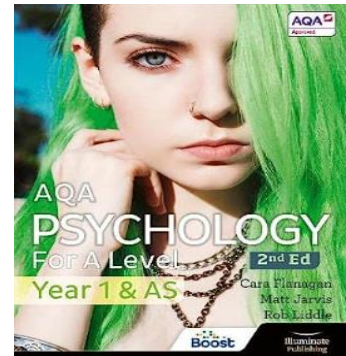


# A-Level Psychology Summer Bridging Work 2023/24

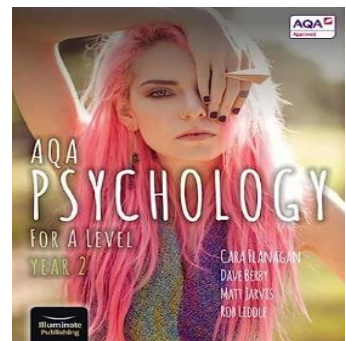
**Exam board: AQA**

**Resources that you need to purchase in preparation for studying this course:**

- Course textbook: AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS Student Book: 2nd Edition



- Course textbook: AQA Psychology for A Level Year 2 - Student Book



- Lever arch file with dividers for each topic, tracker in front.

- Link to handbook:

[https://kingslangleyhertssch.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/KLS\\_Subjects\\_PY/EfJVHC3IbTIBITUevWFPU3sBw4dBsspPjZieXtM\\_8JvqFw?e=95aOWY](https://kingslangleyhertssch.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/KLS_Subjects_PY/EfJVHC3IbTIBITUevWFPU3sBw4dBsspPjZieXtM_8JvqFw?e=95aOWY)

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour which is complex in nature, involving many different levels of functioning, for example; memory, attachment, mental disorders, eating behaviour, addiction, stress, learning and development. Psychology also consists of both theory and applied practice. In order to study human behaviour, researchers and scientists adopt different approaches and research methods depending on the nature of the behaviour. For example, in studying mental disorders, like depression, which involve both biological (genetic) and psychological factors (life events, parenting, relationships) as causes, researchers can take one or more approach to researching and explaining its causes. So for understanding and treating depression, both the biological and psychological approaches would be relevant.

It is therefore important for students to understand the theoretical assumptions and focus of each approach and some basics of research methods in beginning their study of psychology as a subject. The research

cycle of hypothesis testing is essential for formulating theories which are based on reliable and objective empirical research data. This is what distinguishes psychology from mere opinion.

To prepare for Year 12 Psychology the following bridging work is set to enable students to be well aware of important features of each approach and some basics of scientific methods of research. This will give them an advantage in getting to grips with the content more quickly.

Use the following sites to help you find information :

Massolit <https://www.massolit.io/subjects/psychology>

Seneca Learning

<https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/1b7f46e7-060b-4cf7-922b-1829a0013079>

Tutor2u <https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>

Answer **all** questions in all **3 tasks** below :

### **Task One**

- Outline **three** main assumptions for **each** of the following approaches to studying human behaviour :

The Learning Approach (includes Behaviourism and Social Learning Theory) **(3 marks)**

The Biological Approach

**(3 marks)**

The Cognitive Approach

**(3 marks)**

The Psychodynamic Approach

**(3 marks)**

- Briefly outline the beliefs of each of the following theorists about the influences on human behaviour :

Ivan Pavlov

**(2 marks)**

B.F. Skinner

**(2 marks)**

John Bowlby

**(2 marks)**

Sigmund Freud

**(2 marks)**

### **Task Two**

- Write a brief description of the experimental method used in psychological research, what does it include?  
**(5 marks)**
- Define what is meant by **empirical** research  
**(1 mark)**
- Name **four other** research methods used in psychology  
**(4 marks)**

### **Task Three**

Look for answers to the following questions :

1. What is psychology?  
**(3 marks)**
2. What is the difference between psychology and psychiatry?  
**(3 marks)**
3. Who is Karl Popper and how have his ideas influenced psychology?  
**(3 marks)**
4. Research a topic in psychology that interests you and write something about it. **(6 marks)**

**(Total 45 marks)**