



LEVEL 3 MARKING SCHEME

SUMMER 2025

**LEVEL 3
CRIMINOLOGY – UNIT 2
4543UB0-1**

About this marking scheme

The purpose of this marking scheme is to provide teachers, learners, and other interested parties, with an understanding of the assessment criteria used to assess this specific assessment.

This marking scheme reflects the criteria by which this assessment was marked in a live series and was finalised following detailed discussion at an examiners' conference. A team of qualified examiners were trained specifically in the application of this marking scheme. The aim of the conference was to ensure that the marking scheme was interpreted and applied in the same way by all examiners. It may not be possible, or appropriate, to capture every variation that a candidate may present in their responses within this marking scheme. However, during the training conference, examiners were guided in using their professional judgement to credit alternative valid responses as instructed by the document, and through reviewing exemplar responses.

Without the benefit of participation in the examiners' conference, teachers, learners and other users, may have different views on certain matters of detail or interpretation. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that this marking scheme is used alongside other guidance, such as published exemplar materials or Guidance for Teaching. This marking scheme is final and will not be changed, unless in the event that a clear error is identified, as it reflects the criteria used to assess candidate responses during the live series.

LEVEL 3 CRIMINOLOGY – UNIT 2

SUMMER 2025 MARK SCHEME

1. Scenario

Roy is known as an unusual character in his community. For example, he often goes to the library to make noise and wears eccentric clothing. At night, he secretly plans and commits burglaries and thefts of expensive jewellery. Roy blames his double life on his father, who behaved in a similar way. Roy believes that he inherited his behaviour and lifestyle from his father.

- (a) (i) With reference to the scenario, briefly explain the term deviance. [4]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Deviance is considered as behaviour that goes against the dominant social norms of a specific group or society. Roy makes noise in the library and wears eccentric clothing.
- Deviance usually causes some kind of critical reaction or disapproval. Roy is known as an unusual character.
- Deviance can be criminal (Roy's burglaries and thefts) or non-criminal action (Roy's noise in the library and wearing of eccentric clothing).

- (ii) Identify **two** informal sanctions against deviance. [2]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
Up to 2 marks	Award 1 mark for a correct point.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Laughing
- Name-calling
- Ignoring/refusing to speak to an individual
- Exclusion or ostracism
- Look of disapproval

- (b) Other than burglary or theft, name **three** criminal acts. [3]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
Up to 3 marks	Award 1 mark for a correct point.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Assault
- Robbery
- Fraud
- Murder
- Rape
- Criminal damage
- Drunk and disorderly

(c) Explain the social construction of criminality.

[9]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–3 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
4–6 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
7–9 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- What is considered a crime is decided by a society due to convention or collective agreement.
- Crime can vary according to the views of a particular society and can change according to culture, time, place and according to the circumstances in which the actions occur.
- Explanation of social construction of criminality according to place may include examples such as jaywalking/pedestrians who cross the road without regard to traffic regulations. Jaywalking is an offence in most urban areas in the US, Canada, Singapore and Poland. However, it is not a criminal offence in England and Wales. Adultery is illegal in Saudi Arabia and certain states in the US, for example in Kansas and Arizona, but it is not illegal in the UK
- What a society considers to be criminal can change over time and examples could include prostitution which was once stigmatised and linked to immorality but is now concerned with protecting vulnerable people. Homosexuality was once a criminal offence, but this changed as a result of the Sexual Offences Act 1967. Changes have included the right to have a civil partnership and same sex marriage under the Marriage Same Sex Couples Act 2013. The law concerning double jeopardy was abolished by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and allows a person to be charged for the same offence twice for very serious offences such as murder and where new and compelling evidence has come to light.
- An explanation of the social construction of criminality due to culture can be seen in honour crime where, for example, it is illegal in western cultures but often remains unenforced, despite government attempts in some cultures.
- The social construction of criminality can also vary according to circumstances in which the crime is committed and could include examples such as age, availability of a defence and a defendant's antecedents.
- The social construction of criminality can also vary according to campaigns for change which are often heavily influenced by various forms of media. For example, various campaigns such as Stonewall which lead to LGBTQ+ equality.
- Reasons for the social construction of criminality can also be credited, for example religion, the status of women and differing views on justice.

