

PSYCHOLOGY



11 - 12 TRANSITION WORK

Introduction

This work aims to help prepare you for your Psychology A-Level by introducing some of the important skills and knowledge you will need to succeed in this subject. The tasks will explore your reading, writing, and mathematical skills as these will be pivotal over the next 2 years. We have also included information about the key examination objectives so you can familiarise yourself with keywords and specific skills the exam board wants to see. All completed tasks should be brought to your first lesson.

1 - Prepare for learning

For this subject you will need the following:

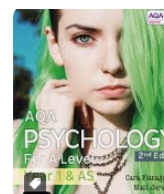
- Folder
- Paper/ notepad
- 6 Dividers
- Plastic wallets
- Pens & Highlighters

Tasks for learning

TASK 1 - Timeline of psychology

Create a timeline of psychology showing how psychology started, the key changes that have happened and some pieces of research that have changed the study of human behaviour. (You could draw this as a timeline on an A3 piece of paper).

You can log into the textbook by clicking on the picture and looking at pages 106-107 to give you an overview. **Username:** SDOWNEND7 **Password:** STUDENT7



You can also use this link <https://allpsych.com/timeline/> to find out more about the specific dates.

On your timeline include details on what happened on these dates:

1848	1879	1900
1913	1954	1957
1961	1990	2010

TASK 2 - Approaches

One of the most important things to understand in psychology is that not everyone has the same opinions on the causes of human behaviour.

Research the psychological approaches below and write a short summary (1-2 paragraphs) of what they think shapes our behaviour.

- Behaviourist
- Cognitive
- Humanistic
- Psychodynamic
- Biological

This [link](#) gives nice summaries of each approach. If you would like more detail you can either use the textbook (pages 108 - 123) or [watch](#) this.

TASK 3 - The maths bit

Psychologists carry out lots of research into human behaviour and analyse their findings and see whether the data they have gathered from research is strong enough to be able to explain human behaviour. As such In psychology, about 10% of the marks available are for maths skills. You can either complete this work on a separate sheet of paper or print off these sheets and bring them with you.

ACTIVITY 1

MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY & DISPERSION

Briefly explain how to calculate each of the following for a set of scores:

Measure of central tendency / dispersion	How to calculate
Mean	
Median	
Mode	
Range	

Calculate the mean, median, mode and range for the following sets of data.

	Data	Mean	Median	Mode	Range
A	1, 4, 9, 3, 10, 5, 8, 9, 3				
B	22, 26, 20, 52, 28, 19, 27, 21				
C	41, 29, 39, 44, 36, 40, 27, 42, 45, 28, 39, 33				

Which is the most appropriate measure of central tendency to use for data set B and why? [2 marks]

Answer:

Identify the most appropriate measure of central tendency to use for set C and explain why it would be the most appropriate? [3 marks]

Answer:

ACTIVITY 2

CALCULATING PERCENTAGES

Here is some data from a study looking to see whether there were any differences in attachment style between infants aged 12-18 months, where the mother was the primary caregiver and where the father was the main caregiver. Each infant was assessed with their primary caregiver using the Strange Situation.

	Securely attached	Insecure avoidant	Insecure resistant
Mother primary caregiver	42	9	7
Father primary caregiver	22	4	5

Answers for questions 1 to 6 below should be calculated to 3 significant figures.

QUESTION 1

What percentage of the sample had their father as the primary caregiver? [2 marks]

Answer:

QUESTION 2

What percentage of infants with a mother as primary caregiver were securely attached? [2 marks]

QUESTION 4

What percentage of infants overall were assessed as being insecure avoidant? [2 marks]

Answer:

You may also be asked to calculate a percentage increase or a percentage decrease. Read through this study and then answer the questions that follow. Again, it is important to show your calculations.



Exam Hints: Here is a reminder of how to calculate a percentage increase and a percentage decrease:

PERCENTAGE INCREASE	PERCENTAGE DECREASE
1. First work out the difference (increase) between the two numbers you are comparing.	1. First work out the difference (decrease) between the two numbers you are comparing.
2. Increase = new (larger) number – original (smaller) number	2. Decrease = original (larger) number – new (smaller) number
3. Then divide the increase by the original number and multiply the answer by 100.	3. Then divide the decrease by the original number and multiply the answer by 100.
For example, to find the percentage increase from a score of 4 to a score of 9 1. Increase = $9 - 4 = 5$ 2. $5/4 = 1.25$ 3. $1.25 \times 100 = 125\%$	For example, to find the percentage decrease from a score of 17 to a score of 14 1. Decrease = $17 - 14 = 3$ 2. $3/17 = 0.17647$ 3. $0.17647 \times 100 = 17.65\%$

A study was carried out to look at the effects of listening to music on the time taken to complete 5 simple anagrams. One group completed the anagrams while listening to classical music, a second group completed the anagrams while listening to rock music. The control group completed the anagrams in silence.

