

**Subject:** Psychology

**Course:** OCR A-Level Psychology

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**Something to Read:**

- Article that explores whether psychology is a science. [Is Psychology a science article](#)
  - Why are ethical considerations important in psychology? [Ethical considerations in psychology research](#)
  - Keep up to date with the latest news in Psychology: [Psychology Today News](#)
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**Something to Watch/Listen:**

- Introduction, what is psychology? [What is Psychology? 1](#) and [What is Psychology? 2](#)
  - What are ethics in psychology and why are they important? [Ethics in Psychology](#)
  - Controversial research, Milgram: [Milgram Experiment](#)
  - Controversial research, Zimbardo prison experiment: [The Stanford Prison Experiment](#)
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**Something to Write:**

**Task 1**

Psychologists use research to better understand mental processes and behaviour including how humans think and develop. Summarise what psychology is and how it is useful to real life settings and scenarios. Give examples of how psychology has enhanced the world we live in (for example, cognitive behaviour therapy, behaviour strategies in nursery settings)

**Task 2**

Ethics in psychology is a key part of psychological investigation, as researchers have the responsibility to ensure that their practice is morally correct and follow ethical guidelines and codes of practices. But, what happens when ethical guidelines are broken in the name of research? Is it right or wrong to break ethical guidelines so we can find out important information that may enhance our lives or society? What if the

rewards that may come from the research outweigh the cost of breaking ethical guidelines?

Write a summary of the following referencing key ideas from the text and videos:

- What are ethics in psychology? (Refer to the BPS)
- Why are ethics and following ethical guidelines a fundamental and essential part of psychological research?
- Explain how far you agree that it is important to always follow ethical guidelines when completing research in psychology

### **Task 3**

Psychology offers a wide range of potential research ideas. Some interesting ideas include exploring the effects of social media on mental health, the impact of childhood experiences on personality development or the role of advertising on shaping people's beliefs around stereotyping.

Describe at least one idea of a piece of research that you would find interesting to explore. Identify what it is, how you may research it, including who your participants would be and how you would conduct the research to answer the questions you have about the research area. You may wish to use an area we study in psychology, for example; issues in mental health, child development, attachment, why are some people more obedient than others, what makes a criminal?