- (d) (i) Identify **one** genetic theory of criminality. [1]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1 mark	Award 1 mark for a correct point.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Twin studies
- Adoption studies
- XYY theory
- Lombroso's theory (genetic element of the born criminal)
- Eysenck's theory (genetic influences on personality traits)
- Warrior gene (MAOA)

- (ii) Describe how **one** biological theory accounts for criminality. [6]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
5–6 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

XYY theory

- This theory suggests that criminality can be attributed to a chromosomal abnormality.
- Chromosomes are structures in cell nuclei that contain an individual's genes. Usually, each person has 46 chromosomes. Sex is determined by the pattern of the individual's sex chromosomes: XX in a female and XY in a male.
- There is a genetic condition in which a male has an extra male (Y) chromosome, giving a total of 47 chromosomes. Such a condition occurs in 1 in 1,000 male births.
- Jacobs et al (1965) suggested that males with the XYY syndrome were found to have higher levels of testosterone and were more aggressive than XY males. XYY males are over-represented in the prison population with 15 per 1,000 in the male prison population.
- Explicit links must be made to criminal behaviour rather than behaviour in general.

Lombroso's theory

- This theory suggests that the criminal is a separate species; a species that is between modern man and primitive humans.
- Lombroso argued the physical shape of the head and face determined the "born criminal". He claimed that criminality was inherited.
- Criminals have 'atavistic' (i.e. primitive) features, which are 'throwbacks' or characteristics from an earlier stage of human development. They manifest as a tendency to commit crimes.
- Such features include low sloping foreheads, large jaws or forward projection of jaw, receding chin, twisted nose, long arms relative to lower limbs, excessive cheekbones, large ears and excessive wrinkles on the skin.
- Explicit links must be made to criminal behaviour rather than behaviour in general.

Descriptions of other theories may include twin and adoption studies, a genetic description of Eysenck's theory, and the warrior gene (MAOA).

2. Scenario

Morgan Davies, a reporter for a local newspaper, is researching demographic changes. This will enable him to write an article focusing on changes in society. Morgan has previously led a successful campaign by the newspaper which influenced formal policies to reduce street crime and anti-social behaviour.

- (a) Briefly describe **one** social structure theory of criminality. [4]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Social structure theories of criminality consider the role of societal factors as causes of crime.
- Marxism sees crime as something that the ruling class use as a means of social control. The criminal justice system, including the police and prisons, encourages conformity. Marxism suggests that the nature of the capitalist system causes crime – it is criminogenic. The inequality between the disadvantaged proletariat or working-class and the bourgeoisie or ruling class motivates crime. Laws are created and enforced to benefit the bourgeoisie.
- Functionalism suggests that society is made up of interrelated parts. The various parts, such as the government, family, education, healthcare, and religion, work together to keep society functioning. Crime serves a purpose as it provides and reinforces shared values and holds society together, maintaining social cohesion and solidarity.

- (b) Explain how demographic changes in society affect policy development. [6]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
5–6 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

- Immigration has led to changes in policy development. To prevent hostility towards immigrants who arrived in the UK in the 1950s and 1960s various acts were passed. These included the Race Relations Acts 1965 and 1968 which attempted to ban racial discrimination in public places and racism in housing and employment. The Race Relations Act 1976 addressed indirect racism and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 introduced a duty on public authorities to promote race equality.
- More women in employment has led to policy changes to provide greater protection in the workplace. The Equal Pay Act 1970 made it illegal to pay women lower rates than men for the same work. The Sex Discrimination Act 1975 made it illegal to discriminate against women in work, education and training.
- With an ageing population there has been an increase in elder rights which has resulted in policy development. For instance, the Crown Prosecution Service has guidance when the victim or witness is elderly. In addition, the UK government has issued policy details on reporting abuse of an older person. Also, there is an increase in older people in prison. As a result, prisons have started to make accessibility changes for older prisoners.