The mean times for each group were as follows:

	Classical music	Rock Music	Control group
Mean (in seconds)	68	82	63

Calculate the percentage increase in the mean time it took participants to solve the 5 anagrams when listening to classical music, compared to silence (control group). Show your calculations. Give your answer to three significant figures. [4 marks]

Answer:

QUESTION 6

Calculate the percentage decrease in the mean time it took participants to solve the 5 anagrams when listening to rock music, compared to classical music. Show your calculations. Give your answer to three significant figures. [4 marks]

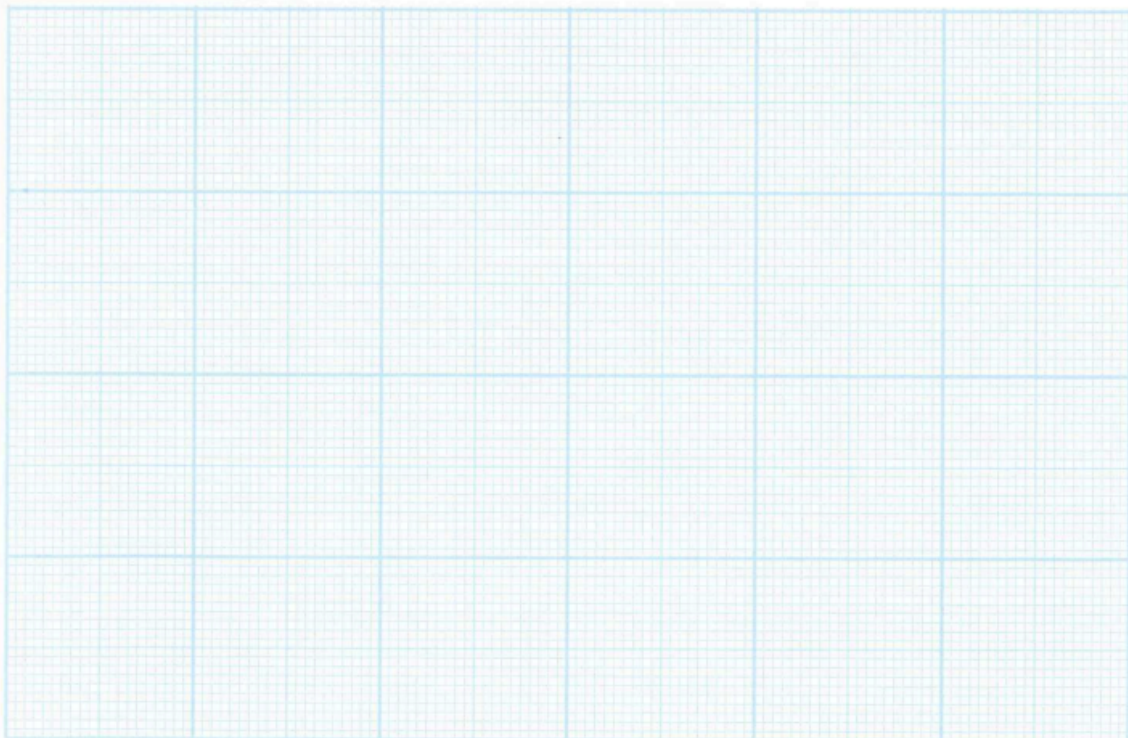
Answer:

PLOTTING APPROPRIATE GRAPHS

A study was conducted to see whether there are gender differences in helping behaviour. A psychology student dropped some books while passing other students in the university corridor and then noted the gender of the person and whether they helped them to pick up the books or not. The results were as follows:

	Males	Females
Helped pick up books	12	22
Did not help pick up books	30	62

Sketch a bar chart to represent the data in this table. [4 marks]

