



WILBERFORCE
sixth form college

Psychology A Level and BTEC

Welcome to Psychology! Below you will find your preparation work for your course which needs to be completed over the summer holiday. We expect you to spend around 4-5 hours on it. This task will help develop your skills in research, analysis and critical thinking and give you an insight into the history of psychology.

Prep work is an important aspect of your induction onto all courses at Wilberforce Sixth Form College. Have this ready to hand in during enrolment or to your course teacher in the first week of lessons. Complete this work **in time for your enrolment** onto your courses and **bring evidence** either on paper or electronically on your mobile phone. Please don't worry about the tasks, just try your best and if you have any questions then please email lq@wilberforce.ac.uk

Kind regards

Steve Lawrence
Faculty Head for Social Sciences

Task 1 - Research

Research the history and development of psychology. Research the origins and development of the following approaches in psychology: Psychoanalysis, Behaviourism, Social, Cognitive, Biological. Find out the theories in each area, how they explain behaviour and who the major psychologists are. You can use the websites below as a starting point but should conduct your own independent research to look for other details

As you progress through the A level course you will look at a range of theories in each area and evaluate the usefulness of psychological findings from these approaches. Understanding the history of psychology from the beginning will make you a better psychologist.

<https://www.verywellmind.com/a-brief-history-of-psychology-through-the-years-2795245>

http://personal.psu.edu/faculty/a/c/acp103/PSYCH105/brief_history.htm

Task 2 - Create

Using your research findings **create a timeline of the history of psychology**. This could be done electronically or by hand but should be done in some detail. You could include images of psychologists to illustrate your timeline.

Task 3 - Question

Write at least one side of A4 in response to the following task:

Compare and contrast the five areas in psychology. Consider issues such as the nature/nurture debate and how scientific these areas are. You should finish with a paragraph explaining which area is your favourite and why. This is a challenging task and should make you think critically about each of the areas.