- (c) Examine how sociological theories of criminality inform crime control policies. [9]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–3 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
4–6 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
7–9 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Right realism

- This theory supports the view that criminals make the rational choice to commit crime and that criminality should always be punished with tough sentences and aggressive law enforcement.
- This has informed the use of zero tolerance as a crime control policy. This is when all crime is actively prevented, and all offences are dealt with to prevent further re-offending.
- Zero tolerance is particularly used with low level crime such as graffiti, to prevent more serious offences resulting.
- This policy was used in New York (USA) and Liverpool, where the introduction in 2005 saw overall recorded crime fall by 25.7% in the three years to 2008, with violent crime falling by 38%.

Left realism

- This theory argues that crime is largely caused by social inequality and poverty. In particular marginalisation, sub-cultures and relative deprivation.
- This theory encourages policy makers to implement community focused solutions to crime such as improving education, creating jobs and restorative justice. Recommends a multi-agency approach.
- It informed the development of sure start centres, which were established to enhance the life chances of young people growing up in disadvantaged communities and prevent the temptation of committing crime.

Marxism

- This theory suggests that crime is a result of financial inequality (capitalism). As the bourgeoisie hold most of the wealth and power, the proletariat engage in crime to obtain money.
- Marxists may suggest that numerous crime control measures such as custodial sentences and the vagrancy laws were implemented to reduce crime and cause oppression and exploitation by forcing the working class to work in factories and other places.

- Custodial sentences ensure people are restrained and contained in prison, preventing any challenge to the upper class. The Vagrancy Act 1824 makes it a criminal offence to be homeless. (Parliament voted to repeal the Act in 2022, but the Act has not yet been fully repealed, meaning it is still technically in force).

Merton's strain theory

- This theory suggests that emphasis on wealth and attaining the American dream results in strain for those who lack the means of achieving in a legal manner and hence turn to crime.
- Early intervention measures to prevent the stress and help to address vulnerabilities may reduce crime
- For example, working within the Youth Justice System to promote positive outcomes, supporting young people to stay in school or making sure they have a safe home environment.
- Early intervention often involves a multi-agency approach to give extra support and guidance to potential offenders.

- (d) Discuss **one** newspaper campaign that has successfully affected policy development. [6]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
5–6 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Sarah's law

- This campaign started as a result of the kidnap and murder of Sarah Payne by a known paedophile, Roy Whiting. He had previous convictions for abduction and sexual assault of a young girl. His name was also on the Sex Offenders Register.
- Sarah's mother campaigned for a policy that allowed parents to discover this type of information. Her campaign was supported by a former Sunday newspaper, the News of the World.
- The paper launched a petition which was signed by 700,000 people, as well as a 'name and shame' campaign.
- The campaign was successful and helped to introduce the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme. The scheme was piloted in 2008 and then rolled out across England and Wales in 2011.

Awaab's Law

- The campaign started following the death of two-year-old Awaab Ishak, caused by the damp and mould in his home rented from a local authority.
- A campaign by the Manchester Evening News involved reporter Stephen Topping's research for Awaab's family uncovering a string of cases of children who had fallen seriously ill in similar housing conditions to those that led to the child's death in Rochdale.
- A total of 177,581 people signed a petition created by the newspaper, calling for social housing landlords to face strict time limits to inspect and repair damp and mould.
- The campaign was successful with the passing of the Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023 which is intended to be the catalyst for a new proactive approach to regulating social housing.

