

2020-2021 SUMMER READING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENTS FOR AP PSYCHOLOGY

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Join The Class Platforms!!!

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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 2nd 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 two-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
- Be sure to cite any source you use to explain the aforementioned psychological concept.

Part Two: 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).

- ✦ 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 Three: Discussion

Join the class for Psychology on Edmodo. Join code: umcan9

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 and Perspectives Chart assignments will count as the first two quiz grades. The Discussion assignment will count as your first class work grade.

Due Dates: The Film Analysis and Perspectives Chart assignments are due on the first day of school. The discussion requirements are due by July 31st.

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

SpireMe@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Have a great summer!!!