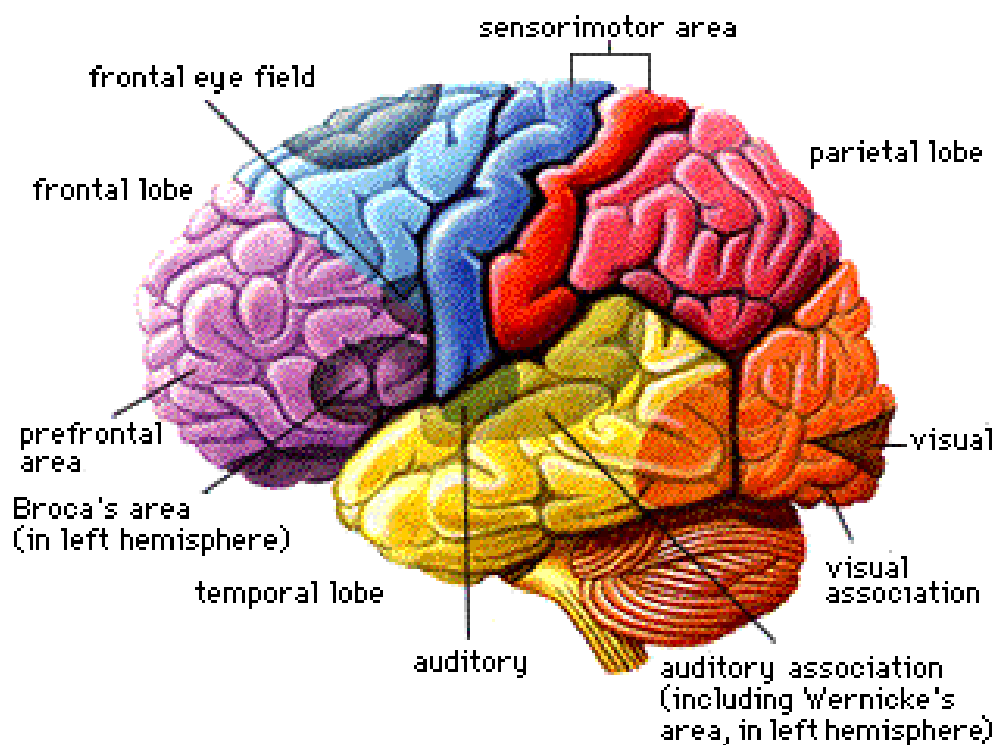


# Psychology

# A-level

# AQA



Specification Welcome to Psychology A Level.

We study the AQA Psychology specification. Here is a link that will take you to it so you can have an in-depth look at what you will be studying:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182>

Welcome to psychology and the summer transition work.

The idea of this is to introduce you to some of the theories, ideas, concepts and studies that we investigate within psychology. We use the AQA syllabus.

Psychology will be a new subject to you so it is important that you gain as much information as you possibly can and that you see what this subject has to offer. It can be a big jump moving from GCSE's to A levels and whilst psychology can be challenging it also brings in some great ideas, insight and understanding of the world and people around us.

Read through the tasks in this booklet and complete the project and bring with you on the first day you start in sixth form. We hope that you enjoy this project as you start your A level journey.

Have a great summer and we look forward to welcoming you in September 😊



To help you research this information – please don't copy and paste big chunks from the internet. You need to phrase these in your own words. Internet sites to visit to help you: Tutor2u (psychology), youtube, simply psychology, moodle (psychology page – self enrol), British Psychological society – student section.

Some definitions and concepts – please find these out....

<b>Concept</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Psychology	
Different types of experiments in psychology	
Lab Experiment	
Natural Experiment	
Field experiment	
Observation	
Case study	
Validity	
Reliability	
Cognitive psychology	
Developmental psychology	
Biological psychology	
Evolution	
Behaviourism	
Social Learning theory	
Psychodynamic theory	

**Part two: - researching the different theories within psychology**

Complete the sections within the boxes –

**THE BIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

How does the biological approach attempt to explain the causes of human behaviour?  
(depression, OCD, Schizophrenia)

Identify how the biological approach suggests psychological conditions should be treated.

The biological approach can be accused of being deterministic – what does this mean? What does genotype and phenotype mean?

## **THE BEHAVIOURAL APPROACH**

Who are the main founders of the behavioural approach?

When did this approach develop?

Identify the main study from each of the founders (they should both be using animals – rats/dogs)

Identify the main assumptions of this approach

What kinds of research methods do the behaviourists use?

Identify how this approach might explain phobias.

## **THE COGNITIVE APPROACH**

What are the main assumptions of the cognitive approach?

Identify some areas in psychology that use the cognitive approach?

How does the cognitive approach explain human behaviour?

What therapy does the cognitive approach use – briefly explain it.

**Part three: - researching a classic study.**

Your task is to research one of the key studies that we use in psychology and at some point during the term you will need to recall this as a summary in test conditions. But you need to research it and make some notes (which can be added to later if needed).

Please select one from the following:

- Milgrams Study of obedience
- Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment
- Asch's study of conformity - Ainsworth's strange situation
- Van Ijzendoorn and Kroonenberg's cross cultural study of attachment
- Bowlby's 44 thieves study

You should produce a fact sheet based on one of these key studies above to include:

- ✚ The aim of the study
- ✚ The research methodology and procedures what type of experiment, participants, what did they actually do in the study?
- ✚ What were their findings / results.
- ✚ What conclusions can be drawn from this experiment – ie what does this mean (any theories it supports)
- ✚ Any strengths or weaknesses from this experiment/study.

Use pictures if you can. Please print and stick into this booklet. Just type the name of the researcher into google to find out the information – simply psychology or tutor2u





Further research - ready for transition into psychology 1. Using two of the independent ideas from the wider reading padlet – you must use a different medium in each case – ie watch one ted talks and then use something else.

2. Complete the boxes below to show your process so you can access again, thinking about the skills you may have gained from this.

3. Summarise your two activities into either: a powerpoint presentation, summarisation sheet, mindmap, comic strip or any other way you can think to summarise what you have found out about.

If you can link it to anything you may have learnt from the transition booklet then clearly make the link. Ie if you have researched Zimardo’s Stanford prison experiment and then watched the film as part of the research, then suggest EXPLICITLY how they might link.

	Medium used – where/how etc.	What did I find out about?	What skills do you think this will give you?
1.			
2.			

To summarise you need to have

1. Completed the table to show your thought process and how you did it etc.



Wider reading padlet