



Psychology A Level Summer Work

Before you start the A level psychology course in September, you are expected to complete the activities in this booklet. It can either be completed electronically or by hand on paper - there is no need to print it. You will however need access to a number of online videos. The work has been divided into activities that will give you a flavour for the skills and the content that you need in Psychology. There are also some optional extension activities which will provide you with more examples about the topics and research studies we look at in psychology and will challenge you to use your critical thinking skills (these optional extension activities are highlighted in **pink**).

We hope the activities give you a taste for all the excitement and interesting topics to come in your Psychology A-Level!

	Activity	Resources
1	Introduction to Psychology Activity one: Watch the TED talk and choose 3 myths to describe and explain how they have been debunked Activity two: Research the following careers in psychology and then choose one to summarise in 150 words: 1) Clinical psychologist 2) Forensic psychologist 3) Health psychologist 	9 myths about Psychology, debunked (14 mins): https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_ambridge_10_myths_about_psychology_debunked/transcript?language=en Websites for research: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/clinical-psychologist https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/clinical-psychologist https://www.careerexplorer.com/careers/forensic-psychologist/ https://careers.bps.org.uk/area/health https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/health-psychologist
2	Ethics What are ethics and why do we study them in Psychology?: In Britain, ethical guidelines for research are published by the British Psychological Society (BPS). The purpose of these codes of conduct is to protect the participants of the research, the reputation of psychology and psychologists themselves.	Introductory video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpZHkr9_8Gc

	In Psychology you will learn about six different ethical guidelines. These are things that Psychologists should follow when conducting studies. The six guidelines are as follows: 1. Protection From Harm 2. Right to Withdraw 3. Confidentiality 4. Informed Consent 5. Debriefing 6. Deception Activity: Watch the youtube video to gain a brief understanding of why ethics are important. If you would like to delve further, there are some links provided for additional resources. Draw a table defining the 6 ethical guidelines. Resources: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpZHkr9_8Gc https://www.simplypsychology.org/Ethics.html https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/ethics-and-psychology https://www.psychologywizard.net/ethics-ao1-ao2-ao3.html
3 Psychology timeline In Year 1, we look at four different schools of psychology. Behaviour is explained differently by psychologists from each approach. For example - are you born with a personality or are personalities a product of our environment? Social Approach Cognitive Approach Biological Approach Learning Theories/Behaviour Approach Activity One: for each of the different approaches, find out answers to the following questions: 1. Who was the founder of the approach? 2. What are the key beliefs and assumptions of the approach with regards to explaining human behaviour? 3. What are the key research methods used to investigate human behaviour within the approach? Activity Two (optional extension): Now that you have knowledge of the different approaches. Which type of psychologist do you think you would be, explain your choice? Write 150 words.	Activity one: http://mrmcnabb.weebly.com/5-major-perspectives-in-psychology.html https://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-approaches.html

4	Research methods Activity: In Psychology, you will study a variety of research methods. Create a mind map of all the research methods (experiment, case study, correlation, interviews, questionnaires, observations, content analysis and peer review) and briefly explain what they are.	List of research methods used in Psychology: https://www.simplypsychology.org/research-methods.html
5	Mathematical content In Psychology, you will study a variety of ways to measure and analyse data using measures of central tendency and inferential statistics. You will also need to complete graphs and interpret tables and charts. Activity one: What is the difference between measures of central tendency and inferential statistics? Write a short summary paragraph Activity two: Please complete the stats booklet	Link to stats booklet: HERE

We have also included a Psychology reading list and a list of recommended Psychology films which you may choose to explore over the next few months.

Psychology reading list

Books

- Introducing Psychology: A Graphic Guide to Your Mind and Behaviour by Nigel Benson
- Mindwatching: Why We Behave the Way We Do by H.J. Eysenck and Michael W. Eysenck
- Psychology: A Very Short Introduction by Gillian Butler and Freda McManus
- Obedience to Authority Stanley Milgram
- Dawkins, R., (2006) The Selfish gene
- Filer, N., (2014) The shock of the fall
- Foster J. K. (2009) Memory: A very short introduction, Oxford –
- Gladwell M. (2005) Blink. Penguin Books.
- Kahneman, D. (2012) Thinking fast and slow
- Ronson J. (2011) The Psychopath Test, Picador
- Storr A. (1989) Freud: A very short introduction, Oxford
- Sletten, L., (2005) Opening Skinner's box: Great psychological experiments of the twentieth century
- Brooks, D. (2011) The Social Animal: A Story of how success happens, Short books
- Emma Donoghue: Room
- Jed Rubenfeld: Interpretation of Murder [Links to Freudian principles]
- Lauren Greenfield: Thin [Links to eating disorders – Anorexia]
- Lianne Moriarty: What Alice Forgot [Links to Memory]
- The Lucifer Effect: How good people turn evil by Phillip Zimbardo
- One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest by Chuck Palahniuk
- We need to talk about Kevin by Lionel Shriver

Psychology Film recommendations

- A Beautiful Mind



- One Flew over the Cuckoo's nest
- 12 Angry Men
- Girl Interrupted
- Hotel Rwanda
- Mozart and the Whale
- The Soloist
- After Thomas
- Eternal sunshine of the spotless mind
- Black Swan
- Good Will Hunting
- Identity
- Rain Man
- Black Swan
- Sylvia
- Borderline
- Ordinary People
- I am Sam
- As Good As It Gets
- Donnie Darko

Psychology Documentary recommendations

- Inside our Autistic Minds
- David Harewood; Psychosis and Me
- Louis Theroux: Talking to Anorexia