

A Level Psychology Resources

CORE RESOURCES

Specification

Find the full specification, past examination questions, mark schemes and examiners reports here:
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182>

Details of command words can be found here:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology/teach/command-words>

Online textbooks

Please see the Google Classroom for login details.

YEAR 1

www.illuminate.digital/aqapsych1

YEAR 2

<https://illuminate.digital/aqapsych2edy2/>

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY WEBSITES

There are a number of websites specifically dedicated to supporting A Level Psychology students, where you can find free study notes, revision resources, videos, quizzes and much more:

www.tutor2u.net/psychology

www.simplypsychology.org

<https://www.psychboost.com/>

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/psychology-revision/a-level-aqa/>

ACADEMIC ARTICLES

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Psychology review

We offer students the opportunity to order this interesting and accessible A Level Psychology magazine at a reduced cost. It includes wider reading and exam tips relevant to the AQA syllabus course. We also have a free school subscription to the online version of the magazine which you can access by clicking the above link and following the sign up instructions given

Please see the Google Classroom for login details.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

BPS Research Digest

This is a great website. It provides accessible summaries of the latest research papers from a variety of fields of psychology. From their about page: "We digest at least one new psychology study every weekday. Published by the British Psychological Society since 2005, this blog aims to demonstrate that psychological science is fascinating and useful while also casting a critical eye over its methods."

JSTOR

AHS has an online subscription to the academic database JSTOR, which provides access to more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, and primary sources in 75 disciplines.

Please see the Google Classrooms for login details.

BOOKS

Check out the Psychology section of our school library for many interesting books, including those recommended below. Alternatively, speak to the librarian/one of your psychology teachers if there is something in particular that you are looking for.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

[Opening Skinner's Box](#) by Lauren Slater.

An accessible, enjoyable read. Each chapter considers the work of a different psychologist, several of whom are included on the A Level course

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

[Quiet](#) by Susan Cain

A Sunday Times and New York Times No 1. Bestseller, this book illustrates how society misunderstands and undervalues introverts while giving them the tools to better understand themselves and take full advantage of their strengths. There is also a version written for [teens](#).

See university reading lists from Psychology degree courses, e.g. Oxford University:

https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/media_wysiwyg/EP_PPL_Suggested_Reading_List_June_2013.pdf

There are literally hundreds of books about different areas of psychology! Below are some links with some interesting lists of books you might enjoy:

<https://www.sparringmind.com/psychology-books/>

<https://www.waterstones.com/category/politics-society-education/psychology>

<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/communication/10-great-psychology-books-change-your-life.html>

RADIO & PODCASTS

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

All in The Mind

In this long-running Radio 4 programme and podcast, Claudia Hammond, a radio personality with degrees in applied and health psychology, hosts a wide-variety of guests to find out about the latest research in the field.

Psychcrunch

This podcast from the BPS Digest explores whether findings from psychological research can make a difference in real life.

Speaking of Psychology

Produced by the American Psychological Association, this podcast takes a deep dive into psychological research of contemporary issues. Each week, the rotating cast of hosts interviews scientists and medical professionals about a specific topic.

Hidden Brain

Hidden Brain explores the unconscious patterns that drive human behavior and questions that lie at the heart of our complex and changing world. Recent topics covered include: the science of meditation, the psychology of self-doubt and how success is maintained.

In addition to those described above, there are hundreds more psychology podcasts available and more are being added every day. Find something you're interested in and research it!

<https://www.verywellmind.com/psychology-podcasts-2794800>

WEBSITES

Psychology uses lots of specialist language. You'll need to understand it. Here are 3 websites with definitions of the technical terms used in psychology.

[Research Methods Key terms definitions](#)

[Glossary of key terms USA](#)

[Glossary of key terms Hong Kong](#)

Verywell Mind

An accessible website, the Psychology section of which provides a sound introduction to major psychological theories, therapies and approaches. It also has sections on mental health and self-improvement, plus a podcast.

Psychology today

From their about page: "Psychology Today is devoted exclusively to everybody's favorite subject: Ourselves. On this site, we have gathered a group of renowned psychologists, academics, psychiatrists and writers to contribute their thoughts and ideas on what makes us tick. We're a live stream of what's happening in 'psychology today'."

[Scientific American: Mind and Brain](#)

Scientific American is a bimonthly American popular science magazine concentrating on psychology, neuroscience, and related fields. By analyzing and revealing new thinking in the cognitive sciences, the magazine tries to focus on the biggest breakthroughs in these fields.

[The Guardian Psychology pages](#)

The Guardian newspaper publishes a number of articles of topical interest linked to the news and current affairs.

[National Institute of Mental health](#)

From their about page: “The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is the lead federal agency for research on mental disorders. NIMH is one of the 27 Institutes and Centers that make up the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the nation’s medical research agency. NIH is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).”

[The Association for Psychological Science](#)

From their about page: “The Association for Psychological Science (previously the American Psychological Society) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of scientific psychology and its representation at the national and international level.”

Below are some more websites that are not exclusively about psychology, but often feature quality articles about psychological research.

[The Conversation](#)

From their about page: “The Conversation is an independent source of news and views, sourced from the academic and research community and delivered direct to the public.”

[ScienceAlert](#)

From their about page: “ScienceAlert is an independently run news website that covers the most important developments in the world of science and scientific research, while sharing fun, interesting information.”

[Medical News today](#)

From their about page: “Medical News Today (MNT) is owned and operated by Healthline Media UK Ltd., a leading healthcare publishing company. There are offices in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Taiwan. MNT is within the top 10 most popular health websites worldwide, as reported by Comscore, with more than 90 million monthly visits.”

TV SHOWS

There are a number of accessible popular science TV shows that cover psychology topics:

The Mind Explained - Netflix

Series that explores the workings of the mind. Episodes explore topics including memory, dreams, anxiety, mindfulness etc.

Babies - Netflix

Series exploring scientific research into how babies develop. Relevant for the Attachment unit.

100 Humans - Life's Questions Answered - Netflix

Netflix series relevant for Research Methods. From the Netflix website: One hundred hardy souls from diverse backgrounds participate in playful experiments exploring age, sex, happiness and other aspects of being human.

Derren Brown: The Push

Can ordinary people be manipulated by those in authority to commit a criminal act? Find on Youtube/Netflix. Relevant for the Social Influence unit.

Various 'true crime' programmes on Netflix/Channel 4

In Year 2 of the A Level course, we study Forensics, a unit which covers criminal profiling, plus explanations and treatments for offending behaviour. There are many related programmes that will appeal, e.g. 'The Making of a Murderer' and 'I am a Killer' series provide some insight into why individuals commit the crimes they do and how they are investigated. Age ratings for these programmes are unclear; some episodes will be suitable for 15+, but please check with your parents/guardians first and consider your own sensitivity to the issues before you watch them!

VIDEOS

Type psychology into youtube and take your pick. There are TED Talks, CrashCourse videos and so much more!