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| **Unit 3: Forensic Psychology**  **– Biological explanations of offending behaviour: An historical approach (atavistic form)** |
| **Outline one biological explanation of offending behaviour (up to 6 marks)**  **Describe the atavistic form to criminality as defined by Lombroso (up to 6 marks)**  **Outline and evaluate the biological approach to offending behaviour (up to 16 marks)** |
| **AO1 (AO2 if need to apply to text) (up to 6 marks) –** |
| Lombroso's work has been credited for moving criminology into a more rigorous and scientific realm and his ideas may well have laid the foundation for the modern offender profiling techniques that were to follow.  Offenders were seen by Lombroso as lacking evolutionary development, their savage and untamed nature meant that they would find it impossible to adjust to the demands of a civilised society and would inevitably turn to crime. There is a physiological element  Criminals had distinguishing physical features which originated from a more primitive stage of development.  **Examples of the atavistic form:**  Types of criminal in terms of their physical and facial characteristics  *Murders:*  *Sexual deviants:*  *Fraudsters:* |
| **AO3 – (up to 10 marks):** |
| **P)** Methodological issues with Lombroso's research  **E)**  **E)**  **L)** |
| **P)** There is ccontradictory evidence against atavistic form as an explanation  **E)**  **E)**  **L)** |
| **P)** Critics point to the social sensitivity about Lombroso’s approach  **E)**  **E)**  **L)** |
| **P)** Taken understanding of criminal behaviour away from moral judgements towards a more scientific and credible discipline  **E)**  **E)**  **L)** |