

Psychology Induction Lesson

Welcome to Psychology! We think this is the best subject there is and we think that not only will you love it but you will develop a deep understanding of human behaviours and insights into how to scientifically study the human condition.

Task 1: Define conformity

Task 2: List as many reasons as you can think of for why people might conform

Explanations of Conformity

Key Terms

1. ***Normative social influence***

Normative social influence is usually associated with compliance, where a person changes their public behaviour but not their private beliefs. For example, a person may feel pressurised to smoke because the rest of their friends are.

2. ***Informational social influence***

Informational Social Influence is where a person conforms to gain knowledge, or because they believe that someone else is 'right'.

Task 3: Here are some real-life examples of conformity. For each one, identify the different type(s) of conformity that are happening. You should try to explain your answers.

- a) It is Jim's first day of college, but he has arrived late and missed the part where a lecturer told all the new students what they should do during induction. He sees a group of students filing off towards a corridor and decides to follow them.

Type of conformity and explanation:

- b) Jenny has been to see a horror film with five of her new friends from college. After the film, the group are discussing how great it was. Jenny thought the film was pretty ordinary but joins in in praising it with the rest of the group.

Type of conformity and explanation:

- c) It's John's first day in sixth form. He got up early and got ready, had breakfast. Just before he was about to leave his friends begin to post photos of themselves online. He sees what they are wearing and decides he is not dressed smartly enough and then he changes his outfit.

Type of conformity and explanation:

Task 4: Summarise Asch's research into and findings about conformity.

Task 4: Another type of social influence we look at is obedience. Explain what Milgram concluded about obedience.

Preparation for September: Equipment

You will need an A4 folder for each of your two teachers. If you prefer, use a lever arch folder for both. You will be expected to bring your folder to each lesson so you might want to opt for 2 folders.

Dividers for your folders for each topic

A4 lined Paper/pens

Calculator

Textbook: The following textbook is essential for the course. If there is difficulty in purchasing this textbook then please speak to us. You can find these books online second hand, amongst other places and some Y13 students who have just sat their exams will also sell them on.

*AQA Psychology for A-level Year 1 & AS (3rd edition) Authors: Cara Flanagan, Dave Berry, Matt Jarvis, Rob Liddle
Publisher: Illuminate Publishing*

Revision Guide: The revision guide is not a compulsory purchase however it comes highly recommended and many students use this for revision and it helps them as it is accessible.

*AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS Revision Guide: 3rd Edition Paperback – 2025
by Cara Flanagan (Author), Matt Jarvis (Author), Michael Griffin (Author), Rob Liddle (Author)*

Summer Preparation Work

Research an area of psychology that you find interesting. Find a piece of psychological research that is particularly interesting to you. Make notes on it so that you can feed this back to the class when we return in September. You will want to consider the following points to outline:

Research Outline	Notes
Procedure	
Findings	
Evaluation	

You might find some research of interest to you from these sites:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb>

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/#gsc.tab=0>