

Strategies for how to reduce reoffending by inmates (10)

2018

How **Dixon et al. (2002)** can explain how the characteristics of a defendant can affect whether they are found guilty (10)

Ethical considerations of research into psychology and the courtroom (15)

Strategies for how we can improve jury decision-making (10)

2017

In **Raine et al (1997)** how criminal behaviour could be explained through physiological factors (10)

Methodological issues involved when researching what makes a criminal (15)

Biological strategies to prevent criminal behaviour in the families (10)

Specimen Practice Papers

Set 1

How **Wilson and Kelling (1982)** could be used to improve quality of life in cities (10)

Ethnocentrism of crime prevention (15)

What crime prevention strategies might a psychologist suggest to help Amy address the problem of goods being stolen from her clothes store (10)

Set 2

How **Dixon et al. (2002)** could be used to improve the court system (10)

The validity of research into psychology and the courtroom (15)

What advice might a criminal psychologist give the judge about how to direct jurors in their decision-making (10)





STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

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