



Applied Psychology

Pre-course work



Pre-course expectations

Success in Sixth Form is largely a function of the amount and quality of independent study you carry out; here's a chance to help you get the very best start to your course. We would like you to complete the work described below and hand it in to your teacher in your first lesson in September. If you have made a late change to your timetable, please complete this work within the first week of starting the course. The work should take you 2-3 hours.

Details of pre-course work

1. Research and write a short paragraph (7-10 lines) on the following approaches in Psychology:
 - The cognitive approach (including the computer analogy)
 - The social approach (other people, culture and society influence people's behaviour)
 - The learning approach (including classical conditional, operant conditioning and social learning theory)
 - The biological approach (including how behaviour is influenced by the central nervous system (CNS), genes and neurochemistry and how behaviour is a product of evolution.
2. Within Psychology, effective research is essential. Explain in context of psychological research what is meant by the scientific method and why it is important to use objective, empirical evidence based on data rather than theory alone.

Resources to help you with this work

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>

<https://www.psychologistworld.com/issues/approaches-in-psychology>

<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/psychology>

Stretch yourself

Research the following key studies and for each one provide an outline of the study and explain which psychological approach it links to.

- Watson and Raynor (1920) conditioned emotional reaction – 'Little Albert'.
- Asch, S.E (1951) Effects of group pressure upon the modification and distortion of judgments.
- Bartlett (1932) War of the Ghosts – Reconstructive memory
- Harris, Bargh and Brownell (2009) – Priming effects of television food advertising on eating behaviour
- Zimbardo (1973) – A study of prisoners and guards in a simulated prison