



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL
Learning together Achieving together

Y11 – Y12

Summer Bridging Tasks

2023

Psychology A-Level

Name:

- You should spend some time during the summer holidays working on the activities in this booklet.
- You will be required to hand in this booklet in your first lesson at the start of Year 12 and the content will be used to form the basis of your first assessments.
- You should try your best and show commitment to your studies.

Year 11 Psychology Transition Summer Home learning

Hello year 12! You are required to complete ALL the activities in this transition pack for submission in the first week back in September to gain entry into the lesson. A-level psychology is a fun, embracing yet challenging qualification. It will develop your thinking skills and vastly expand your knowledge of human behaviour. There will be 10 hours per fortnight. You are then expected to do 3-5 hours a week of homework and independent study at home or during your free-periods.

Please do not rush these assignments. Take the time to delve into psychology and find an area that you are most interested in. I would advise you to complete these tasks at different points in the summer rather than leaving it all to the final week (I can tell when a piece of work is rushed – that is not a good first impression). These tasks may seem long, but a-level psychology will be a significant step up from the work you have completed in year 11.

Task 1: What is Psychology?

“Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour.”

This really means we are trying to understand what it is that causes us to behave the ways we do; why are some people depressed? Why are some people introverted and some extroverted? Why do some people become killers? Why do some people become obese and some have anorexia? It's a sensitive subject, but the focus is always on: why are humans the way they are?

Watch this short video to start you off:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Os1C000qxY>

Your first task is to help you garner an understanding of what Psychology is really all about. Use the internet (e.g. Wikipedia, YouTube and other sources) to research and understand what the following key terms mean and create a short definition for each in your own words.

The most important thing in an A level is your understanding – so it's not about having the “right” or “word-perfect” definition, it's about you understanding what a concept means

Term	Explanation
Armchair psychology	
Experiment	
Observation	
Self-report	
Correlation	
Ethical issues	
Biological psychology	
Behaviourist psychology	
Psychodynamic psychology	
Humanistic psychology	
Cognitive psychology	
Social psychology	
Social learning theory	
Obedience	
Conformity	
Phobia	
Depression	
OCD	
Schizophrenia	
Validity	
Reliability	
Nature-Nurture debate	

Task 2 – Psychological History

You need to create an A3 Psychological History timeline. On your timeline you should include a number of features such as the ones below (but not necessarily ONLY these). To make a high quality timeline, you will need to do some additional research into what each of the events actually refers to – and why it might have been important to the development of Psychology.

- *The Curious Case of Phineas Gage*
- *Wilhelm Wundt's Psychology Lab*
- *Foundation of the American Psychological Association*
- *Sigmund Freud publishes "The Interpretation of Dreams"*
- *Pavlov's Dog Studies are published*
- *Carl Rogers publishes "Counselling and Psychotherapy"*
- *The first use of a brain scan in Psychological research.*

A great link for this task is <https://allpsych.com/timeline/>.

Task 3 – Memory

TED talks are a great way to get you thinking, discussing and applying psychological concepts. Watch this TED talk by Dr Elizabeth Loftus which discusses the reliability of memory and the impact of false memory. Reflect on the TED talk by making your own notes.

How reliable is your memory:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PB2Oegl6wvI>

Task 4 – Social Influence

Watch the following documentary and write an essay of 300-400 words which summarises the Milgram's experiment.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek4pWJ0_XNo&t=1252s

Refer to the following points in your answer:

- Who were the participants of this study? How were they selected?

- What were the roles assigned to the participants?
- What was the task of the 'teacher'? What was the task of the 'learner'?
- What was the shock generator?
- What was the real aim of the study?
- What were the predictions of the results before the study? What were the actual results of the study?
- Why did the experimenter prompt the 'teacher' by saying "The experiment requires you to continue, Teacher"?
- How did different 'teachers' react when they were delivering the shocks? Did they all obey the experimenter's orders? If not, why?
- When the 'teacher' asked the experimenter who was responsible if something happened to the 'learner' why did the experimenter say "The responsibility is mine"?

Task 5 – Bio-psychology

Watch the following video on the central nervous system and indicate whether the bellow statements are true or false.

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology/reference/biopsychology-nervous->

system

The nervous system is divided into the Peripheral nervous system (PNS) and the Central nervous system (CNS)	
The CNS included only the brain	
The CNS is responsible for higher-order thinking and reflex actions	
The PNS is divided into Sympathetic and Parasympathetic	
The Somatic nervous system (SNS) directs muscles and receiving/ transmitting messages from the senses	
The Sympathetic nervous system is part of the Autonomic nervous system (ANS)	
The Parasympathetic system is responsible for homeostasis	
The Sympathetic system is used when quick action is required	
The ANS has both motor and sensory pathways	
The Sympathetic system is also called 'Fight or Flight response'	
The SNS is divided into Sympathetic and Parasympathetic	
The temporal lobe is responsible for visual information	