

Transition Subject Tasks



Subject: Psychology

Course: A Level

Exam Board: Eduqas

Tasks below are to be completed before September 2020

1. Uncover the origins of the five key Psychological approaches covered in the first year of the A level. Create a timeline which states the order in which each approach developed.
2. For each approach, you need to know the assumptions, one therapy, one classic research study (this is listed below). Make notes on all five approaches and file away in preparation for the new academic year.

Biological- Link between serotonin, dopamine and oxytocin on behaviour, functions of the frontal, parietal, occipital and temporal lobe and the behaviours they are responsible for.

Biological treatment- Psychosurgery, prefrontal lobotomy, prefrontal leucotomy, cingulotomy, capsulotomy, deep brain stimulation.

Classic Biological research- Raine's brain abnormalities in murderers as indicated by positron emission tomography (PET).

Cognitive- Atkinson and Shiffrin Multi store memory model, schemas and internal mental processes such as attention, retention, memory and language)

Cognitive treatment- Cognitive Behavioural therapy

Cognitive classic research- Loftus and Palmer's research into the reliability of eye witness testimony. Watch the Ronald Cotton documentary on YouTube.

Psychodynamic- Freud- Psychosexual stages of development- Oral, anal, phallic, latent genital, levels of consciousness and the tripartite personality.

Psychodynamic therapy- Dream analysis

Psychodynamic classic research- Bowlby's research into 44 juvenile thieves and prolonged separation from the mother.

Behaviourist - Pavlov research with dogs- classical conditioning/Skinners research with rats/pigeons- Operant conditioning.

Behaviourist treatment- Systematic desensitisation

Behaviourist classic research- Watson and Rayner's study with 'little Albert'.

Positivist – Signature strengths, acknowledgment of free will and authenticity of goodness and excellence.

Positivist treatment- Mindfulness

Positivist classic research- Myers and Diener cross cultural study on what makes people happy? Is there a link between age, ethnicity, religious values, relationship status, work life balance and gender? How may this differ across cultures?

<p>3. Regularly read local, national and global news to engage with the wider societal context around you, assess causes for this behaviour and attempt to apply Psychological terms to this. Sources might include but not restricted to, MEN, BBC, sky news, the guardian.</p> <p>4. Engage with media content which explores the complexities of the human mind for instance programs such as the mind explained, Ted Bundy case files and many more. There are some really good shows on Netflix, amazon prime, BBC 1, BBC 2, Channel 4 and CBS reality. Some shows are factual based on real life cases, other shows such as the safe and the stranger are fictional but also useful to view. Watch these shows and make notes on what happened in this particular case and possible causes for their behaviour.</p>	
<p>5. Practice extended writing as the A level requires students to write in depth responses and detailed justification for their views. Produce a report on a case study and write an extended response for the causes of their behaviour. Try to incorporate all five key approaches you have researched in task 1.</p> <p>For example</p> <p><i>A murder case study</i></p> <p><i>According to the biological approach, causes could be high levels of dopamine, poor decision making and planning skills linked to the frontal lobe.</i></p>	