

WJEC Psychology

Winter Newsletter 2017

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1. GCE AS and A level Psychology

Welcome

Dear all,

I hope you all had a fantastic break over Christmas and that you're feeling refreshed for the year ahead. It was great to see so many of you at our CPD events last term and to continue to see your positive engagement with our online Teacher's Network.

As this is the first year of teaching the A2 course we have been busy preparing a number of online resources for you. We also saw the publication of our first online magazine Psych'd which featured some fantastic articles written by Psychology teachers. Read on for our plan for edition 2!

I hope you find this newsletter useful in planning for the year ahead. As always if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch!














All the best

Rachel

Resources

We are continually developing a wide range of resources to support you in the delivery of our qualifications:

Search All > Psychology > KS5

 <p>Applying research methods terminology</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Understanding research methods terminology</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>AS/A Level Psychology Study Units</p> <p>Psychology</p>
 <p>What makes a good essay?</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Text tools</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Psych 'd magazine</p> <p>Psychology</p>
 <p>Using empirical evidence for the study of behaviours</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Understanding assessment objectives</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Implications in the real world - Scenarios</p> <p>Psychology</p>
 <p>Psychology scenarios</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Original research studies</p> <p>Psychology</p>	 <p>Psychology journal summaries</p> <p>Psychology</p>
 <p>Psychology</p> <p>Psychology</p>		

The latest resources focus on skills that we felt students would benefit from in order to reach the higher mark bands available across all our papers. The 'What makes a good essay?' resource has been designed to develop essay writing skills in A Level Psychology students by providing teaching

and learning resources to be used online and offline independently and in the classroom. The resources are based on the idea of breaking down the components of a good Psychology essay and then considering how each of these elements can be achieved.

The examples are all taken from Contemporary Debates (WJEC Unit 2, AS Level, Section A) written by students either under exam questions or for homework. However the skills can be extended to work for essays at A2 Level and in other subjects.

There are also two new research methods resources. The 'Understanding research methods' resource has been designed to help students understand research methods terminology. Students will be able to learn definitions of research methods terms before moving on to testing their knowledge. This resource can be used as a useful testing tool after each section of the research methods content has been taught. Students can then move on to the 'Applying research methods terminology' resource which demonstrates how students can use research methods terminology effectively in their written answers. The resource guides students through improving sample examination responses by using their knowledge of research methods as well as understanding how to link their answers back to the research scenario.

[Download Digital Resources](#)

[Download All course materials](#)

Why not bookmark our [qualifications page](#) to keep up to date with new resources?

You can also take a look at our [Online Exam Review](#) on the WJEC website. Our OER is an innovative, interactive tool designed to help teachers improve standards in the classroom and I know a lot of you were excited to use it in your classrooms after seeing it demonstrated at CPD.

It has come to our attention that some of you are having problems with accessing OERs. This is due to the fact that many browsers now come with pre-installed pdf readers. Unfortunately, none of these support interactive pdfs such as the OER and some other resources that we produce. A comprehensive set of instructions have therefore been created that show how to ensure that Adobe Acrobat Reader DC is used with Google Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge (Windows 10), Safari (Mac) as well as how to view OERs using i-pads. There are clear step-by-step instructions including screenshots to ensure a successful result which can be accessed [here](#).

Psych'd

Thank you to all the teachers that contributed to our first edition of Psych'd, our online magazine. As this is the first year for personal investigations we thought it would be a nice idea to focus the next edition purely on research methods. It would be great to have some student submissions where they have written up their research in the form of a psychological report. Also, if any of you would like to write an article on teaching research methods that would be great. The deadline for submissions is the end of April. Please send your ideas or finished articles via email or drop us a line if you have any further questions.

ATP event in Bangor

In response to feedback received at the ATP Annual Conference and the successful one-day event held in Stafford, the ATP is running a CPD event in North Wales. The aim of the day is to provide high quality, low cost, CPD for psychology teachers and it will consist of interactive workshops, facilitated by experienced teachers, on a variety of topics.

The following workshops and speakers have now been confirmed: -

1. Bangor University – Details to follow
2. Helene Ansell – Chair of the ATP - Teaching Research Methods through minipracticals
3. Deb Gajic – The Polesworth School – Intervention strategies in psychology
4. Dr Rachel Dodge – Subject Officer WJEC/Eduqas - Improving essay writing skills in psychology

The event will be held at: -Bangor University, Bangor, Gwynedd, Wales LL57 2DG. The conference fee is £50 and it will include refreshments and a light lunch. The day will begin with registration and coffee at 9.30am and finish at 3.30pm.

You can pay the £50 delegate fee through PayPal, via the ATP website www.theatp.org/events . You can join the ATP via the website www.theatp.org
If you have any queries please contact: - d.gajic@sky.com

2. Secure Website

The WJEC [Secure Website](#) provides access to a range of resources including circulars, past papers and marking schemes. We also have a wide range of marked sample answers for AS and A Level/A2 Psychology on this site. The site has recently had a makeover so if you are looking for any psychology related materials once you have logged in click on resources, then go to Subject specific resource material. Here you will be able to select Psychology from the subject drop-down menu.

The Secure Website can be accessed by authorised staff at centres that work with WJEC. If your centre is not registered, please ask your exams officer to email securewebsite@wjec.co.uk stating centre number, centre name, contact name and contact email address. Your exams officer can give you access to the secure website.

3. Email Updates

Encourage your colleagues to sign up for Psychology updates and be kept informed of the latest developments and important information. Visit our [website](#) to subscribe.

4. Teacher Network

This forum has been created for teachers delivering WJEC Eduqas AS and A level Psychology qualifications. This network is an online hub for teachers to share ideas, advice, resources and best practice. It also facilitates collaborative working with psychology teachers across the country.

[Join the forum today.](#)

5. Useful Contacts

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our dedicated team.

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