



6th Form Independent Study Guide

Subject – PSYCHOLOGY

All students have a 'Thinking Ladder' Extension Task for independent study and a tracker sheet to complete on a weekly basis. Students should be undertaking a minimum of five hours per week independent study for Psychology.

- **Remembering (Knowledge) Tasks: [Identification and recall of information at the shallowest level. Also known as Knowledge (A01)]**
 - Write down everything you can remember about the topic from memory. Highlight the most important points. Summarise in 10 key bullet points.
 - Write down all the key terms for the topic, define them and create an acronym.
 - Reproduce everything you can remember on the topic onto small flashcards.
- **Understanding Tasks [Organisation and selection of facts, information and knowledge to show you understand (A01)]**
 - Pick out 5 key points on the topic and explain them in your own words.
 - Reduce key points down to fewer than 200 words and then summarise in fewer than 50 words each.
 - Explain all the key points (out loud!).
 - Create true or false cards. On one side of the card write a statement, on the reverse write whether it is true or false and why. Test yourself.
- **Application Tasks [Using facts, rules, principles and applying them to examples or to solve a problem. Applying A02.]**
 - Explain a real life example for each key point and find/research a real life piece of evidence or news which illustrates the topic.
 - Look up past exam papers online, including Exampro questions on Pupil Work Drive. Complete a question and then mark it using the mark scheme.
- **Analysis Tasks [Separating a whole and examining its component parts or features. Comparing and contrasting (A03)]**
 - Compare and contrast two or more theories, perspectives or studies. Make a list of differences and similarities.
 - De-construct a key study: aim, method, procedure, findings and evaluation.
 - Create a mind map or flow diagram of a topic, showing all links/connections.
 - Explain evidence supporting/challenging a theory & write a PEEL of one key point.
- **Evaluation Tasks [Developing opinions, judgements & decisions. Critical thinking skills. A03 strengths and weaknesses]**
 - Create table of strengths and weaknesses for a study / approach/ theory/ perspective.
 - Pick a key study or piece of evidence and evaluate it in terms of research methods used.
 - Write a short paragraph on how far you agree with the topic and why?
 - Choose a key theory and explain how one piece of evidence supports or refutes it.
 - Write a critical commentary of the theory or perspective. Use phrases such as 'This supports/suggests... because...'
- **Creation Tasks [Combining or organising information to form a new whole or create something new. Meta-knowledge.]**
 - Transform a theory or perspective into a comic strip or storyboard.
 - Suggest and explain an alternative approach, theory or perspective.
 - Write a short exam question and mark scheme. Think how it will be assessed.
 - Create and plan your own experiment, study or survey to test a theory or perspective.
 - Produce a revision guide including key points and activities.