



Year 12

Summer Transition Work

Psychology – AQA

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Psychology Summer Transition Work

The following challenges are to be completed over the summer break and handed in during your first psychology lesson. Teachers will review and provide feedback.

This work helps you make the transition to Year 12. Psychology will be a new course to you as very few schools run it as a GCSE subject. This transition work is designed to introduce you to Psychology so that you will understand more about the subject you have chosen and make sure it is the right one for you.

What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of people's minds and behaviour, and the primary goal of psychology is to describe, explain and predict why humans think and behave the way that they do. Understanding human behaviour has an important impact on many areas of life, including health, education, industry, the economy and crime. It is for this reason that psychology as a subject is very broad and incorporates many different areas otherwise known as branches of psychology.

Learning Aims

Knowledge - To gain knowledge of what psychology is and is not, the careers available and understand the kind of research that is undertaken.

Skills - To effectively use information from websites to write detailed answers.

Skills - To effectively summarise information using the 551 strategy.

Your tasks

Use the information on the given website links to answer the tasks. Do this handwritten on separate paper. Do not copy from the websites – you need to put your answers in your own words. As you are stepping up to A level study, you need to make an effort to avoid brief answers, and show instead that you can write detailed work. Do not rush through just to get it done - aim for high quality work.

Put your name on your work.

TASKS

1. Watch the myths about psychology. Pick one and write a paragraph to explain. You can research the myth in more detail if you wish, and add this information in.

https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_ambridge_10_myths_about_psychology_debunked?language=en

2. Using the careers guide, choose 2 careers that you think are the most interesting. Explain what the role does and explain why you find it interesting.

<https://cms.bps.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-6/Psychology%20Careers%20Guide.pdf>

3. Current research - look at the BPS digest website. BPS stands for British Psychological Society. Scroll and browse through the articles which are all summaries of recent research. Pick one that you find interesting. Write the title of it and then summarise this research study in 551 (5 sentences, then 5 key words then just 1 word). Study tip – this question is designed to help you actively process information. The 5 words should be separate key terms, not a short sentence.

<https://www.bps.org.uk/collections/research-digest>

4. Classic research – look through this website and choose one study. Produce a piece of work which shows what the study is about. This is in a format of your choice, but should be interesting and well presented.

<https://www.onlinepsychologydegree.info/influential-psychological-experiments/>

5. Active thinking - write down 2 questions that you have after reading about psychology and doing these tasks.

6. Tell me why you have chosen Psychology and what other subjects you are hoping to study at sixth form.

Optional tasks to develop your understanding further

You can do as many of these as you would like. If you complete one then hand in your work on it.

⇒ Psychopathology – this is the study of mental health – you can complete as many of the activities in these links as you wish

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/psychopathology-introduction-online-lesson>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/introduction-to-phobias-depression-and-ocd-online-lesson>

⇒ Maths - this self-paced online course walks you through the maths skills that you will need on your A-Level Psychology course, and how you can develop these even further.

<https://ondemand.tutor2u.net/students/maths-in-psychology-psychology-skills>

⇒ Explore the activities here <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studying-here/schools-and-colleges/activities-by-subject/psychology/psychology-resources/>