

ABOUT THE ATTACHMENT KNOWLEDGE BOOK

This booklet covers all of the essential content needed for the Attachment section of Paper 1, and follows the order of the AQA A-Level Psychology specification. The booklet contains a series of structured activities that can be completed using your own notes, the tutor2u Exam Buster revision guide or another textbook. Once you have attempted all the activities in a section, take a look at our suggested answers by visiting the link on the back of the booklet.

We've also provided you with lots of practice application questions and some planning activities to help you to prepare for some of the more difficult essays.

Finally, at the back of the booklet we've provided some Research Methods questions based on attachment topics. Don't forget that Research Methods questions can appear in any of the sections of your AQA exam papers. There is also a 30-minute mini mock paper to try!

Exam hints: This booklet also includes plenty of exam hints and tips. Pay careful attention to these hints as they will help you to maximise your performance in Paper 1.

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01 | What is meant by?

Write a definition and give an example for each of these key terms

	Definition	Example
Reciprocity		
Interactional synchrony		

02 | Outline research

Outline research that has been conducted to investigate caregiver-infant interactions

09 | Elaborate your evaluation points

Take each basic evaluation point and elaborate on it (e.g. by turning it into a Burger or PEEL paragraph)

One problem with research into the role of the father is that it is inconsistent

Some evidence suggests that the father may not have a distinct role to play as a secondary attachment figure

There are reasons other than biology (e.g. female hormones) why fathers generally do not become primary attachment figures

10 | Use your knowledge

Use your knowledge of research into the role of the father to answer this application question

Tony has recently become a father and is discussing his experiences with his own father. Tony says that he is enjoying being a hands-on dad and is planning to look after his baby while his wife returns to work. However, Tony's dad says that he would not have done that because he feels that women are better at caring for young children as they have the right hormones. He says that when Tony was young, he would play with him but when Tony got upset it was always his mother that he wanted. Tony replied by saying he believes that fathers can be as nurturing and caring as mothers.

Use your knowledge of research into the role of the father to explain the differences in views between Tony and his dad. (4 marks)



Exam hint: When answering an application question like this one, it is really important to engage with the information in the STEM and use it effectively to answer the question. It is not enough to simply include the name of the person a few times in your answer. You need to include clear, explicit and detailed links.

RESEARCH METHODS

Research methods questions can appear on any exam paper and in any topic. Here are some research methods questions related to attachment.

Question 1

A psychologist wanted to investigate the attachment behaviours shown by infants aged 12-24 months whilst attending a mothers and toddlers group. She obtained informed consent from all of the members of the group for herself and another observer to attend the group and make observations. Each child was observed for a 1 hour period, during which the observer looked at the child every 60 seconds and if a target behaviour was shown, the observer recorded it on a behavioural checklist.

a Based on your knowledge of attachment types, identify two behavioural categories that could be included in the checklist. (2 marks)

b Briefly explain why this study can be described as an overt observation. (2 marks)

c Explain one strength of using a naturalistic observation in this investigation. (2 marks)

d What sampling method has been used to sample behaviour in this investigation? Briefly justify your answer. (2 marks)

e Explain one limitation of using this sampling method in this investigation. (2 marks)

f Explain how inter-observer reliability should be established before conducting this investigation. (4 marks)