# Draft Feedback Report for: MJ Psychology assessment

\*\*Draft Feedback for Your Year 10 Psychology Case Study\*\*

This is a strong start to your case study, demonstrating a good understanding of the core concepts. Here's some feedback to help you refine your work and aim for the highest possible marks:

\*\*1. Knowledge & Symptom Analysis\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* You've attempted to categorize symptoms into normal and pathological experiences and have provided a definition of a psychological disorder, although it could be more precise.

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* Your definition of a psychological disorder is a little simplistic. The rubric's top band requires a more precise definition that incorporates elements like "clinically significant pattern," "dysfunction in psychological, biological, or developmental processes," and "distress or impairment." Referencing the DSM-5 definition directly would be beneficial.

\* While you list several symptoms, you need to explicitly justify why each is categorized as "normal" or "pathological," directly linking them to the concept of functional impairment. For instance, “wears hoodies despite hot weather” is listed as biological, but what is the \*functional impairment\* demonstrated here? Is it related to social awkwardness or withdrawal? Clearly explain the impact of each symptom on Sam D's daily functioning.

\* To reach the higher bands, aim for at least five examples in each category (normal and pathological), ensuring each is accurately classified and fully justified.

\*\*2. Biological, Psychological & Social (B-P-S) Factors\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* You've identified factors across the biological, psychological, and social domains, and you attempt to link them.

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* Your analysis needs to strengthen the connections between the three domains. The rubric's highest band specifically looks for a coherent explanation of the \*interaction\* of these factors. Currently, you list them separately and then offer a single example of interaction. Expand this to include more examples of how the factors interplay and mutually influence each other to create and perpetuate Sam D's symptoms. For instance, how does his sleep deprivation (biological) affect his social interactions (social) and contribute to his delusions (psychological)?

\* Ensure you clearly explain the \*mechanism\* of interaction between factors. Don't simply state that they affect one another, explain \*how\* they do so.

\* The rubric requires you to identify and interlink at least two clear factors in each domain. Review your list to ensure you've met this requirement.

\*\*3. Diagnostic Reasoning (Primary)\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* You propose a diagnosis of Schizophrenia and attempt to justify it using some of the presented symptoms. You also consider a differential diagnosis.

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* You need to explicitly map each DSM-5 criterion for schizophrenia to the evidence from your case study. Don't just list symptoms; demonstrate a precise connection between each criterion and Sam D's experiences. For example, for each positive symptom, explicitly reference where in the case study the symptom is present and how it meets the DSM-5 definition.

\* You mention the duration of symptoms but need to be more precise. The DSM-5 specifies the duration needed for a schizophrenia diagnosis; ensure you explicitly demonstrate that Sam D meets this requirement. Your current statements about symptom duration are vague.

\* While you mention a differential diagnosis, you need to provide a \*clearer\* comparison and justification for ruling out the alternative diagnosis. Why is schizophrenia a more appropriate diagnosis than bipolar I disorder, based on the evidence you’ve presented? The ruling out process needs to be much more detailed and specific.

\*\*4. Differential Diagnosis\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* You correctly identify a plausible alternative diagnosis (Bipolar I Disorder)

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* You need to expand on the \*comparison\* between your primary and secondary diagnosis. You should explicitly state the reasons why Schizophrenia is a more accurate diagnosis than Bipolar I disorder in this case, referencing specific symptoms and DSM-5 criteria.

\* The rubric requires you to "rule out" the secondary diagnosis with evidence; make sure you explicitly discuss why the alternative diagnosis is less likely given the evidence presented.

\* Strengthen your argument by using precise language and providing more specific examples from the case study to support your reasoning.

\*\*5. Treatment & Justification\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* You suggest a combination of therapies (CBT and CBTp) and mention medication.

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* You need to provide a much more detailed justification for your chosen treatments. Explain \*how\* each treatment will address specific symptoms of Schizophrenia. For instance, how will CBTp help with delusions and hallucinations? Be specific in your links.

\* The rubric asks for evidence-based treatments. Cite relevant research or guidelines to support your treatment choices.

\* For medication, you need to be more specific about the type of antipsychotic medication(s) you would recommend, its mechanism of action, and potential side effects.

\*\*6. Communication & Referencing\*\*

\* \*\*What's working well:\*\* Your writing is mostly clear, although some sentences could be more concise. Your referencing includes several sources and generally follows the correct style.

\* \*\*Areas for development & suggestions:\*\*

\* Review your writing for grammatical errors and improve sentence structure for better clarity and flow. Some sections are quite long and could benefit from being broken into shorter paragraphs for improved readability.

\* Double-check your referencing to ensure it is entirely accurate and consistently follows APA or Harvard style guidelines. In-text citations need to be added for all the sources you've listed. Make sure your reference list is fully compliant with chosen style.

\* Pay attention to word count, and make sure you are within the specified range (800-1200 words).

\*\*Overall Suggestions for Your Next Draft:\*\*

This is a very good attempt at a case study. Focusing on strengthening the links between the BPS factors, providing detailed justifications for both your primary diagnosis and differential diagnosis (with explicit reference to DSM-5 criteria), and expanding on the rationale for your chosen treatments will significantly improve your work. Careful proofreading and checking your referencing will help you meet the communication criteria.

\*\*Key Areas for Improvement (Summary):\*\*

\* \*\*Knowledge & Symptom Analysis:\*\* Provide a more precise definition of a psychological disorder and justify each symptom categorization using the concept of functional impairment.

\* \*\*B-P-S Factors:\*\* Clearly explain the interaction and interplay between the biological, psychological, and social factors, demonstrating how they mutually influence each other and lead to Sam D's condition.

\* \*\*Diagnostic Reasoning (Primary):\*\* Explicitly map each DSM-5 criterion for schizophrenia to specific evidence from the case study, and clearly state the duration of symptoms.

\* \*\*Differential Diagnosis:\*\* Expand your comparison and explain \*why\* schizophrenia is a more likely diagnosis than Bipolar I disorder, based on the evidence.

\* \*\*Treatment & Justification:\*\* Provide detailed explanations of how each treatment addresses specific symptoms, citing evidence-based research.