

Welcome to Psychology

Introduction

Welcome to A' Level Psychology. This is an engaging subject with plenty of relevance to life.

Throughout the 2 years you will study the following topics:

Social Influence (1)

Memory (1)

Attachment (1)

Psychopathology (1)

Approaches (2)

Biopsychology (2)

Research methods (2)

Issues and debates (3)

Eating behaviours (3)

Gender (3)

Forensic Psychology (3)

This is a linear course and the AS examination is not taken at the end of year one. You will take the A' Level exam at the end of year 2 which consists of 3 papers (topics are ordered with regards to paper reference above).

Throughout your learning journey you will be assessed by both summative and formative examinations which will relate to the topics studied at the time.

Prior to Christmas there will be the first examination

In March there will be a further examination

In June you will sit a final examination for the first year which will consist of a complete AS style examination taken over 2 weeks. This will allow for assessment of your progress and attention to any further learning required.

In year 2 you will again be examined prior to Christmas and in March. Your A' Level will be taken in June 2018.

Throughout the 2 years you will also be assessed at the end of each topic to check understanding and attend to any additional support required.

Summer homework

Task 1, Topic: Marvellous Memory

Mini Experiment:

In this experiment you can test as many or as little people as you like. As the experimenter you should read out one line at a time of the triangle of numbers below to your participant. When you have finished reading out the line, your participant should recite back to you as many of the numbers they can remember. Record how many numbers they recall correctly on each line.



6
27 35
10 28 22
38 46 10 11
52 8 19 81 17
55 38 29 13 8 71
75 17 20 61 82 5 12
61 38 17 40 49 84 57 8
71 22 31 89 47 5 1 16 94
18 95 48 30 89 67 18 11 15 17
76 83 40 28 25 12 15 53 95 49 20
16 9 11 17 49 50 28 69 24 53 78 10
77 53 49 76 19 94 87 64 23 19 15 51 2
78 56 34 19 27 20 80 42 38 64 29 10 79 31

Now think about and explain:

- 1) What was the maximum amount of numbers your participants could recall from any line? (If you used more than one participant, take the average).
- 2) What do your results suggest about memory?

Now research and answer the following...

3. What is memory? Does it have different types? If so, explain them...
4. What is the capacity and duration of the average memory in humans?
5. What did George Miller do in 1956? What did he discover about memory?
6. How does this link to the results from your experiment above?

Task 2, Topic: Attachment



Babies, Babies, Babies...



Research and answer the following:

From a Psychological Perspective...

Why do babies cry all of the time?

Why are all babies born with blue eyes?

Useful Link: http://www.babycenter.com/2_creating-an-attachment-with-your-baby_10350318.bc

"Oh, oobee doo I wanna be like you..."



Consider, research and answer the following:

From a Psychological point of view, why should Mowley not survive in the Jungle?



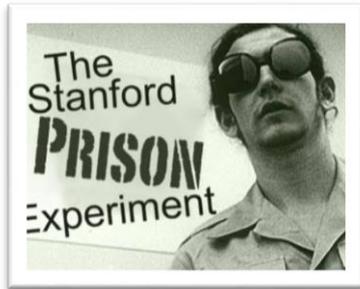
(Hint: Try to link to the psychologist John Bowlby in your answer).

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Task 3, Topic: Social Influence

Obedience, Obey, Conform...



Research and produce an illustrated fact sheet on two key studies:

1) Milgram's (1963) Obedience to Authority

2) Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment

(You could cut and stick bits of information from the internet along with your own explanations)

Taking it further...



Explain how research such as Milgram & Zimbardo, might explain historical atrocities such as the Nazi persecution of the Jews...

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Milgram's (1963) Obedience to Authority

**Zimbardo's Stanford Prison
Experiment**



Fear. Sadness. Obsession.

Produce a table on each of the following mental disorders. Include **symptoms**, potential **causes** and **treatments**.

- 1) Phobias
- 2) Depression
- 3) OCD

mental disorder	symptoms	causes	treatments
Phobias			
Depression			
OCD			



Task 5, Topic: Approaches to Psychology...

The Famous Five

There are five main Psychological approaches or perspectives. Research them and outline the research, state the experimental method used (e.g. lab, field, case study) and key psychologists which fit into each one.

Approach	Behaviourist and social learning theory	Biological	cognitive	Psychodynamic	Humanistic
Outline of research					
experimental method					
key psychologists					

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Useful Resources & Further Reading

Websites:

- **Youtube** have a number of really good factual clips. In particular 'Crash Course' have produced a number of introductory videos to key elements in Psychology.
- **<http://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-psychology.html>** - Tailored to the old specification, but has all the relevant key information for A Level Psychology.

Books:

- ***Working Memory, Thought and Action*** – Alan Baddeley
- ***The Lucifer Effect*** – Phillip Zimbardo
- ***Obedience to Authority*** – Stanley Milgram
- ***Fundamentals of Cognition*** – Michael Eysenck
- ***Psychology: The Science of the Mind and Behaviour*** – Richard Gross