

PSYCHOLOGY - preparation for the A level course.

The following tasks will help to prepare you to study A level Psychology. Bring the completed worksheet to the first lesson in September.

There are five main approaches in Psychology and two perspectives that you will need to know and understand. Your task is to research these concepts and complete the table below, which will give you an overview of the key features of each approach/perspective. This only needs to be brief – one has been done for you.

Approach / perspective	Key ideas /assumptions	Famous psychologist linked to this approach	Nature of their research
Cognitive	Assumes behaviour is determined by how the mind works; the study of mental processes such as memory, language, perception.	Elizabeth Loftus	Investigating factors that affect the accuracy of eye witness testimony e.g. leading questions, the weapon focus.
Social		Stanley Milgram	
Biological		Roger Sperry	
Developmental		Albert Bandura	
Individual differences		Simon Baron-Cohen	
Psychodynamic perspective		Sigmund Freud	
Behaviourist perspective		John Watson or B. F. Skinner	

Also, the following films and you-tube clips illustrate some of the issues and debates you will study next year. Watch and learn!

Rain Man – autism

One flew over the cuckoo's nest – the nature of mental illness * WARNING – some scenes may be unsuitable so ask parent/guardian before watching.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PB2Oegl6wvI> Loftus and memory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqNaLerMNOE&feature=related> Bandura

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRF27F2bn-A&NR=1&feature=endscreen> Piaget – stages of development

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=760lwYmpXbc> Haney/Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment

Episodes of the series "Bedlam" looking at the treatments and characteristics of a range of mental disorders:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBspOsxqJhU> Episode 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9IEt7MRuzg> Episode 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt7RrjFgmWw> Episode 3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaYm8muoirU> Episode 4