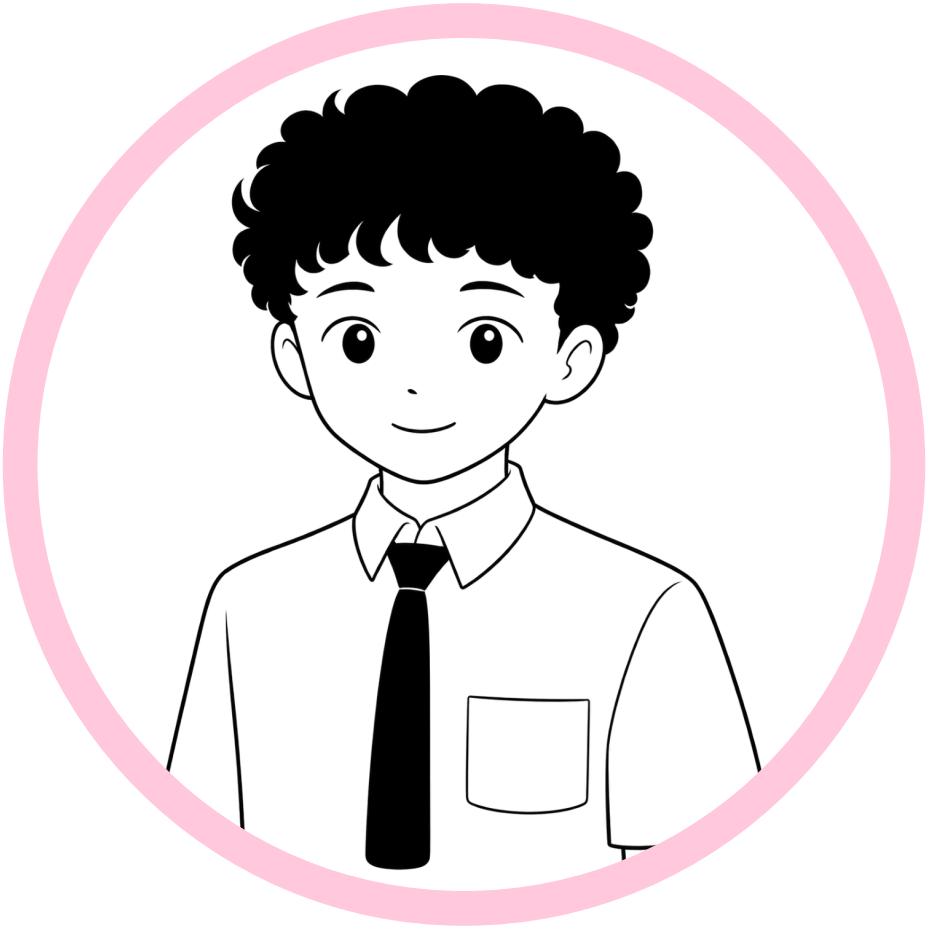
AQA A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY · 7182

PSYCHOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.3.10 RISK FACTORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADDICTION

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/48	%

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Q1.

Read the item and then answer the question that follows.

> Dave comes from a family of smokers. He began smoking at an early age. Now in his twenties, he has tried to stop smoking but finds it difficult, especially now that he has taken on more responsibility at work.

Briefly explain risk factors relevant to Dave's addiction to smoking.

(Total 4 marks)

Q2.

A psychologist was interested in the role of sensation-seeking in the development of addictive behaviour. She tested ten participants addicted to smoking (Group A) and ten participants who had no addictive behaviours (Group B). Each participant was given a questionnaire that measured sensation-seeking. Scores on the questionnaire are given in the table below:

Sensation seeking scores for those with addictive behaviours and for those with no addictions

Group A (Addicted to smoking)	Score on sensation-seeking questionnaire	Group B (No addictive behaviours)	Score on sensation-seeking questionnaire
1	65	1	16
2	32	2	25
3	25	3	27
4	29	4	24
5	28	5	59
6	30	6	26
7	18	7	33
8	30	8	21
9	35	9	18
10	28	10	23
Median		**Median**	

Complete the table by calculating the median and range for the two groups. Why did the psychologist use the median rather than the mode?

(Total 4 marks)

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Q3.

Fifteen-year-old Jenny has recently started smoking. She believes that smoking will stop her putting on weight and help her to cope with stress. Most of her friends smoke and she thinks that smoking helps her to fit in with the group of popular girls, whom she sees as fun-loving and cool.

Using your knowledge of vulnerability to addiction, discuss some of the vulnerability factors that contribute to Jenny's smoking. Refer to relevant research in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)

Q4.

Outline and evaluate the biological approach to explaining smoking behaviour.

(Total 8 marks)

Q5.

Andy is in his first year at university. He is a shy young man who lacks confidence in himself and worries about meeting new people. Since starting university, Andy has preferred to stay in his room, playing strategy games on the internet with his old school friends. Andy often plays all night which means that he sleeps in and misses his lectures. He is finding his course difficult and fears that he may fail his exams or drop out.

Use your knowledge of risk factors in the development of addiction to explain Andy's addiction to the internet.

(Total 6 marks)

Q6.

It is claimed that many young people start to abuse stimulants because they feel pressured into doing so by their friends.

Use your knowledge of psychology to explain how social pressure might lead a young person to start abusing stimulants.

(Total 4 marks)

Q7.

'Sally is a young woman who puts herself down all the time. She thinks that she is overweight and has started to diet. Like her parents and some of her friends, Sally smokes cigarettes. Her smoking habit has recently become excessive and she is now addicted to nicotine.'

Using your knowledge of the psychology of addictive behaviour, explain some of the likely reasons why Sally has become addicted to smoking.

(Total 6 marks)