

PSYCHOLOGY

Examining Body: AQA

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/subject-content-a-level>

Specification No. 7182

Core Resources:

We give the students course hand-out booklets that include all material needed for success in the exam. These resources are made available on Google Classroom. We do not issue textbooks and have subscribed to an online textbook. <https://www.illuminate.digital/> There are a number of different textbooks and we have copies available in the Sixth Form section of the school library. A useful text, in addition to the online book, is: *The Complete Companions: AQA Psychology Year 1 and AS Student Book (Fifth Edition)*, Cardwell & Flanagan, Oxford Press. ISBN 978-0198436324

Extension Material:

There are often films and TV shows that are interesting to watch that involve psychological themes. These are not necessary in order to understand the course, but often help with the basic understanding of psychological concepts and touch on some of the material covered during the two years.

Books: *Opening Skinner's Box*, Lauren Slater (classic experiments but some claims disputed), *Bad Science*, Ben Goldacre (discusses problems with research), *Elephants on Acid*, Alex Boese (interesting and crazy experiments) and *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, Oliver Sacks (ignore the biology of the brain but interesting case studies).

Films: *Life of Pi* (the book is good too, themes of conditioning), *A Clockwork Orange*, *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* (these are both used in lessons but are 18 age restricted), *Silver Linings Playbook* (depression and OCD), *50 First Dates*, *Memento* (memory), *Shutter Island*, *Black Swan* (psychopathology) and *Divergence* (conformity and obedience).

Summer Preparatory Part 1: Mr Ferreira (Social Influence)

Use the following website: <https://www.prisonexp.org/the-story> and other sources to explore the Stanford Prison Experiment. The induction lesson slides on our website and YouTube may be useful as a resource.

Written Response:

Explain what was wrong with Zimbardo being lead researcher as well as the prison superintendent?

Explain means: Set out reasons, or give a detailed account of reasons in relation to a particular situation.

Watch the following TED talks video by Derek Sivers on "how to start a movement":

http://www.ted.com/talks/derek_sivers_how_to_start_a_movement?language=en

Written Response:

What does this video tell us about people's behaviour?

Write down 3 clear points.

Summer Preparatory Part 2: Mrs Harries (Pavlov's theory of Classical Conditioning)

TASK ONE

You need to research Pavlov's theory of classical conditioning. You should understand what he did and what the following terms mean in relation to his study;

- Unconditional stimulus
- Unconditional response
- Conditional stimulus
- Conditional response

This video will show you some original film from the research. The same practices would not be ethically acceptable today.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6AYofQchoM>

You should make whatever notes you need to be able to remember the theory. **Reread your work before your first class so that you are able to discuss it.**

TASK TWO

You should use the theory of classical conditioning to write a description of how somebody might learn to be afraid of dogs. Use the terms above in your explanation.

Think about what impression you want to create on your teacher. Your work does not need to be typed but it should be neat and on appropriate lined paper, with a heading and a margin. You should read it aloud to make sure there are no spelling or grammar mistakes.