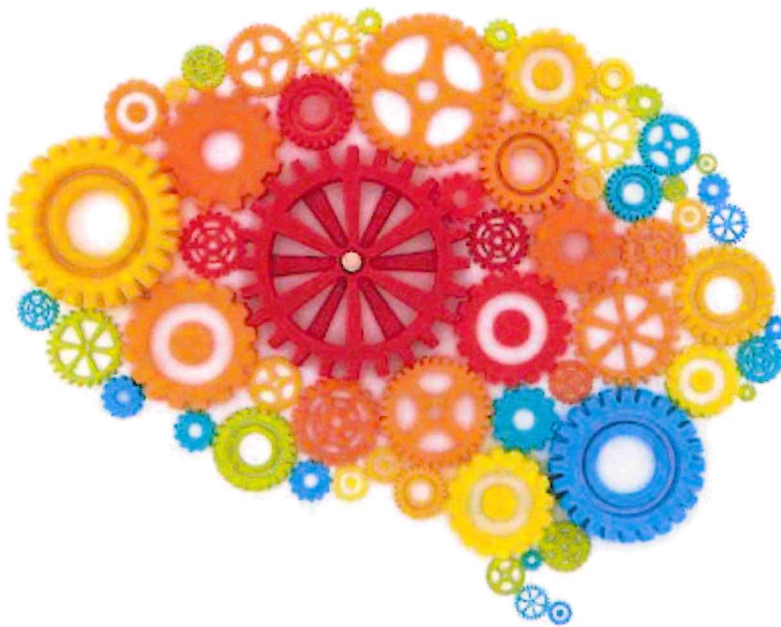




A Level Psychology Summer Project



This research based project is designed to give you an ideal grounding for your A Level Psychology course. Research and complete the tasks independently over the summer to get a head start and prepare for the key topics within Year One A Level Psychology.

Present the tasks in a format of your choice and bring it with you to your first lesson in September.

Good luck and Enjoy 😊

The Psychology Team



Preparation for September

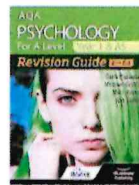
Completing the activities in this booklet will give you an excellent idea of what your Psychology course will involve. Remember, the work that you produce will also give your Psychology teacher a first impression of you as a student. Make it a good one! You can choose to present your answers to the questions in this booklet in any way that you would like to. It will be handed in during the first Psychology lesson.

You have access to the digital version of the year 1 Psychology book. Find it here <https://illuminate.digital/aqapsych2edy1/> and use log in:SELIZW password: STUDENT

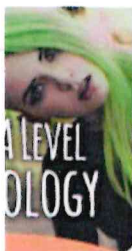
It is strongly recommended that you purchase a copy of either the textbook or revision guide as this will support your learning in the classroom and at times when you do not have access to a computer. You can often pick up a used copy for under £4! The digital version does not work on a phone (there is an app you can buy if you like to use your phone for study/revision).



This item: AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS Student Book: 2nd Edition



AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS Revision Guide: 2nd Edition



AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS

Price: £5.99





Task 1, Topic 1: Marvellous Memory...

Mini Experiment:

In this experiment you can test as many or as few 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 call 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...

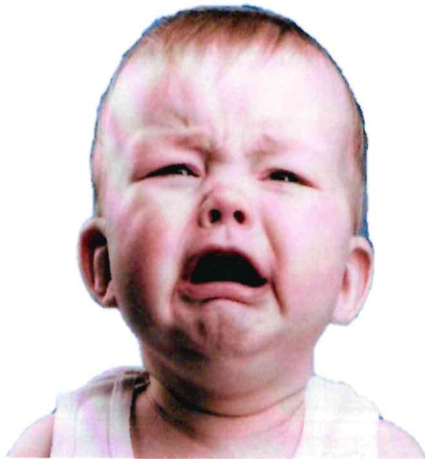
- 1) What is memory? Does it have different types? If so, explain them...
- 2) What is the capacity and duration of the average memory in humans?
- 3) What did George Miller do in 1956? What did he discover about memory? How does this link to the results from your experiment above?



Task 2, Topic 2: 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...”



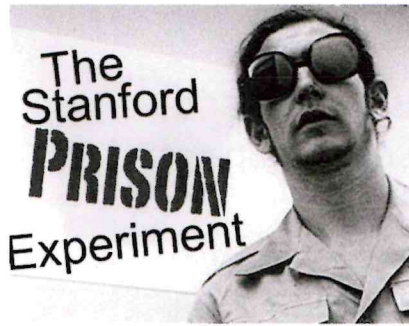
Consider, research and answer the following:

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

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

Task 3, Topic 3: Social Influence

Obedience, Obey, Conform...



Research and produce a fact sheet on two key studies:

- 1) Milgram's (1963) Obedience to Authority
- 2) Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment

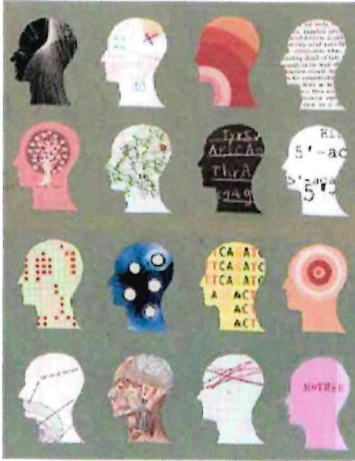
Taking it further...



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

Task 4, Topic 4: Psychopathology...

What is normal?



Consider, research and explain...

- 1) Is there such a thing as normal and abnormal? What are the definitions of these?
- 2) How do Psychologists decide what is abnormal?

Fear. Sadness. Obsession.



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

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

Task 5, Topic 5: Approaches to Psych...

The Famous Five

There are five main Psychological approaches or perspectives. Research them and explain the key terms, assumptions and psychologists which fit into each one.





Task 6, Topic 6: Psychology? A Science? Really?

Now to the biggest and most controversial debate of them all....

Most people assume Psychology is an easy or 'soft' subject which cannot possibly be a science. But is it?

It is your job to come to a conclusion as to whether or not Psychology IS a hard science.

Research arguments for and against Psychology as a Science and produce a debate on this.

Consider:

- 1) The Subject Content
- 2) Research Methods Used

FOR Psych as a Science 😊	AGAINST Psych as a Science 😞





Task 7: selecting your own area of interest...

Part of becoming a successful Psychology student is identifying your own areas of interest and showing a real passion for the subject through independent study.

Over the summer we would like you to complete 1 open learn course. You could choose more, but at least 1!

This one is a really good introduction to Psychology:

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/health-sports-psychology/psychology/starting-psychology/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab> (or Google openlearn psychology course and it will come up if you are using the paper version of this booklet)

If you find another course you like the look of, feel free to also complete that.

Please complete a write up of your course, including:

- What it was called and the hours of study
- Something you found interesting
- Something that was really new to you
- An overall review of the course. Would you recommend it to others?





Useful Resources & Further Reading

To help you on your way...

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
- ***The Complete Companions: AQA Psychology Year 1 and AS Student Book*** – Mike Cardwell & Cara Flanagan
- ***AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 and AS Student Book*** – Cara Flanagan & Dave Berry
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