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# AP PSYCHOLOGY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2021

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Welcome to Advanced Placement Psychology!

During this school year we will be exploring the world of psychology, improving our research/writing skills and preparing for the AP Examination in the spring. Successful completion of this course will yield a greater understanding of psychology, yourself, and the world around you. It is also my goal to prepare you for the content, format, and rigor of a college level course and examination. To prepare for this course, you will need to complete the following assignments over the summer. This will help prepare you for the content and format of the course. You **DO NOT** need an AP Psychology textbook for this assignment.

- All assignments will be due to Dr. Reagin in class by the first week of school.
- You will no doubt remember from our interest meeting that you have several assignments to complete over the summer. Based on the overwhelming nature of how much material we will need to cover this year, you must begin your study of Psychology before school begins in August.

Your Summer Assignments include:

- A Personal Introduction Essay
- Scavenger Hunt (Getting to Know Psychology)
- An Essay on Your Understanding of Psychology after Completion of Scavenger Hunt

Assignment 1: Write an introduction of yourself using the following format: Five paragraphs that include an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. This should be handwritten in BLUE or BLACK pen. I will not accept work this year written in pencil. In this introduction you will tell me who you are, interesting things about yourself that I should know, why you are taking this class (honestly), your favorite issue to study in Psychology, and anything else that you think is relevant for me to know (, do you play sports, why you are at Bishop, future college and career plans... these are just ideas to work off of).

Assignment 3 (purposefully out of order): Write a brief summary of your understanding of Psychology based on your Scavenger Hunt. This should be handwritten. Now in essay format including an introduction, at least six body paragraphs, and a conclusion. There is so much that you could write in this. However, your main task will be to concisely summarize Psychology as you understand it. This may not be overly long and wordy. Depending on the size of your handwriting, you probably should not go over four pages.

Assignment 2: (Scavenger Hunt) The format for following assignment is to be as followed: This is to be typed or printed, you may fill it in below in PEN if you choose, or if it is easier, please type it and print out your answers. No work will be accepted in pencil this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me throughout the summer. Each question is to be answered in complete sentences.

## Scavenger Hunt (Getting to Know Psychology)

Directions: Complete the following questions as an introduction to the subfields of psychology. Use the suggested websites to answer the questions. If a link does not work, feel free to explore for the answers due to links expiring overtime

### Biological Psychology

- This emphasizes the relationship between biology and behavior. Here we will examine how the nervous system.

Go here: <http://www2.estrellamountain.edu/faculty/farabee/BIOBK/BioBookNERV.html>

- What are neurons?
- How do they work?
- List the parts of each neuron and explain its function (dendrites, cell body, axons, myelin sheath, nodes of ranvier, terminal branches, terminal buttons)
- List the three types of neurons with their other names (sensory, motor and interneuron)
- What is the function of the peripheral nervous system?
- What is the function of the central nervous system?

Go here:

[http://www.emedicinehealth.com/anatomy\\_of\\_the\\_endocrine\\_system/article\\_em.htm#Endocrine%20System%20Introduction](http://www.emedicinehealth.com/anatomy_of_the_endocrine_system/article_em.htm#Endocrine%20System%20Introduction)

- What is the endocrine system?
- What are some things regulated by the endocrine system?

Go here: <http://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info.cfm?PG=fmribrain>

- What does MRI stand for?
- What are MRI's of the brain used for?

Go here: <http://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info.cfm?PG=pet>

- What does PET stand for?
- What functions can a PET scan monitor?

Search the internet for a diagram of “Brain Structures and their functions”.

- List and explain 3 parts of the brain and their functions.

Go here: [http://www.intelliscript.net/test\\_area/questionnaire/questionnaire.cgi](http://www.intelliscript.net/test_area/questionnaire/questionnaire.cgi)

and here: <http://www.news.com.au/national/left-brain-vs-right-brain/story-e6frfkp9-1111114517613>

Take the Right Brain vs. Left Brain test.

- Are you right brained or left brained?
- Do you agree with the description of your dominant side? Explain.
- List the tasks of the left hemisphere.
- List the tasks of the right hemisphere.

**Sensation and Perception**

- This subfield involves processing the information gathered by the nervous system and the brain into meaningful experiences and feelings.

Go here: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YL\\_6OMPywnQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YL_6OMPywnQ)

Watch the above on phantom limb syndrome.

- What is phantom limb syndrome?
- Explain how it is treated.
- Why do you think it is effective?

**Consciousness**

- The focus in this field is on states of mind and how they are altered through experiences, sleep, and biological functions.

