

## Psychology Summer Assignment

*Your summer assignment must be submitted in the first lesson for this subject in September. The completion of this assignment is compulsory and we expect you to put every effort into completing it to the best of your ability. Failure to submit this assignment will jeopardise your place on this course.*

---

One of the areas you will be looking at will be memory. In order to answer the following questions, you will need to do independent research in text books and on the internet (TIP: A level psychology text books will help you find the answers to these questions). For the first two questions, you should give fairly short responses but a longer answer and more thought is needed for the last two questions. Guidance to what is expected from you as a psychology student and how you will be assessed follows the questions. **Please note the mark allocation when selecting how much to write for each question.**

1. Write a definition (in your own words) of **short term memory** and **long term memory**.  
(2 marks + 2 marks)
2. Explain how short and long term memory differ in **duration** (how long information can be stored in them) and **capacity** (how much information can they store)  
(3 marks + 3 marks)
3. Imagine you are a researcher who was interested in how many numbers people can remember when they are read out from a list and then recalled/ repeated back to the researcher straight away. Plan some form of investigation which will test this and describe how you would do this **in detail**; this means that if someone was to carry out your experiment have you given them enough information to do it exactly like you did it.  
(10 marks)
4. Once you have developed your idea, carry it out on your friends and family (5 people or participants minimum) and record your results. Marks will be allocated for a table of results (2 marks columns and rows need to be labelled) and an **appropriate** graph of the results (3 marks axis y and x must be correctly labelled and it must have a title).  
(5 marks)

**TOTAL MARKS AVAILABLE: 25**

## Assessment criteria

To produce work that meets these success criteria your answers must be clear and well detailed.

### Questions 1 & 2

Your answers must be based on existing psychological research (theories and/or studies).

This relates to Assessment Objective 1:

*Students should be able to recognise, recall and show understanding of scientific knowledge*

### Question 3

Precise reliability in your answer is essential. A good guide to this is whether someone else reading your account can do exactly what you are going to do when you carry out your investigation. Remember to include any materials you have used e.g. pen/paper.

This relates to Assessment Objective 3 (a):

*Students should therefore be able to describe ethical, safe and skillful practical techniques and processes, selecting appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods*

### Question 4

Ensure your results are presented clearly and that they are straightforward to understand and interpret.

This relates to Assessment Objective 3(b):

*Students should know how to make, record and communicate reliable and valid observations and measurements with appropriate precision and accuracy, through using primary and secondary sources*

## Grade boundaries

Grade	Marks
A*	23
A	21
B	19
C	17
D	15
E	13