Stop the Danger Drivers

- A Bradford newspaper, the Telegraph and Argus, launched a campaign to make roads safe from dangerous drivers.
- It encouraged readers to send in dash cam videos of dangerous driving.
- As a result of the campaign, the police started 'Operation Steerside' to crack down on dangerous driving.
- In the first phase of the police operation there were 1,539 motorists caught and the police say the operation is now embedded in the local force culture.

3. Scenario

Amanda is a personal trainer and a semi-professional weightlifter. However, unknown to most people, she also runs a fraudulent dating agency with her sister where, using false profiles, they befriend men with the intention of obtaining money from them. Sophia, Amanda's daughter, wants to work in the agency as she admires her mother's work and the money she gains, believing that the work is adventurous.

- (a) (i) Briefly analyse how **one** biological theory of criminality may be applied to Amanda's criminality. [4]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Sheldon's theory

- Amanda is a personal trainer and semi-professional weightlifter. As such she is likely to be physically active and train with weights.
- This will give Amanda a mesomorphic shape which is muscular with wide shoulders and a narrower waist.
- According to Sheldon's theory, a mesomorph is more likely to be criminal compared to an ectomorph (thin & fragile) or an endomorph (fat and soft). This may link to Amanda's criminality with the fraudulent dating agency.
- In addition, a mesomorph is said to be aggressive and adventurous. Again, this may link to Amanda's involvement with meeting men and obtaining money from them.

Family studies

- As Amanda and her sister are related, family studies are relevant as they investigate whether genetic similarity is associated with similar behaviour, including criminality.
- Amanda and her sister are both criminals due to their work with the fraudulent dating agency. This would also account for Sophia's wish to work with her mother and aunt.
- Family studies suggest that people with similar genes, as opposed to unrelated people, are more likely to have similar behaviour. In other words, criminality is heritable.
- This is supported by research (Brunner) which suggests individuals can inherit genetic conditions which make them prone to offending behaviour.

Twin studies

- If the sisters are identical twins, or monozygotic (MZ), they would share 100% of their DNA. According to research by Christiansen, the concordance rate (i.e. percentages to show how many twin pairs share the behaviour under observation) is greater with MZ twins (35%) than non-identical or dizygotic (DZ) twins (13%), who share 50% of their DNA.
- Such studies support genetic link in explaining criminality such as Amanda's.

- (ii) Evaluate the effectiveness of **two** biological theories to explain the causes of criminality. [9]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–3 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
4–6 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed
7–9 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Sheldon's theory

- A number of studies have confirmed that there is a small association between body build and criminality (Putwain & Sammons, 2002).
- A sample of 200 was used and, importantly, Sheldon had a control condition of non-offenders (students) to which he could compare his results.
- Even though there could be issues surrounding the reliability of Sheldon's study, other researchers have found results that seem to support, at least in part, his initial theory. Glueck & Glueck (1956) found that in a sample of delinquents, 60% were mesomorphs while in a non-delinquent sample only 31% were.
- Initial research only focused on criminals. Just because many criminals are mesomorphs, it does not mean that all mesomorphs are criminals.
- The theory does not explain how ectomorphs and endomorphs can also be criminals.
- The theory does not take into account that people's somatotype is not fixed. People's bodies change throughout their lives, and an individual may be all three types at some point in their lives. Sheldon does not detail whether this would lead to changes in personality and criminal behaviour.
- Muscular mesomorphs may be more likely to be invited by peers to participate in daring and anti-social activities; they may be more successful and therefore more likely to continue this behaviour and, if caught, begin to build up a criminal career.

