

Psychology transition work, Summer 2023

The social sciences (Psychology, Criminology, Sociology, Law, Economics) share a common approach to study. You are required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the topics, to apply what you have learned to novel situations and to analyse, evaluate and justify.

KS5 courses are a step up from the way you have worked at GCSE. The research and writing task below is designed to help you prepare you for this way of working.

KEY PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES

There is a plethora of key studies that you will cover as part of the A level psychology course. One of the skills you will need to develop is to summarise and evaluate these studies. Select **one** of the ten key studies from the table below (any search engine will yield the study details for you) and write a 1000 word academic essay (hand written) to include the following sections:

- Aim
- Method (procedure and details of the sample)
- Results (written or graph form, as long you explain your graph)
- Conclusion
- Evaluation (strengths and weaknesses of the study)
- References



Choice of studies:

Researcher (year)	Theme/topic
Solomon Asch (1951)	Conformity to the opinion of others <i>Social psychology</i>
Stanley Milgram (1963)	Obedience to following instructions <i>Social psychology</i>
Philip Zimbardo (1970s)	Conformity to social roles (Stanford Prison Experiment) If you are studying Criminology, you may wish to select this study. <i>Social psychology</i>
Konrad Lorenz (1952)	Imprinting in animals (relationship between new-born animals and their mothers) <i>Attachment</i>
Harry Harlow (1958)	Maternal deprivation in primates <i>Attachment</i>
Van Ijzendoorn (1988)	Cultural variations in attachment type between infant and caregiver <i>Attachment</i>
Mary Ainsworth (1969)	Security of attachment displayed by infant towards caregiver <i>Attachment</i>
Ivan Pavlov (1927)	Learning by association <i>Behaviourist approach to psychology</i>
B.F. Skinner (1953)	Learning as an active process <i>Behaviourist approach to psychology</i>
Albert Bandura (1961)	Children learning from adults by observation <i>Social learning theory</i>

MATHS:

In psychology, about 10% of the exam will assess your maths skills. You will have studied the required skills in your GCSE maths lessons. This section is to help you become more familiar with some of the mathematical content that you will need to know for the course. Complete all questions.

1. Standard form:

Sometimes, psychologists will come across very large or very small numbers. Because of very large numbers, it is often necessary to simplify these using standard form.

Write in standard form:

- a) 70×105
- b) 40×105
- c) 0.8×106
- d) 0.4×108
- e) 0.3×108
- f) 0.7×106
- g) 150×104
- h) 480×102
- i) 0.044×105
- j) 0.073×107

2. Rounding to decimal places

Round to 1 decimal place:

- a) 0.374
- b) 0.798
- c) 0.393
- d) 0.584

Round to 2 decimal places:

- e) 0.136
- f) 0.138
- g) 0.464

Round to 3 decimal places:

- h) 29.9757
- i) 46.2317
- j) 79.0919

3. Rounding to significant figures

Round to 1 significant figure:

- a) 15
- b) 983
- c) 0.0097
- d) 1.9

Round to 2 significant figures:

- e) 0.133
- f) 0.0403
- g) 90054

Round to 3 significant figures:

- h) 0.6402
- i) 160.7

4. Using percentages, fractions and decimals

Convert to a decimal:

- a) 12
- b) 340
- c) 65%
- d) 153%
- e) 51.6%
- f) 41%

Convert to a fraction, reduced to its simplest form:

- g) 0.2
- h) 0.63
- i) 90%

Convert to a percentage:

- j) 0.87
- k) 2.11
- l) 0.017
- m) 2.91
- n) 910
- o) 25

Convert to a fraction:

- p) 67%

Sample question:

Look at the pie chart below showing attachment types in nursery children. What fraction of children had type B attachment?



- A. $\frac{1}{5}$
- B. $\frac{3}{10}$
- C. $\frac{2}{5}$
- D. $\frac{1}{2}$

5. Ratios

Simplify:

- a) 5:10
- b) 15:5
- c) 5:50
- d) 52:56
- e) 52:12
- f) 18:22:12
- g) 16:52:48
- h) 42:15:24

Sample question:

The results from a study are presented below (*a table to show the number of participants who perceived the ambiguous image as a monkey or as a teapot when presented with either animals or kitchen items*)

	Perceived as a monkey	Perceived as a teapot
Presented with animals	15	10
Presented with kitchen items	5	12

- a) Identify and simplify the ratio of the number of participants who perceived a monkey in the first condition and the number who perceived a monkey in the second condition.
- b) Identify and simplify the ratio of the number of participants who perceived a teapot in the first condition and the number who perceived a teapot in the second condition.