

# SUMMER READING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENTS FOR AP PSYCHOLOGY

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Edmodo Join Code: xvvpw7

Remind Join Code: 19psych20

Dear Future Psychologist,

I am honored to have the opportunity to teach you AP Psychology this coming school year. The purpose of the Advanced Placement course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental process of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields of psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in the practice of their science. The aim of the course is to provide the student with a rigorous learning experience, equivalent to most college introductory psychology courses, and aligning to standards and practices set forth by the College Board. Students completing this course will be prepared to take the AP Psychology exam in May. Summer reading and writing assignments for students entering Psychology affords students an introduction to the content, rigor, and methods of the Psychology course. Students will be required to complete the following summer assignments. The following assignments are MANDATORY, and must be completed before school starts. The course work will be graded and students will be tested on the content within the first two weeks of school.

*Mrs. Melody Spires-Howe*

## AP Psychology Course Description

This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

## Course Textbook (School Provided)

- Myers' Psychology for AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. 2014. BFW/Worth Publishers.

## Suggested Supplementary Text to Purchase

- Barron's Psychology Study Guide

## **Part One: Film Analysis**

- Students will watch the film *Inside Out*.
- Students will complete a one-page analysis on how the film helped depict one of the following psychology concepts:
  - ❖ Brain development in early years
  - ❖ Transfer of memories from short term to long term
  - ❖ Importance of sleep in the process of memory transfer
  - ❖ Development of Personality
  - ❖ Identity formation
  - ❖ Overlapping of emotions
- Students will then create a character that represents an emotion **NOT** used in the film. The student needs to:
  - Explain the emotion.
  - Describe the parts of the brain that influence or is influenced by this emotion.
  - Draw/color/digitally create what the emotion would look like.
    - Digitally created submissions will be turned in via Edmodo.
- Personality Islands
  - Create a visual {digitally or hand-drawn -size of paper is your choice} of five "islands" that describe your personality.
  - You can Google images for inspiration.
  - Digitally created submissions should be printed.

## **Part Two: Ted Talk**

- Students will watch the following Ted Talk discussion.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/ben\\_ambridge\\_10\\_myths\\_about\\_psychology\\_debunked/transcript](https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_ambridge_10_myths_about_psychology_debunked/transcript)

- After viewing the Ted Talk, complete the attached worksheet.

## **Part Three: Perspectives and Psychologists**

❖ □ In the world of psychology, there are several perspectives that psychologists use to describe and explain human behavior and mental processes. The different perspectives can be seen as lenses through which you can study psychology. Using the internet or any psychology textbook, research the eight perspectives and replicate the chart below. Information for each perspective should be thorough (approximately half a page). You must cite your sources! Use in text citations if necessary. Otherwise, you may provide the reference at the end of each section of information. NOTE: you will use APA format for all citations. (Tip: The OWL at Purdue site is very helpful for APA notations.)

- ✦ Behavioral
- ✦ Biological
- ✦ Evolutionary
- ✦ Humanistic

- ✦ Psychodynamic
- ✦ Cognitive
- ✦ Biopsychosocial
- ✦ Social- Cultural

Psychological Perspective	Focus of the Perspective (Basic Beliefs/Assumptions)	Psychologists associated with this perspective
<i>List the perspective here.</i>	<i>Explain the perspective.</i>	List the names of important psychologists associated with this particular theory. What is their specific area of study? Include the names of any famous studies or theories they are known for.

#### **Part Four: Discussion**

Join the class for Psychology on Edmodo. Join code: xvvpw7

After joining the Edmodo page for the group, students will respond to two discussion prompts. Responses to the discussion prompts need to be supported with textual evidence. The student will also need to make educated and thoughtful comments on the responses of **two** peers for each discussion prompt.

The two discussion prompts are:

- 1) What are some ways in which parents make use of the placebo effect to make their children feel better?
- 2) Do you think that one's decision to conform to a particular norm of society is more a matter of personality, or more a matter of the particular social situation in which one finds oneself?

#### **Assessment**

The work completed over the summer will be counted as multiple grades for the first nine weeks. The Film Analysis work and Discussion assignments will count as the first two quiz grades. The Ted Talk Worksheet and Perspectives assignments will count as the first two class work grades.

Due Dates: The film analysis, Ted Talk worksheet and Perspectives assignments are due on the first day of school. The discussion requirements are due by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

If you have any questions about the assignments, please feel free to contact me at

[SpireMe@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:SpireMe@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us)

Have a great summer!!!

**Directions**

1. View the T.E.D. Talk and complete the following grid. If you run out of space on the grid for any of your answers, feel free to continue writing on the back of this sheet.

2. Title of T.E.D. Talk:

3. Name of Speaker:

4. Date of T.E.D. Talk and Number of Views:

4. What was the speaker's thesis (main point) of this speech?

6. Ethos is a speaker's ability to build credibility, establish himself/herself as an expert, and/or convince the audience members that the speaker has their best interests at heart. How does this speaker build ethos? Feel free to also refer to the speaker's profile information from the ted.com webpage as you build your answer.

Circle any of the following adjectives that describe this T.E.D. talk:

- Humorous
- Inspiring
- Persuasive
- Repetitive
- Dull
- Intellectual
- Confusing

7. Pathos is an appeal to emotions (everything from humor to horror) in order to sway an audience, while logos is the use of data/evidence to prove one's case. Did this speaker rely more on pathos or logos in his/her presentation? What argument/point in this presentation did you find the most compelling? Why?

8. T.E.D. Talk presenters are known as effective public speakers. Describe two things this speaker does well in terms of engaging the audience. Be sure to include the minute:second mark (ex: 8:49) to denote the two specific moments you discuss here.

9. Write two specific things you learned from this presentation.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

10. If you could ask this speaker a question about his/her information or presentation, what would you ask?

11. Give one piece of constructive criticism that would improve the presentation.

12. What group of people would benefit the most from hearing this lecture?