Lombroso's theory

- Supporting evidence from Bath Spa University, 2007 showed that when criminals are sentenced for crimes, the less attractive individuals are more likely to be considered guilty - 50% more so than attractive people.
- Goring found that all convicts had the same low-order intelligence, and argued that as this is genetic, there must be a genetic base to criminality.
- Garland (1994) argued that Lombroso was responsible for giving criminology a scientific credibility.
- Lombroso based his theory on the facial measurements of hundreds of criminals and the skulls of deceased criminals. He did not compare these results to a control group of non-criminals. Therefore, as he did not have a comparison control group, the findings cannot be viewed as support for his claims.
- Goring (1913) made a study of the physical features of thousands of English prisoners and found none of the distinctive facial characteristics noted by Lombroso.
- A major issue with this study is that, even if it were found that there was a relationship between facial characteristics and criminality, the theory is descriptive rather than explanatory.
- Lombroso's theory also raises some important ethical issues. If we could identify criminals by physical characteristics, would that imply that such people could justifiably be locked away before even committing a crime?
- This theory is also extremely deterministic. It assumes that criminality is akin to eye colour; one is born a criminal and is unable to escape one's destiny. It does not take into account social or economic factors.

XYY theory

- A study by Jacobs et al (1965) found that 15 in 1000 men in prison had XYY sex chromosomes instead of the usual XY compared to 1 in 1000 in wider society.
- Adler et al (2007) indicated that it is possible that aggressive and violent behaviour is at least partly determined by genetic factors.
- Studies have found that genetic abnormalities are widespread throughout the general population and therefore do not explain aggression.
- Focusing too heavily on genetics ignores the impact of individuals' environment
- Theilgaard (1984) researched the traits of XYY men compared to XY men. He found the characteristic of aggression was not associated with the XYY men.

(b) Describe **one** learning theory of criminality.

[6]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
5–6 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Bandura's social learning theory

- This is based on the assumption that offending is a set of behaviours that are learned in the same way as other behaviours, through observation and vicarious reinforcement.
- Studies emphasise the family and peer group as a potential source of criminal behaviour, for example Osborne and West (1982).
- Includes observational learning, for example the imitation of role models, and experiments such as the Bobo doll.
- Explicit links must be made to criminal behaviour rather than behaviour in general.

Skinner's theory of operant conditioning.

- This is based on the idea that behaviour is determined by its consequences. Such consequences can include positive reinforcement and punishment.
- Learning becomes a process of conditioning in an environment of stimulus and reaction.
- Something in the individual's environment prompts them to behave in a criminal way.
- Includes experiments involving animals such as rats and pigeons
- Explicit links must be made to criminal behaviour rather than behaviour in general

- (c) Analyse how **one** individualistic theory of criminality may be applied to Sophia's desire to be involved in criminality. [6]

0 marks	The response does not meet any of the criteria specified below.
1–2 marks	There is a limited focus on the question, with vague or no accurate support and little or no use of specialist vocabulary.
3–4 marks	There is a reasonable focus on the question with some accurate support and some use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question may be only partially addressed.
5–6 marks	There is a clear and detailed focus on the question with mainly accurate support and an effective use of specialist vocabulary. The demands of the question are fully addressed.

The following material is an indication of what candidates **may** include in their responses. Credit any other relevant material.

Social Learning theory

- Sophia has observed the criminal behaviour of her mother and aunt.
- Her mother has become her role model.
- Amanda is making money from the fraudulent dating agency which has vicariously reinforced Sophia's learning.
- Sophia now believes that crime pays.
- She wants to imitate her mother's criminal behaviour.

Personality theory

- Sophia and her mother may have the personality traits that make them want to commit crimes.
- These would involve high levels of extraversion as well as neuroticism and psychopathy as suggested in Eysenck's theory.
- Sophia wants to follow her mother into the agency as she admires her mother and finds her work adventurous, suggesting that she has a criminal personality.
- Sophia may have a low level of arousal, meaning she requires more environmental stimulation to fuel her excitement. As a result, she wants to follow her mother's behaviour.

Psychodynamic theory

- Sophia may have unresolved conflicts and have failed to make the transition from being Id dominated (therefore needing instant gratification) to the reality principle (where the Ego is dominant).
- This may lead to her criminal behaviour in the fraudulent dating agency.
- The money obtained through fraudulent means may satisfy her Id.