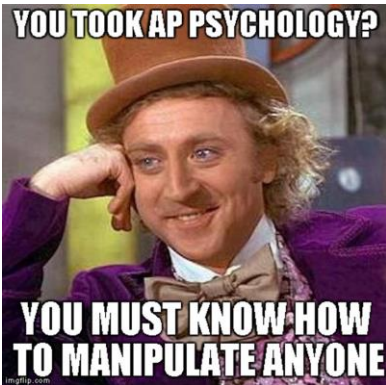


# AP Psychology

## Summer Assignment



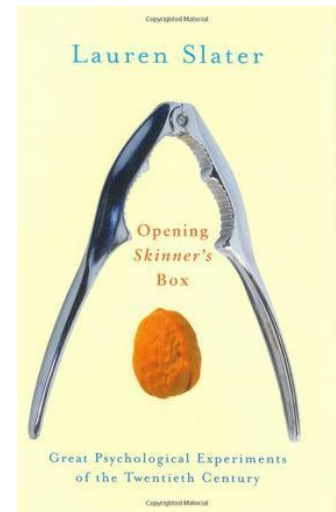
**Part 1:** Using any sources (internet, books, etc.) answer the following questions in a well-written 3-paragraph summary (one paragraph per section):

- What is psychology?
- How do psychologists attempt to explain human behavior? How do the various perspectives (biological, evolutionary, psychodynamic, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic, social-cultural) differ in their attempts to explain human behavior? Explain each of the 7 perspectives.
- In the introduction to the book (*Opening Skinner's Box*), how does Lauren Slater explain that the experiments she writes about in the book are important experiments in the history of psychology?

**Part 2:** You must read the book *Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century*, by Lauren Slater. This book explains in narrative form some of the most important, influential and controversial psychological experiments of recent history. You can purchase this book through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc.

Description from the book:

[*Opening Skinner's Box*] documents the drama of extraordinary inquiries into human psychology, bringing to life stories with unforgettable protagonists. Lauren Slater delivers a witty and stunningly perceptive view of the progress of the science of the human mind in the last century. Beginning with B. F. Skinner and the legend of a child raised in a box, she takes us from a deep empathy with Stanley Milgram's obedience subjects to a funny and disturbing recreation of an experiment questioning the validity of psychiatric diagnosis. We observe cognitive dissonance among cult members whose apocalypse fails to arrive, and we see the groundwork being laid for a pill that promises to rescue the memories of aging baby boomers. Through nine examples of ingenious experiments by some of psychology's most innovative thinkers. Slater traces the evolution of the century's most pressing concerns--free will, authoritarianism, conformity, and morality. Previously described only in academic journals and textbooks, these often daring experiments have never before been narrated as stories, chock-full of plot, wit, personality, and theme.



For **each** of the ten chapters, you must:

- Explain the purpose of the experiment
- Explain how the experiment was conducted/carried out (what happened)
- Explain the results/conclusions of each experiment
- Explain what was noteworthy/unethical/controversial about the experiment, if anything
- Explain the overall significance of the experiment

Each of your chapter summaries must be **hand-written** and **brought to class on the first day of school (late or typed assignments will not be accepted!!!)**. You will be graded on this assignment (based on accuracy and thoroughness of your responses), and will also use your summaries for an in-class assessment during the first week of school.