



Edexcel GCSE Psychology



Course Description

Psychology is the study of mental processes and behaviour. In GCSE Psychology you will study two units which cover a wide variety of topics. In Unit 1 'Perception and Dreaming' we look at how we perceive our world and the meanings of dreams. In the first topic we focus on perception and illusions, drawing on biological and cognitive psychology. In the second topic we explore Freud's dream theory and the theory of activation synthesis.

Unit 2 is called 'Social and Biological Psychological Debates'. In this unit we investigate whether or not violent video games affect young people's behaviour, why we develop phobias and whether or not criminals are born or made. These topics require us to look in depth at the causes of aggression, including psychological and social causes, Learning through the environment, Conditioning and evolutionary causes of phobias and the biological and social causes of criminal Behaviour.

Assessment

You will be assessed through two external examinations at the end of the course. The first exam for Unit 1 is 1 hour and 15 minutes and is worth 40% of your final mark. The second exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes and worth the remaining 60% of your mark. Both of these exams will take place at the end of the course and comprise of a variety of multiple-choice, short-answer question and long-answer questions.

There is no coursework for GCSE Psychology but you will be required to complete a number of short practical's throughout the course which will be internally assessed, helping you to develop skills to apply in the exam.

Skills

Psychology is the subject for you if you are strong in English, Maths and Science and you enjoy looking into the many reasons why individuals behave the way they do. Psychology will help you to develop your evaluative and interpretive skills as well as giving you an awareness of the many applications and implications of Psychology in everyday life. It will encourage you to develop an enquiring mind about human behaviour and develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and social, cultural, scientific and contemporary issues, and its impact on Everyday life

For any further questions see Miss Bharat.