Go here: <http://psychology.about.com/od/statesofconsciousness/a/SleepStages.htm>

- What are the 5 stages of sleep?
- What is the difference between stages 1-4 and stage 5 sleep?
- List the stages of sleep and their associated brain waves.

Go here:

<http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/health/promotion/goto/resources/drugclassifications.html>

- Identify the types of drugs and explain their effects on consciousness. Include at least examples of each category.

**Learning**

- There are several types of learning which psychologists focus on. Research and practice can center on the way the brain retains information as well as how learning can impact and change behavior.

Go here: [http://nobelprize.org/educational\\_games/medicine/pavlov/readmore.html](http://nobelprize.org/educational_games/medicine/pavlov/readmore.html)

- Describe the Pavlov's Dog experiment.
- What was he trying to investigate?
- Why were Pavlov's experiments so important to psychology?

Go here: <http://www.simplypsychology.org/operant-conditioning.html>

- What is operant conditioning?
- Who's research was Skinner's work based on?
- Watch the video under reinforcement. What is the purpose of reinforcement?
- What is the purpose of punishment?
- How have you seen operant condition in your own lives? How have your parents tried to employ it?

Go here: <http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles.shtml>

Take the quiz on learning styles.

- In the space below, analyze the quiz questions and results.
- What types of questions were asked?
- Do you think the description of the results could help you in your study habits?
- Why do you think people learn in different ways?

**Cognition and Memory**

- Information and research here will focus on memory, thinking, language and intelligence.

Go here: <http://www.simplypsychology.org/memory.html>

- List the 3 important aspects of memory processing and give an explanation of each.

Go here: <http://www.simplypsychology.org/short-term-memory.html>

- Explain the key factors in short term memory.

Go here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHeEQ85m79I>

Watch this episode on Endless memory.

- Explain autobiographical memory.
- Do you think this would help or hinder a person in life?
  - Explain why.

Go here: <http://www.davidmyers.org/Brix?pageID=65>

- In the space below, discuss one of your own fears that might seem illogical to others. What are the influences on our intuitions about risk?

**Motivation, Emotion, and Stress**

- Here psychologists focus on the influences of motivations, and the causes and impacts of human emotions.

Go here: <http://allpsych.com/psychology101/emotion.html>

- What are the parts of the James-Lange theory?
- How does the Cannon-Bard theory look different?
- Which of the theories do you feel is most accurate? Explain your answer.



**Development**

- Focus on changes in behavior, emotion, cognition and perception throughout the lifespan.

Go here: <http://www.theatlanticwire.com/technology/2011/08/what-facebook-does-kids-brains/40973/>

Read the article as an introduction to some of the current issues of developmental psychology.

- In the space below discuss the extent to which you agree with the author's point of view. Overall, is Facebook more helpful or harmful to kids? Explain.

**Personality**

- Focus on our underlying patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving.

Go here: <http://www.psych.uncc.edu/pagoolka/typea-b-intro.html>

Take the 'Type A/B' Personality Test

- Describe your results. Do you think they are accurate?
- What could be some problems with this type of test?

**Disorders and Treatments**

- Focus of the causes and definition of mental disorders as well as appropriate ways to treat these conditions.

Go here: <http://www.health.com/health/gallery/thumbnails/0,,20393228,00.html>

- Choose 3 of the “10 Things to Say (and 10 Not to Say) to Someone with Depression” and explain why you think sometimes people give the wrong advise in this area.
- How can we help educate people on how to help friends and family that might be suffering from depression?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Psychology**

- Deals with social interactions, including their origins and their effects on the individual.

Go here: <http://psychology.about.com/od/historyofpsychology/a/milgram.htm>

Milgram's Study:

- Summarize the experiment.
- What percent of the participants were willing to administer the highest level of shock?
  - Explain what this experiment has to do with the understanding of the Nazi War criminal's behavior during World War II.

Go here: <http://www.simplypsychology.org/asch-conformity.html>

Solomon-Asch Study:

- Summarize the experiment.
- What are the conditions necessary to facilitate conformity?
  - Explain why they facilitate conformity.

Go here: <http://www.prisonexp.org/>

Read the article.

Follow through the slideshow and watch the video to answer these questions on the Zimbardo prison experiment.

- How do you think you would have behaved if you were a prisoner in this situation? Would you have rejected these privileges in order to maintain prisoner solidarity?

In 2003 U.S. soldiers abused Iraqi prisoners held at Abu Ghraib, 20 miles west of Baghdad. The prisoners were stripped, made to wear bags over their heads, and sexually humiliated while the guards laughed and took photographs.

- How is this abuse similar to or different from what took place in the Stanford Prison Experiment?