



A Level Psychology Bridging Course



Psychology Research Task

When you start the course in September we will begin by looking at the main approaches in Psychology.

Firstly you need to log onto the website to access the Psychology E-book:

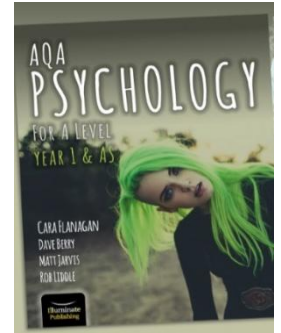
<http://www.illuminate.digital/aqapsych1/>

Username: SKINETON

Password: STUDENT

The approaches we focus on in year 12 are:

- The learning approach: behaviourism (pages 106-107)
- The learning approach: social learning theory (pages108- 109)
- The cognitive approach (pages 110-111)
- The biological approach (pages 112-113)



These approaches are covered in Chapter 4. You are required to complete a fact file on each of these approaches, including their main assumptions, any research involved, as well as strengths and limitations (this is the evaluation part).

Please write up at least 2 sides on each of the approaches. If you really struggling to understand the textbook content then use the following website:

<http://www.simplypsychology.org/perspective.html>

Familiarise yourself with this E-book as this the main book you will be using for the course.

Course essentials:

In September please come prepared with a ring binder and notepad as well as dividers for the different topics we will be covering.

AQA specification: FIRST BEING EXAMINED IN SUMMER 2027.

[A-level Psychology 7182 |](https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/a-level/psychology-7182/specification)

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/a-level/psychology-7182/specification> Specification | AQA





PiXL Gateway: Progression

Psychology

Watch at least five of the video clips below and summarise each video you have watched we will be discussing these throughout the psychology course:

1. https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_loftus_the_fiction_of_memory
2. https://www.ted.com/talks/scott_fraser_the_problem_with_eyewitness_testimony
3. https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_pinker_chalks_it_up_to_the_blank_slate
4. https://www.ted.com/talks/philip_zimbardo_on_the_psychology_of_evil
5. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yT_F0dMZRU (Part 1)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3rHTm1YLxA> (part 2) – Stephen Fry
- The Secret Life Of The Manic Depressive. BBC
6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJm7AhdGbDk> – Freud documentary
(short)
7. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XFjLdNO4FU> – The Nurture room –
child psychology

10% of the psychology examination will test mathematical skills. This may include measures of central tendency and dispersion, graphical representation and statistical tests. **Complete the questions below and bring your answers to your first lesson;**

Percentages

What is 60% of 40?

A student takes a test and scores 18 marks out of 24, what percentage score did the student get?

Increase 50 by 8%

Decrease 30 by 25%

A necklace is bought at a car boot sale for £40. It is later sold in a shop for £50. What is the percentage increase?

The number of customers that a food truck receives for lunch drops from 25 to 18 over two days. What is the percentage decrease?

Fractions

What is 0.60 as a fraction?

Ratios

The number of people who support Manchester united in a class of 20 is 12, and the number of people who support Manchester city is 8.

- Express this as a part to part ratio

- Express the number of people who support Manchester united as a part to whole ratio

Decimal points and Significant figures

Express 0.002479312 to 1 significant figure

Express 0.002479312 to 4 decimal places

Express 23,450 to 2 significant figures

Standard form

Express 5.6×10^3

Express 8.4×10^{-2}

Mathematical symbols

6 students did a memory test their scores were 10, 15, 18, 11, 19, 30. How many students have a score of >16

8 students did a personality test their scores were 22, 40, 55, 10, 20, 25, 30, 44. How many students have a score of <50

Complete the key words using the glossary at the back of the textbook and the relevant textbook pages:

Key word	Definition
Validity	
Reliability	
Hypothesis	
Demand characteristics	
Experimental design	
Independent groups	
Matched pairs	
Repeated measures	
Lab experiment	
Field experiment	

Psychology topics often involve scientific knowledge with a specific focus on biology. Watch the following video and answer the following questions:

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



1. What is the nervous system divided into?
2. The central nervous system is made up of what two things?
3. What is the central nervous system responsible for?
4. What does the peripheral nervous system divide into?
5. What is the somatic nervous system responsible for?
6. What is the parasympathetic nervous system responsible for?
7. What is the sympathetic nervous system responsible for?
8. The autonomic nervous system has both motor and sensory pathways.
True or false?
9. The sympathetic nervous system is also called the fight or flight response.
True or false?
10. The somatic nervous system is divided into two parts. What are these?

Psychology films and reading list

Film	Link to spec
A beautiful mind	Psychopathology and schizophrenia
A dangerous method	Approaches and psychopathology
Awakenings	Psychopathology
Experimenter	Social Influences, Approaches, Issues and debates, Research Methods
Faces in the crowd	Biopsychology
Her	Relationships (virtual relationships)
Malcolm X	Social influence (social change)
Memento	Memory
Project Nim	Issues and debates
Selma	Social Influence (social change)
Shutter Island	Psychopathology
Split	Psychopathology
The experiment	Social Influence, Aggression
The men who stare at goats	Psychopathology
The soloist	Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
The Stanford prison experiment	Social Influence, Aggression, Research Methods
The Wave	Social Influence
Book	Link to spec
Bad Pharma	Research Methods, Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
Bad Science	Research Methods, Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
Behind the shock machine	Social Influence, Research Methods, Issues and debates
Forever Today	Memory, Biopsychology
Great myths of the brain	Biopsychology, Psychopathology, Research Methods
I think you'll find it's a bit more complicated than that	Research Methods, Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
Man (Dis)connected	Research Methods, Social Influence
Night School	Biopsychology
Obedience to authority	Social Influence, Aggression, Research Methods, Issues and debates
Opening Skinner's box	Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Biopsychology, Research Methods
Patient H.M.	Memory, Biopsychology, Issues and debates

Pioneers of Psychology	Approaches, Biopsychology, Issues and Debates
Quirkology	Memory, Social Influence, Attachment, Psychopathology, Aggression, Relationships, Research Methods
Shrinks	Psychopathology, Schizophrenia, Approaches, Biopsychology
Tell me I'm here	Schizophrenia, Psychopathology
The bigamist	Psychopathology
The brain that changes itself	Biopsychology, Research Methods, Memory, Psychopathology
The brain: the story of you	Biopsychology, Attachment, Memory, Schizophrenia, Psychopathology, Aggression
The centre cannot hold	Schizophrenia, Psychopathology, Research Methods
The Lucifer Effect	Social Influence, Research Methods, Aggression
The man who couldn't stop	Psychopathology, Approaches
The man who mistook his wife for a hat	Approaches, Issues and debates, Biopsychology
The man who shocked the world	Social Influence, Aggression, Approaches
The memory illusion	Memory, Research Methods
The Psychopath Test	Psychopathology, Research Methods, Issues and debates
The skeleton cupboard	Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
The tell-tale brain	Biopsychology, Research Methods
The trouble with testosterone	Aggression, Biopsychology, Approaches
Testing Treatments	Research Methods, Psychopathology, Schizophrenia
Trick or treatment?	Research Methods, Psychopathology, Schizophrenia

Any questions please email:

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