

Explanations of Attachment – Questions by Topic

Q1.

Learning theory provides one explanation of attachment. It suggests that attachment will be between an infant and the person who feeds it. However, the findings of some research studies do not support this explanation.

Outline research findings that challenge the learning theory of attachment.

(Total 4 marks)

Q2.

Abi had a happy, secure childhood with parents who loved her very much. She now has two children of her own and loves them very much too. The two children make friends easily and are confident and trusting.

Referring to Abi and her family, explain what psychologists have discovered about the internal working model.

(Total 6 marks)

Q3.

Two researchers wanted to investigate the influence of early attachment on later relationships. They asked 20 teenagers aged 14-16 to write an essay on the importance of family and friends. Ten of the teenagers had been raised by their mother and father. The other ten had spent the first five years of their lives in care (and were then adopted).

The researchers used content analysis to analyse the teenagers' essays. The researchers devised a set of categories to do this, two of which were 'references to love' and 'references to fear of rejection'.

- (a) Explain **one** way in which the researchers may have checked whether their categories were reliable.

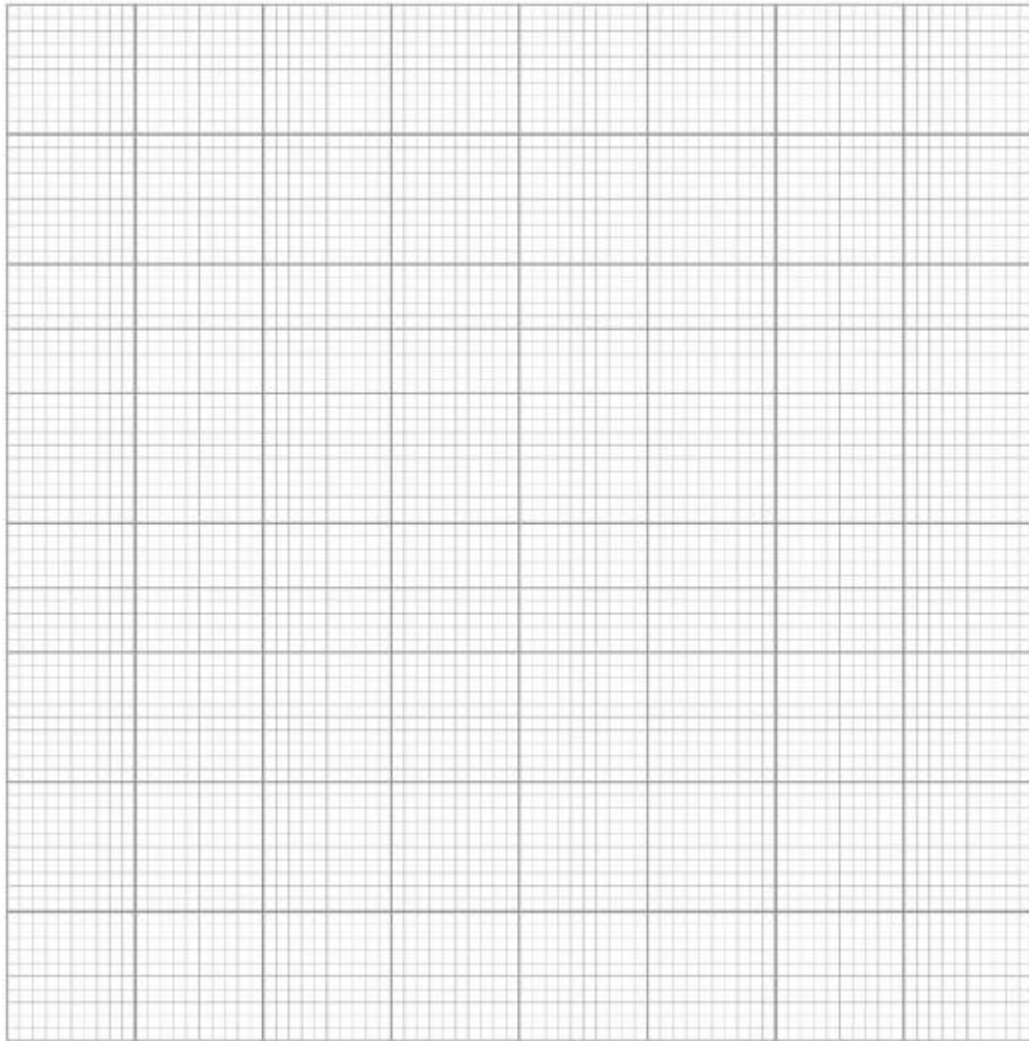
(3)

The results of the investigation for references to love and references to fear of rejection are shown in the table below:

The total number of references to love and references to fear of rejection in essays written by the care group and the non-care group

	Total number of references to love	Total number of references to fear of rejection
Non-care group	40	5
Care group	16	15

(b) Draw a suitable graphical display to represent the data in the table.



(3)

(c) Express the total number of references to love in the essays written by the care group as a fraction of the total number of references to love in the essays overall. Show your calculations.

(3)

(d) The researchers decided to interview some of the teenagers about their early life experiences.

Explain how the data collected from the interview might have improved upon the data collected from the content analysis.

(3)

(e) Explain Bowlby's monotropic theory. Refer to the data from the table in part (a) in your answer.

(6)

(Total 18 marks)

Q4.

One theory about how and why babies form attachments is Bowlby's monotropic theory.

Outline and evaluate Bowlby's monotropic theory of attachment.

(Total 8 marks)

Q5.

Outline and evaluate learning theory as an explanation of attachment.

(Total 8 marks)

Q6.

Two mothers at the toddler and parent group are chatting.

"I always felt sorry for my husband when Millie was a baby. He used to say his bond with Millie was not as strong as mine because I was breastfeeding."

"I'm not sure", replies the other mother. "I think there's something about a mother's love that makes it more special anyway – and so important for future development."

Discuss the learning theory of attachment **and** Bowlby's monotropic theory of attachment. Refer to the conversation above in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)