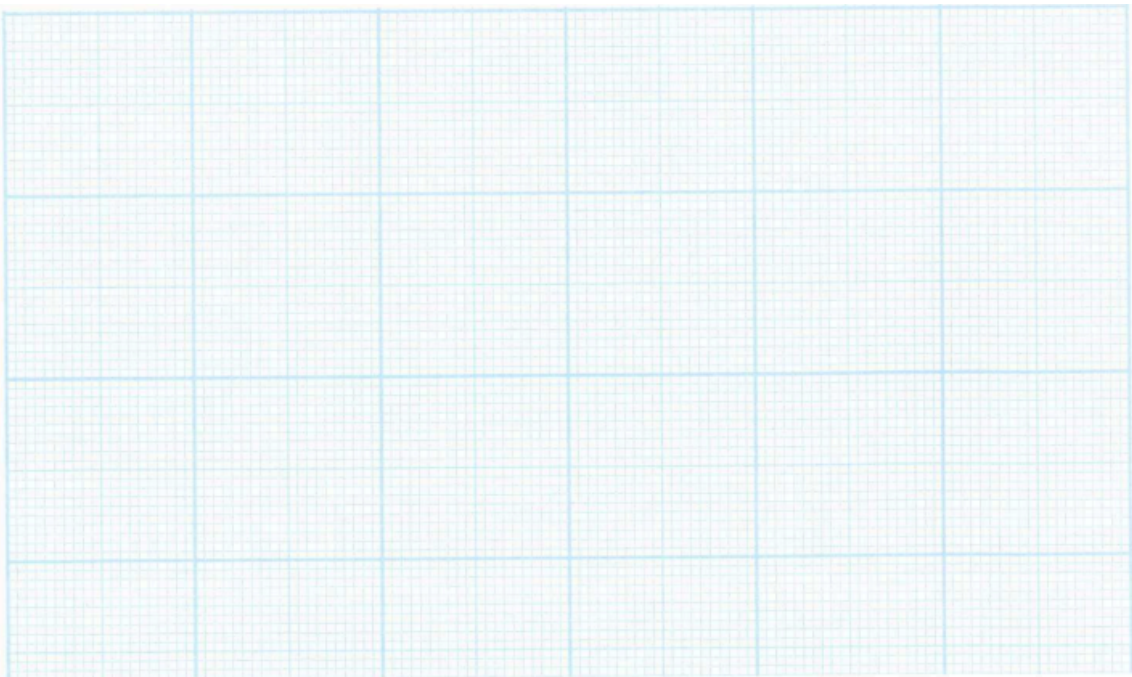


A study was conducted to see if there was a correlation between the rating a student gave for how stressed they felt (between 1 and 10) and their score on a psychology test (between 1 and 20). The results are shown in the table below:

QUESTION 1

Sketch a suitable graphical display to represent the data in this table. [4 marks]

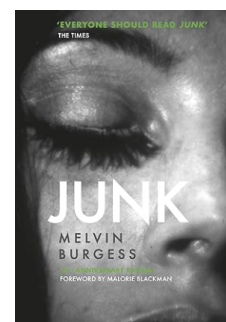
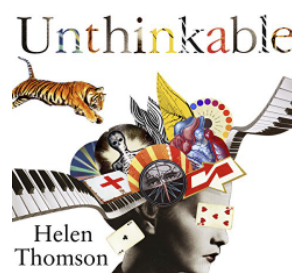
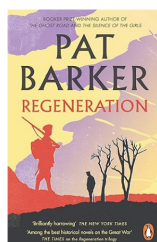
Participant	Stress rating	Score
1	9	9
2	7	12
3	6	15
4	5	14
5	2	16
6	7	15
7	1	12
8	6	18
9	3	16
10	5	19

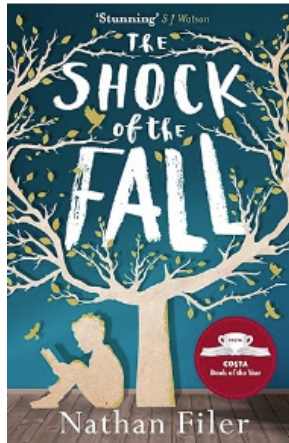


3 - Expand your mind

These tasks are not compulsory, but if you would like to delve a little deeper into your subject here are some suggested readings/ watchings.

Read





Watch

Three Identical Strangers. - A documentary based on Triplets who were separated at birth. (Available on Netflix)

The Stanford Prison Experiment - A film depicting the famous prison study that we'll learn about in our first topic in social psychology.

Beautiful Mind - A film that is useful for psychopathology and schizophrenia topics.

[Zimbardo Ted Talk](#) Great to get you thinking about "what is evil?" for our social psychology topic.

BBC4s [All in the mind series](#) the impact of psychological research on our lives