

Sixth Form Y11-12 Transition Work
Subject – A Level Psychology

Due to be handed in – first lesson in September. This work should take you approximately 6 hours (or more) to complete to a high standard.

Task 1: Research Methods

Learning Objectives:

To design a self-report – i.e. a questionnaire.
To experience gathering data from participants.
To evaluate the methods you have used.

Success Criteria:

You will: be able to describe how a researcher uses questionnaires as a method of 'self-report' and suggest some positives and negatives of this method.

If you challenge yourself you will: be able to design your own questionnaire using strategies learned.

If you extend your learning you will: be able to evaluate your knowledge and application of questionnaires.

Explanation of task...

Some of these terms you may not have heard before. You must research what they mean in order to carry out the task, i.e. what quantitative and qualitative data is, open and closed questions etc..

You are designing your own questionnaire.

First, you must have a research aim, i.e. what are you trying to find out from your participants?

Think about what you want to investigate, (this could be anything) e.g. How stressed are adolescents? Do females use their phones more than males? How scared are the public of being a victim of crime? This could be anything....within reason!

Design a questionnaire that has around 10 questions.

They should be a mixture of open and closed questions. Can you include a likert scale?

Can you collect both quantitative and qualitative data?

Give your questionnaire to 10 people to complete.

Can you analyse your data? (what have you found? Possible reasons?)

Can you collate your data in graph form?

Evaluate the use of questionnaires in context of your research, (what is good and bad about collecting data in this way? Why is it used by researchers?)

What issues are involved with collecting this type of data? What can't you do with this data?)

Resources to support your work:

Google ('how are questionnaires used in psychology?')
simplypsychology.org (good intro to psychology website)

Task 2: Approaches & Debates

Learning Objectives:

To describe the key approaches and nature vs. nurture debate in psychology.
To apply knowledge of the key approaches and nature/nurture to novel scenarios/behaviour.
To evaluate the contribution of nature and nurture to human behaviour.

Success Criteria:

You will be successful if you can...

Outline and explain the key terms/assumptions for the psychodynamic, behaviourist, cognitive, biological and social learning approaches.
Use the ideas within each approach to explain why behaviour happens.
Answer the question 'Is human behaviour a result of nature or nurture?'

Explanation of task...

Complete all activities in the Approaches & Debates transition booklet.

Resources to support your work:

<http://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/oxed/secondary/psychology/complete-companions-approaches-psychology.pdf>

This work is important because it relates to three of the topics you will cover in Psychology (Research Methods, Approaches and Debates)

If you do this you will acquire and develop skills in designing, conducting and analysing data as well as describing, applying and evaluating key approaches and debates used in psychology.