



Pocono Mountain School District

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

PO Box 200 · Swiftwater, PA 18730 · 570-839-7121

Advanced Placement Psychology Summer Reading Assignment

Dear AP Psychology Student:

Congratulations on your enrollment in the Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology course. The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in science and practice.

Enrolled students are expected to take the Advanced Placement (AP) examination in May. The AP Psychology Exam includes a 70-minute multiple-choice section that accounts for two-thirds of the exam grade and a 50-minute free-response section made up of two questions that accounts for one-third of the exam grade. The tests are then scored by readers for the College Board and ETS in June and final scores are available to download in early July. Scores range from 1 to 5, with 3 or better considered as “passing”, and therefore eligible to receive college credit in many universities and colleges.

AP Psychology is designed to be taught at the college level. Consequently, some students may initially find the pace and workload difficult. To prepare for this transition, class expectations will be provided to students at the beginning of the school year.

There is a mandatory summer reading and related writing assignment required for all students enrolled in AP Psychology. Students are required to read the book listed below which is available in libraries, bookstores and online websites.

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Alexandria, VA.: Alexandria Library, 2007. Print.

Upon completion of the selected reading assignment, students will write a minimum two-page, typed, double spaced paper in APA format (cover page, abstract, paper, reference page) responding to the prompt below. You can familiarize yourself with APA format at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>.

Argue that Christopher has Asperger's Syndrome by providing details of the reasoning process in which Christopher engages to predict how his day will proceed. Support your argument with specific examples from the text. Discuss possible treatments/accommodations available for Asperger's Syndrome and whether or not you believe these would be effective in Christopher's case.

This assignment will be worth 10% of your first marking period grade and is due by Friday, September 9, 2016.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathleen Smith
Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Federal Programs
Pocono Mountain School District