

PSYCHOLOGY



What is psychology? – watch the following clips

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-P1BEk6hhE>

TED talk – 9 myths about psychology

https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_ambridge_9_myths_about_psychology_debunked



Task 1: Questionnaire activity

There is often some misconception about what psychology is, so your first task is to carry out some research on this from other people, avoid sharing what you have learned from the clips. Use this basic questionnaire and hand it out to at least 5 people, you will be required to get their permission to take part, anyone under 18 will need parental consent and ensure you don't include their names, only gender is required.

Gender – male/female

Q1. What is psychology?

- a) Reading minds
- b) Common sense
- c) The scientific study of the mind and behaviour
- d) Other please
state.....
.....

Q2. Psychology is only useful for helping people with mental illnesses

- a) True
- b) False

Q3. Psychologists get paid lots of money to listen to people talk

- a) True
- b) False

Q4. Psychology is not a 'real' science

- a) True
- b) False

Q5. Psychology is an easy A Level subject

- a) True
- b) False

Collect the results for each question, you need to have the number of true & false answers and what they think psychology is, then put this into percentages, don't forget to include their gender too. We will analyse the results as a class and evaluate the design of this questionnaire and questionnaires as a research method in general.

Task 2: Research task - approaches in psychology

Find out about the following key approaches in psychology, you may need to complete a bigger version of this table, we will be covering each in depth so you just need to find out the main assumptions.

| Approach | How this approach explains behaviour |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Behaviourism | |
| Social learning theory | |
| Cognitive | |
| Biological | |
| Psychodynamic | |
| Humanistic | |

Task 3: Research

Find 2 pieces of psychological research, this can be on any topic within psychology and summarise the main findings. Here are some examples to help you:

- Criminal behaviour
- Personality
- Mental illness – OCD, depression, phobias & schizophrenia
- Memory
- Relationships
- Social media
- Sleep

Task 4: Ethical issues

Participants – The individuals who take part in the research.

Ethics – are a set of moral guidelines which determine how research should be carried out

Informed consent – were the participants fully informed about what was going to happen during the research?

Deception – were the participants lied to?

Right to withdraw – were the participants able to leave the experiment at any time?

Protection from harm (both physical and psychological) – did the participants experience any physical harm? Did they experience emotional distress?

Privacy – The right to control information about themselves, this could relate to the location of the research and not publishing the names of the participants.

Confidentiality – This refers to the right that individuals have to protect personal information about themselves

The bystander effect: Watch the clip, then read the description of the study which followed this case.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdpdUbW8vbw>

In 1968, John Darley and Bibb Latané developed an interest in crime witnesses who did not take action. They were particularly intrigued by the murder of Kitty Genovese, a young woman whose murder was witnessed by many, but still not prevented. The pair conducted a study at Columbia University in which they would give a participant a survey and leave him alone in a room to fill out the paper. Harmless smoke would start to seep into the room after a short amount of time. The study showed that the solo participant was much faster to report the smoke than participants who had the exact same experience, but were in a group. Darley and Latané played a recording of an actor pretending to have a seizure in the headphones of a person, who believed he or she was listening to an actual medical emergency that was taking place down the hall. Again, participants were much quicker to react when they thought they were the sole person who could hear the seizure.

Explain which ethical guidelines were broken in the study by Darley & Latane, use examples from the description in your answer.

Websites/Extension tasks

Three Identical Strangers documentary, 3 identical triplets separated at birth - <https://www.netflix.com/gb/title/80240088>

British psychological society - <https://www.bps.org.uk/public/what-is-psychology>

Psychology today - <https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb>

Simply psychology - <https://www.simplypsychology.org/>

Assessment criteria – please bring evidence to the first lesson that you have completed all tasks set

A – All tasks fully completed

B – Majority of tasks fully completed

C – Some tasks fully completed

D – Few tasks fully completed

E – Tasks not completed