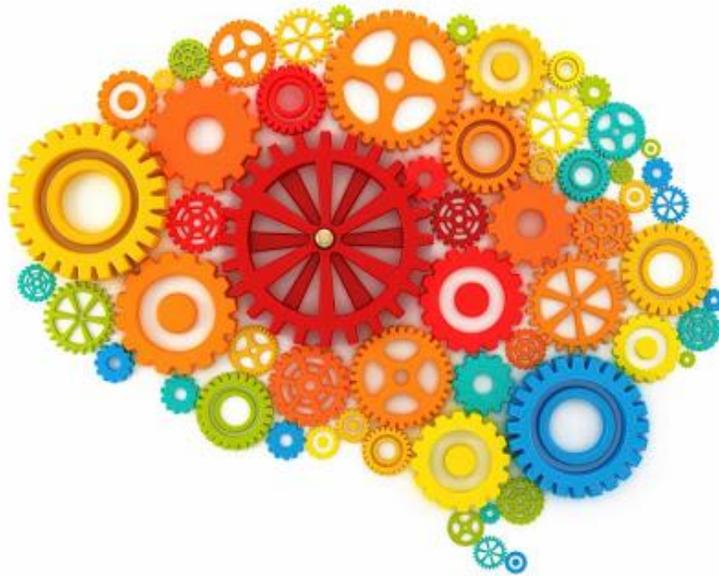


A Level Psychology Introduction Summer Project 2019



This research based project is designed to give you an ideal grounding for your A Level Psychology course.

By researching and completing the tasks independently over the summer, this will help you to get a head start and prepare for the key topics which you will study during your first year of A Level Psychology.

Each task should take approximately 45 minutes to complete. Tasks can be presented in any format (word document/hand written/publisher etc.), but the final document must be brought to your **first Psychology lesson** after the summer holidays. **Your first mark will be based upon this task.**

Good luck and enjoy ☺

*Mrs Stephens and
Mrs Cross*

The AQA Course

A Level Year 1

During your first year of study, you will be introduced to the following topics:

- Memory
- Attachment
- Social Influence
- Research Methods
- Psychopathology
- Approaches in Psychology (including Biopsychology, Humanistic Approach, Psychodynamic Approach, Behaviourist Approach, Biological Approach and Cognitive Approach)

AQA

AS AND
A-LEVEL
PSYCHOLOGY

AS (7181)
A-level (7182)

Specifications
For teaching from September 2015 onwards
For AS exams in May/June 2016 onwards
For A-level exams in May/June 2017 onwards

Version 1.0 13 October 2014



All students will be following the AQA 7182 syllabus. You will be required to take three, two hour written papers, all at the end of your second year. These will form 100% of your total mark. There will be no coursework element to this course.

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 get a tray or a large plate. Put 10 to 20 objects on the tray, then cover them with a towel or cloth. Tell your subjects that you have a number of objects on the tray and that you want them to remember as many items as possible. Also tell them, that they will have only one minute to view them. Then take off the cover from the tray and start timing one minute. After one minute, cover up the tray. Ask your subjects to write down all the items that they can remember. Could they remember all of the items? Are there any items that were forgotten by all the subjects?

Now think about and explain:

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



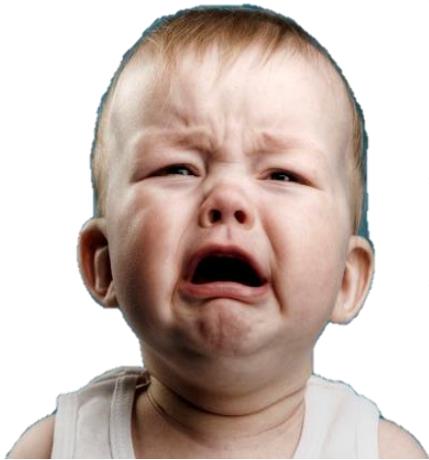
Now research and answer the following...

- 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...”



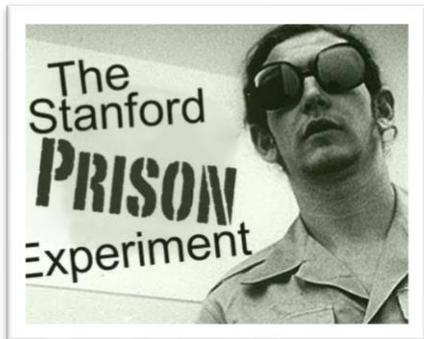
Consider, research and answer the following:

From a Psychological point of view, why should Moby 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

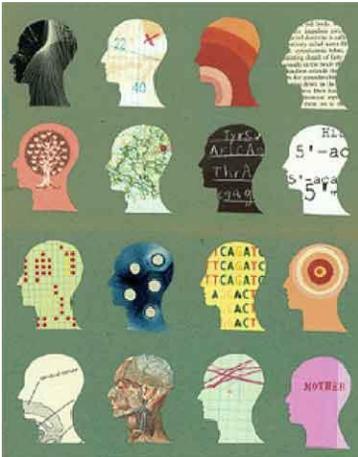
Taking it further... Stretch and challenge



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 one of the following mental disorders. Include **symptoms**, potential **causes** and **treatments**.

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

Useful Resources & Further Reading

To help you on your way.....
a more exhaustive reading list is available within
the course handbook

Websites:

- <http://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-psychology.html>
- <https://www.all-about-psychology.com/a-level-psychology.html>
- <https://studywise.co.uk/a-level-revision/psychology/>

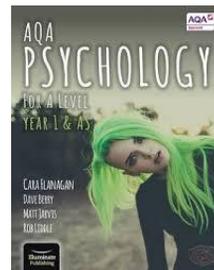
Books (Year 1)

Essential Reading

**AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 and AS Student Book - Cara Flanagan,
Dave Berry, Matt Jarvis, Rob Liddle**

Publisher: Illuminate Publishing

ISBN-13: 978-1-908682-40-6



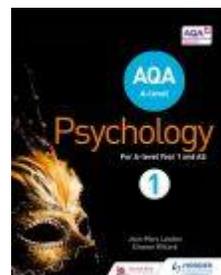
An online version of this publication will also be
available for your own use. Log on details appear
in the course handbook.

Recommended Reading:

AQA A-level Psychology Book 1 - Jean-Marc Lawton and Eleanor Willard

Publisher: Hodder Education

ISBN-13: 978-1-4718-3488-2



**Oxford AQA Psychology A Level: Year 1 and AS - Simon Green, Rob Lewis,
and Julia Willerton**

Publisher Oxford University Press

ISBN-10: 1408527383

