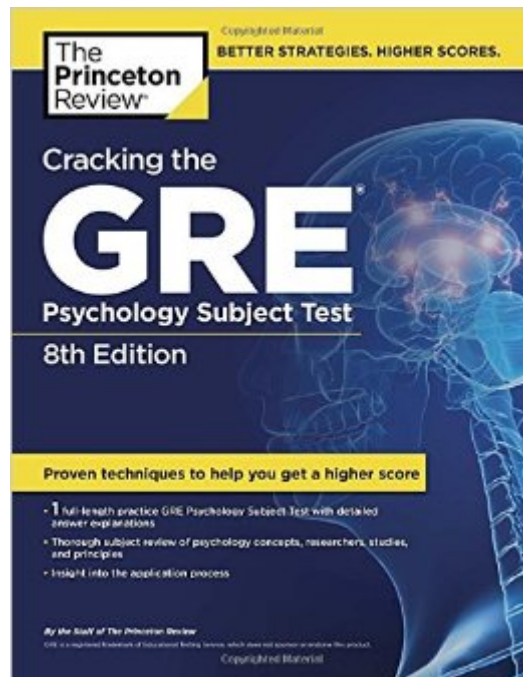


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# Cracking The GRE Psychology Subject Test, 8th Edition (Graduate School Test Preparation)



## Synopsis

THE PRINCETON REVIEW GETS RESULTS. Getting a high score on the GRE Psychology Subject Test isn't about memorizing everything there is to know about psychology—it's about targeting your test preparation. We teach you only the information you'll need along with the best strategies for the test day. Within this book, you'll find practical information on the what, when, where, and how of the exam, as well as subject review for all potential topics. Techniques That Actually Work. Effective strategies to help you beat the test and hit your top score. Specialized tactics to avoid the trick questions that trap most students. Alternative approaches to enable you to tackle the toughest questions with confidence. Everything You Need to Know for a High Score. Charts, figures, diagrams, and bulleted lists provide strong GRE Psychology content presentation and review. Subject review for all exam topics, including learning, memory, sensation and perception, behavioral neuroscience, clinical and abnormal psychology, personality, measurement and methodology, and more. Study tips with useful advice from Princeton Review expert tutors and teachers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I purchased this book with about a month's worth of time to study for my Psych GRE. I read through it once without taking notes. Then I went back through it and with each paragraph I read, I wrote a sentence or two in my notes about what that paragraph had said. I used the study tips it provides at

the end of every chapter. One of the great things about the field of psychology is that it teaches you little tricks you can use to more effectively study psychology. The book claims to teach you everything you'll need to know to ace the test and when I got there I found it really had. Consequently I absolutely nailed that exam (99th percentile!). There was only a handful of questions that I encountered on the test that I wasn't sure of, and most of them I could actually tell you where in the book the answers had been I just couldn't remember which name went with which theory. I really liked how it broke down the different areas within psychology by chapter, covered the important big wigs in each field and described in nice, short, succinct language the highlights of each field. In all actuality, I think I learned more from this book about certain parts of the field of psychology (like statistics for instance) than I did from my four years of formal undergraduate education. It gives you a sample test for you to check your progress which is also nice. It even has a chapter in the appendix that gives you great tips about applying to graduate schools and what type of school and degree you should pursue for various career goals. This book was definitely a superb study resource. That being said, no matter how good of a resource it is, it won't help you if you don't put in the time and effort yourself to utilize it to its fullest extent. So give yourself plenty of time beforehand to study the heck out of this thing and that GRE will be the easiest test you've ever taken.

I took the Psychology GRE in October 2013. I received a 96 percentile (780) overall score, 97 percentile (079) in experimental, and 94 percentile (076) in social. To preface this; at the time of taking the GRE's I have a B.A. in Psychology and Philosophy, and an M.A. in the Science and Theories of Psychology. The masters degree helped immensely in gaining the breadth of knowledge necessary for a high score on this test. I'm also not advising that you do this 5 days before the test you plan on taking, it just happened that I had five full days and not much other time. How I used the book; Day 1: ~8-10hrs Read the entire book, highlighting/underlining key topics. Write your own notes in the margins, try and connect the material together. Really take your time. Break down any concepts you don't understand and use the internet to clarify them. The book isn't that long and is easily readable in a day. Get a good night's sleep! You are psychology majors, you know that memories are formed in part when we sleep. No sleep = wasted studying. Day 2: Take the practice test included in this book. Don't become discouraged!!!! I got a 64th percentile on this first test. Again psychology majors, if you become discouraged you will do worse, I could pull up a ton of studies to back me up here. Go through the test and highlight every question you got wrong. For each question read about that topic, until you could never get that question wrong again, in this

book or on the internet. Read your correct answers to make sure you will always get a similar question correct. Sleep!!!!Day 3: Read the book again! I know, you already read it once. This book contains the breadth of the psychology field, this test relies a great deal on you knowing the breadth of the field. If you know a lot about psychology your "psychology common sense" can guide you on many questions. However, you DO NEED TO KNOW the specific names of researchers and what theory/study is tied to that person. Sleep!!!!Day 4: Take the practice test included with your test registration. Time yourself! Focus, but most of all relax. If you are too stressed you will perform poorly. Mark answers as you go through to go back to at the end. When done again the most important thing is to not be let down, any upward improvement is a great thing! I got an 86 percentile on this second test. The next step, you guessed it, making sure you can get all of your correct answers correct again, and making sure you never get your wrong answers wrong again. SleepDay 5: One day until the test. Relax. Meditate if you are into it (studies say it is helpful). Go through the book skimming over what you know for sure and learning the things you are unfamiliar with still. Go through both tests and go the same. If you know everything on both tests and in this book you are doing very well for yourself. Go to bed early and get plenty of sleep, it is the most important before test day. Test Day: Eat a good breakfast. If you don't need coffee don't drink any!!! The research I subscribe to attributes long term performance decline to caffeine with a short term boost. This test is long term... Tell yourself out loud you are going to do well on the test. Put your hands above your head and shout Woooooo!!!!!!!!!!!! All of these things boost confidence. Don't wear red. Wearing red lowers test performance of everyone in the room. Just relax, read every question carefully and mark questions you are unsure of, revisit these questions at the end. Don't ever get discouraged.

The bulk of the book summarizes major findings in psychology. At the end of the book, there is a 205 question practice test. I'm an undergrad--I found it really informative to see the kinds of questions I might encounter, which ranged from the familiar to the foreign. This section, in particular, gave me a succinct crash course regarding what I still need to study. There is an additional section with some general advice and information about the application process. Pros: All in all, I feel the book has been really useful in pinning down what I do and do not know. Cons: Summarizes major themes, but does not usually explain them. It's not the end-all--prepare with your textbooks. Very informative.

Helpful as a general guide to point you towards topics to study, but I found that occasionally the summaries provided were misleading and I would not have realized it without having recently

learned about a concept. But it is hard to summarize such big concepts in a sentence or two, which is what they do for everything. I was also irritated by the number of typos; I have a hard time believing that information is correct when they misspell the names of people, etc. Also, the practice test included was kind of helpful, but also not a great reflection of the actual test. make sure you take the practice test provided by ETS to really find out what the test will be like. And maybe this should just go without saying, but...The book claims that everything that could possibly be on the test will be covered in the book. This is simply not true. Make sure you use other resources if you want to do well on the test.

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