

Subject:	Qualification/Level:	Examination Board
PSYCHOLOGY	A-Level	AQA
Is this a Linear or Modular A level?	Linear	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In a modular A level, AS examinations at the end of Year 12 are worth 50% of the A level. - In a linear A level, any AS examination at the end of Year 12 <u>will not count</u> towards the A level. 		

We expect students to complete a transition piece of work for each subject between the end of Key Stage 4 and the start of Key Stage 5. This is assessed and feedback given to students when they start the courses in September. The following challenge(s) are to be completed over the summer break and brought to your ***first lesson.***

The Summer Transition 'CHALLENGE'

The first laboratory that conducted experiments related to psychology was founded by Wilhelm Wundt in 1879. However, the study of (and interest in) human behaviour has probably been with us since humans first walked the earth. As Hermann Ebbinghaus said in 1885, "Psychology has a long past but a short history." Psychology is a subject that is rooted in philosophy and science, and the history of psychology encompasses many discoveries and theories that have helped shape our current understanding of human behaviour. The effects of some of these psychological discoveries have an impact on our everyday lives, sometimes in surprising ways. Psychology has evolved in many ways over the last 150 years and continues to evolve today.

Your summer challenge is to produce a review of the history of psychology. Your review should include a discussion of the major developments in Psychology along with the key people who were involved in the development of the subject as you trace the antecedent influences that have lead psychology to its present status.

How the work produced will fit into subsequent work and the specification as a whole.

During your A Level Psychology course, you will be expected to develop the ability to apply your knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes, techniques and procedures in both a theoretical and practical context. An understanding of the historical roots of the subject will better equip you to evaluate and contextually place current and future ideas.

Length of time expected to complete the challenge:-

4 – 5 hours

How the work will be assessed and marked:-

You need to hand in your project during your first Psychology lesson in September. You can present your work in any format you feel is appropriate.

Expectations:-

You will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Clarity of presentation.
- Level of detail.
- Discussion of the significance of the people and events to both psychology as a subject and to society.
- A discussion of how the key events and people you have identified relate to each other and link together.

Extension:

- *As you read about the history of psychology you may notice the lack of women noted for their accomplishments and contributions to psychology. Why does this situation exist? Were women just not interested in psychology? Have historians of psychology been negligent in recognising the contributions of women? Or did societal forces preclude women from making contributions to psychology? Are there any other issues like this in the history of psychology?*

Resources to be used for this work.

There are many excellent resources available on the internet to help with this – see the links below as a starting point.

Who to contact if you should require further assistance with the work before the end of term?

Mr Ladd: Gareth.ladd@thebicesterschool.org.uk

What equipment will be needed for the subject?

A lever arch file and dividers for organisation of work; highlighters and coloured pens for annotations; lined paper.

To understand more about this subject at a high level:-

Start to read around the subject, paying particular attention to current developments and applications in the news. Some useful websites are:

- The British Psychological Society: <http://www.bps.org.uk/>
- The American Psychological Association: <http://www.apa.org/>
- BPS Research Digest: <http://digest.bps.org.uk/>