



[Home](#) > [Grade descriptors for GCSEs graded 9 to 1](#)



Updated 6 September 2017

## Contents

1. [Grade 8](#)
2. [Grade 5](#)
3. [Grade 2](#)

## 1. Grade 8

To achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to:

- demonstrate relevant, comprehensive knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these correctly to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts using accurate psychological terminology
- use a range of mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology
- critically analyse psychological information, constructing a sustained line of reasoning that leads to substantiated judgements
- critically evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing well-evidenced conclusions from competing viewpoints

## 2. Grade 5

To achieve grade 5, candidates will be able to:

- demonstrate mostly accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures, and apply these mostly correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using mostly accurate psychological terminology
- use some mathematical skills relevant to research methods in psychology
- analyse psychological information, constructing an appropriate line of reasoning that leads to plausible judgments supported by some evidence
- evaluate psychological ideas and research methodology, developing plausible conclusions, supported by some evidence, including from competing viewpoints

### 3. Grade 2

To achieve grade 2, candidates will be able to:

- demonstrate basic psychological knowledge and understanding and apply, in a limited way, a few concepts, terms and theories using some psychological terminology
- use some simple mathematical skills
- make simple judgements with some reference to evidence
- make basic comments that demonstrate some awareness of competing viewpoints

[Is there anything wrong with this page?](#)

## Services and information

[Benefits](#)

[Births, deaths, marriages and care](#)

[Business and self-employed](#)

[Childcare and parenting](#)

[Citizenship and living in the UK](#)

[Crime, justice and the law](#)

[Disabled people](#)

[Driving and transport](#)

[Education and learning](#)

[Employing people](#)

[Environment and countryside](#)

[Housing and local services](#)

[Money and tax](#)

[Passports, travel and living abroad](#)

[Visas and immigration](#)

[Working, jobs and pensions](#)

## **Departments and policy**

[How government works](#)

[Departments](#)

[Worldwide](#)

[Policies](#)

[Publications](#)

[Announcements](#)

---

[Help](#) [Cookies](#) [Contact](#) [Terms and conditions](#) [Rhestr o Wasanaethau Cymraeg](#)

Built by the [Government Digital Service](#)

**OGI**

All content is available under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#), except where otherwise stated



© Crown copyright