

Psychology PET syllabus – 2026 (Paper - II)

1. **Cognitive psychology:** Thinking, Problem solving, Creativity, Reasoning, Intelligence.

- Convergent and divergent thinking
- Stages of Thinking
- Problem solving approaches
- Stages of Creativity
- Theories of Creativity
- Inductive and Deductive reasoning
- Decision Making
- Human and Artificial Intelligence

2. **Research methods:** Basic Concepts, Sampling, Research designs, Qualitative/Quantitative approaches.

- Types of variables
- Hypothesis construction
- Ethical constraints
- Stages of Research
- Types of sampling
- Different research designs
- Reporting research

3. **Psychological tool** construction, Test standardization, Applications.

- Scales of measurement
- Test construction and adaptation
- Item analysis
- Reliability, Validity, Norms
- Ethical issues

4. **Theories of Personality** : and the various theoretical perspectives.

- Psychoanalytic and Neo analytic perspectives
- Behavioristic approaches
- Social cognitive perspectives
- Humanist perspectives
- Trait perspectives

5. **Neuropsychology:** Structure and functions of the brain, Lateralization, Lobe functions, Cognitive correlates.

- Nervous system

- Brain anatomy
- Synaptic transmission
- Cerebral organization
- Hemispheric specialization
- Lobe functions

6. Statistical methods: Descriptive and Inferential.

- Central tendency
- Variability
- Normal distribution
- Standard scores
- Power and effect size
- Inferential statistics: Correlation, Regression, Factorial designs.
- Multivariate statistics

7. Positive psychology: Concepts and applications.

- Subjective well being
- Resilience and Coping
- Emotional Intelligence
- Optimism and Hope

8. Social Psychology: Concepts and applications.

- Social Influence
- Media psychology
- Health Psychology
- Environment and Psychology

9. Clinical psychology: Psychopathology, Psychodiagnostics and Therapeutic applications.

- Psychopathology in various age groups
- Common Mental Disorders
- Severe mental Disorders
- Classification systems
- Diagnostic assessment of Personality, Intelligence, Development
- Intervention techniques based on various theoretical perspectives

10. Counseling psychology: Adjustment and maladjustment, Assessment, Intervention.

- Psychosocial adjustment
- Behavioural assessment
- Career and Vocational Guidance
- Counseling approaches

- Premarital and Marital counseling
- Palliative approaches to Counseling

11. Industrial and Organizational Psychology: Concepts and Applications.

- Organizational Behaviour
- Content and process theories
- Group dynamics
- Leadership
- Organizational health and safety
- Organizational Development
- OD interventions and Change management
- Human Resource Management
- Competency mapping
- Training and Development
- Performance Appraisal

12. Experimental Psychology: Design and conduction of experiments. Experimental and Quasi experimental designs: Strengths and Weaknesses.

- Designing experiments
- Single and double blind
- Variables and their control
- Analysis of findings
- Replicability and ethical constraints

Suggested reading:

APA DSM-IV-TR and DSM V (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders)

Atwater, E. and Duffy, K. G. (2008). Psychology for living: Adjustment, growth and behaviour today (8th edi). Pearson.

Baumgartner, S.R., & Crothers, M.K. (2012). Positive Psychology. New Delhi: Pearson.

Dunn, D.S., Hammer, E.Y, and Weiten, W. (2011). Psychology applied to modern life: Adjustment in the 21st century. Wadsworth publication.

Friedman H, Schustack M: Personality Classic Theories and Modern Research, 5th Edn, Pearson Education Pvt. Ltd. India, 2011.

Gazzaniga, M.S., Ivry, R.B. & Mangun, G.R. (2008) Cognitive neuroscience: The biology of mind. New York: Norton.

Gravetter, F. J. & Wallnau, L. B. (2012). Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences. Wadsworth Publishing; 9 edition.

Groth-Marnat, Gary (2009) Handbook of psychological assessment. Fifth edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.,

Kaplan, R.M. and Saccuzzo, D.P. (2005). Psychological Testing: Principles, Applications and Issues. India: Wadsworth, Cengage.

Kaplan & Sadock (2011) Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry 9th Edn.

Nelson-Jones, Richard (2008). Basic Counseling Skills: A Helper's Manual. New Delhi: Sage Publications.

Reis H.T and Judd C.H (2000) Handbook of Research Methods in Social and Personality Psychology' The Cambridge Press

Robbins, S.P., Timothy A., & Judge, N.V. (2011). Organizational Behavior (14th Ed). Pearson

Sheskin, D. (2011). Handbook of Parametric and Nonparametric Statistical Procedures, Fifth Edition. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

Solso, Robert L. 'Cognitive Psychology' (2009), 6nd Edition , Allyn & Bacon Inc.

Stephen, P.R., Timothy A., & Judge, N.V. (2011). Organizational Behavior (14th Ed). Pearson

Sternberg R.J 'Cognitive Psychology' (2009), 5th Edition, Harcourt Brace College Publishers.

Weiner, I.B, Greene, R.L. (2008) Handbook of Personality assessment, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.