

BRIDGING TASKS: WELCOME TO THE START OF YOUR PSYCHOLOGY STUDIES



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A Level Psychology Bridging Work

Welcome to the Psychology Department of Penistone Grammar Sixth Form. Most of you will not have studied psychology before. It's a fascinating subject which impacts on every part of our lives. To make sure that you are ready for this new exciting stage of your studies we have designed the following tasks for you. These will introduce you to some aspects of this discipline and help you to practice the skills that you will need to become A* Psychologists. Activities that are compulsory because they are required in order that you begin to build these necessary skills will be preceded by a red R. Extra tasks, that are not compulsory but are there to help you explore this subject and develop an appreciation for why people act and think as they do, will be prefixed with the letters Ex.

Meet your teachers:

Below are your teachers. All of us will work very hard to support you and ensure that you make excellent progress and enjoy your studies too. We expect all our students to try their very best and follow our guidance. However, if you need any support with these tasks, have any questions about this A Level or want to share any Psychology articles, books or documentaries that you have discovered, with us, please feel free to contact us.

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R Task 1

This task is designed to make sure that you understand what Psychology is and to develop your note-taking and summarising skills.

Watch the following clips and answer the questions below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3nlGWelVj8

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vo4pMVb0R6M&list=PLNo419yvwUDDuGEekLWgdlJPUA3WOVeig

1. What is Psychology?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pDxQPWD3L4

2. What do Psychologists research? What have they found out about human behaviour?

R Task 2

In order to achieve the highest grades in Psychology you must use the key concepts and language of this subject. Below is an introductory list and you will add to this throughout your studies. Define each key concept in a way that will help you to understand it. You may find it easier to explain by using examples. The first one is done for you.

Key Concept	Meaning
Nature	This refers to how people's behaviours are influenced by their biology; their genetic inheritance. An example would be saying someone's intelligence or mental illness is due to their genetic make-up rather than their upbringing and experiences.
Nurture	
Freewill	
Determinism	
Ethics	
Hypothesis	
Validity	
Reliability	
Variable	
Sampling	
Correlation	
Psychopathology	
Abnormality	
Depression	
OCD	
Phobia	
Schizophrenia	

Ex. Below are some websites to help you expand your knowledge of key concepts:

https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/getmedia/1ceef764-a4f7-44a1-ab88-1c4b47fe3208/AQA-Psychology-MRN-Glossary?ext=.pdf

https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/key-terms-for-a-level-year-1-as-psychology

R Task 3

Psychologists carry out research to try to understand why people behave as they do and to see if different variables affect people in similar ways. Research needs to be ethical; psychologists must protect the rights of participants and make sure that they do not come to any harm.

3 (a) Using your own research and the websites below, explain each of the following ethical issues:

Informed Consent

Debrief

Protection of Participants

Deception

Confidentiality

Withdrawal

https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/ethical-issues-of-psychological-investigationhttps://www.simplypsychology.org/Ethics.html

- 3 (b) Watch the following Psychological research clips and for each one:
 - (i) Describe what the psychologist(s) was trying to find out
 - (ii) Identify any ethical issues that would need to be addressed or that were ignored. Did any of the researchers abide by the ethical guidelines?
 - (iii) Explain why these issues would need to be addressed. Why might the researchers not have stuck to some of the ethical guidelines some of the time? (Think about how it might have influenced their participants' behaviour and their findings)

Asch (1956) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyDDyT1lDhA&feature=youtu.be

Salads (2015) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGIDHrYKJ2s

The Secret Life of 4-year olds https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJCRzgAPwE4

R Task 4

Watch this experiment by Darren Brown (2006). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xxq4QtK3j0Y

- What was the researcher trying to find out?
- What happened?
- Which ethical guidelines were broken?

Ex Task

The above was based on research by Milgram (1963). Can you find out about Milgram's experiments? What did he do? What did he find out? What motivated his research? Can 'good' people do 'bad' things?

Ex Task

Watch this Ted Talk by psychologist Zimbardo: The Psychology of Evil.

Can all people do evil things? Or are people born evil?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsFEV35tWsg

Ex Task

Watch this documentary on Broadmoor.

What do you think? Why do you think that the inmates behave as they do? Why do you think that they have committed their crimes? Nature or nurture?

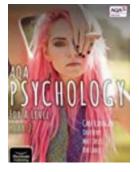
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qpX0FUDzuw

Reading list

Below is a list of books that you might find interesting and have a psychology focus.

- The man who couldn't stop (OCD) David Adams
- Great myths of the brain Christian Jarrett
- Opening Skinners Box Lauren Slater
- Quirkology Richard Wiseman (weird and wonderful psychology studies)
- The lucifer effect Philip Zimbardo
- The man who mistook his wife for a hat Oliver Sacks
- The Psychopath test Jon Ronson
- The upside to your downside Todd Kashdan

Viewing list



Below are documentaries/ films/ TV series that you might find interesting that have a psychology focus

- · A dangerous mind
- One flew over the cuckoo's nest
- We need to talk about Kevin
- Rain Man
- The Stanford Prison Experiment
- Stacey Dooley on the psych ward BBC
- Horizon OCD A monster in my mind (Podcasts)
- Three identical strangers
- Netflix the mind explained
- Mindhunters
- Netflix making a murderer
- Netflix I am a killer

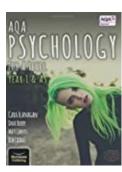
Preparations for September

Shopping list:

- 1. An A4 book of lined paper that can be easily torn out and added to your folder you will be given an exercise book but these will be for your assessments only.
- 2. Black pens
- 3. Green pens (for improvement to work)
- 4. Red pens
- 5. Coloured pens and highlighters
- 6. Pencil case
- 7. A4 lever arch folder a sturdy one

If you would like to be prepared and potentially do some pre-reading, below are the textbooks that we use in our Psychology lessons:

Year 1 & AS AQA Psychology: Cara Flanagan



https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-Psychology-Level-Year-AS/dp/1908682442

Year 2 AQA Psychology: Cara Flanagan

•	azon.co.uk/Psycholo	 •	