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Print student name

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Period of the day

**STUDENT & PARENT  
NOTIFICATION FORM**

**AP Psychology  
2020-2021**

**I have read and understand the guidelines and expectations of the AP Psychology program (attached).**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Student Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/guardian Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

**THE STUDENT IS TO TURN IN THIS SIGNATURE PAGE  
DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL TO Mrs. Derwid**

# STUDENT & PARENT NOTIFICATION FORM

## AP PSYCHOLOGY – HILLSBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

**Dear Students & Parents:**

### **About the teacher.**

Mrs. Derwid has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Rutgers University and a Master's of Arts degree from Seton Hall University as well as a New Jersey Certificate for the Teaching of Psychology.

Mrs. Derwid's goals for the students in the course are to:

- Prepare each student in the class for the Advanced Placement Examination given in the spring of the year.
  - Do the best possible job teaching a course assuming this might be the only psychology course students will ever have.
  - Give the students thought provoking exercises throughout the course that they will remember and use for future life experiences.
- Each student will complete the summer assignment.** Students must get this assignment from the district website. Any exception to this must be cleared with Mrs. Derwid. The only exceptions granted are for transfer students who sign up for the course in late August or the first day of school. If an exception is granted, the work must be completed within 7 calendar days starting with the first day of school. This work must be done IN ADDITION to the normally required coursework during that time.
- Access to the Internet will be very important throughout the year.** Access from home is highly recommended. I urge the students to make use of the laptops given to them by the school. In the absence of home Internet access or the laptops it is important that the student use the computer access in the library to stay current with assignments, and class information.
- I strongly urge the student & parent to utilize Genesis** so that all may be aware of the student's grades and assignments. This provides excellent feedback on the progress of the student. Students should check their emails at least once a day, especially if they miss a class.
- AP Psychology is taught as a college course**, the same as Psychology 101 at any university. Psychology is concerned with understanding human behavior. We will cover every aspect of human behavior. Some of the topics are of a mature and sometimes controversial nature such as mental disorders, sexuality, racism, drug use, and other topics contained in a college Introduction to Psychology course. Feel confident that all topics and assignments will be handled in a professional manner by the instructor, but that discussion on such topics are necessary in the study of human behavior. Should you have any questions or concerns about the content of the course please contact the instructor.

- **A major goal of the course** is to prepare your student to take the National AP Exam given in May of each year. AP students can choose to take the exam for a fee. While colleges have different policies on acceptable passing scores, most will give three college credits for successful completion of the AP Exam. I want the students to set their goals high and begin the process of planning to take the exam. Sometimes in the spring the student's focus is skewed by other distractions or an end of the year slump in academic performance. I will expect the students to maintain a high level of concentration in the home stretch and finish the year with a successful effort on the AP Exam.
  
- **There are end of the course Practice Tests for AP Psychology.** Each and every student will take two cumulative AP Practice Tests to prepare for the AP Exam. These tests keep everyone on their toes, studying and focused. There are no exemptions from these tests, everyone will take them.
  
- **The text for the course** is the third edition of Myers' Psychology for AP Course by David Myers. It is one of the premier college textbooks in the country. Students are expected to read, take extensive notes and define the key terms from each unit as a prelude to class discussions. Often I will give a quiz on reading assignments. If the material is not read one's grade will suffer accordingly.
  
- **Grading.** Grading is done on a simple point value. Each test, quiz or assignment is worth a certain number of points which add up for the marking period total. The student's final grade is calculated by dividing the points earned by the total possible number of points available. The resulting percentage is the student's grade.

**AP PSYCHOLOGY - SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**  
**For 2020-2021 School Year**  
**Hillsborough High School – Lynne Lenches Derwid**

**Dear Students,**

Welcome to the world of AP Psychology. I hope you are excited to launch your journey into psychology. I want you to realize that you have signed up and **ADVANCED PLACEMENT** course. This will mean extra work and responsibility on your part. In an effort to prepare you for the upcoming year, it is important that you do summer work and actually begin the course. So, I have prepared an assignment for you that I expect you to complete prior to the start of school in September. This assignment is not optional, it is **MANDATORY**. It must be turned in by Wednesday, September 9, 2020 and it will be graded. Please follow all of the instructions below. **WARNING: I strongly suggest that you begin this work early in the summer, pace yourself and be careful that you do not wait until the week before to try to accomplish it.**

I expect you to do your own work; this is not a collaborative effort. While you may consult whatever resources you need (library, textbooks, and internet) you are **NOT** to work with another student. I have included a copy of the unit from our textbook in this assignment. Should you need more help, a trip to any library would be valuable, but I guarantee that the Internet has more than enough sites that can provide you with everything you need.

**Sincerely,**

**Lynne Lenches Derwid**  
**AP Psychology Instructor**

## **AP PSYCHOLOGY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

Before you do anything, read the **enclosed AP Psychology Parental & Student Notification Form**. Have your parent(s) or guardian(s) read it. Then, you both need to sign it. Turn it in the first week of school in September. I want to make sure both you and your parents understand some of the ground rules and expectations before you take this course.

**Assignment:** You are going to study a unit from our textbook. The textbook is called Myers' Psychology for AP\*Course, by David Myers. You are to read and study Unit 14 on Social Psychology; the textbook pages are included in this document. Social psychology is a fascinating study of how we think about, influence, and relate to one another. It is all about the "big picture" and how the world outside of us (events, situations and others) shapes what we do, think and feel. It is a unit that you can study on your own and see immediate relevance to your lives in the world. If you add the course later in the summer, you can contact me via email at [llenchesderwid@https.us](mailto:llenchesderwid@https.us).

### **Specifics**

**FIRST**, read Unit 14 thoroughly. Underline the key terms and concepts, make notes in the margins, draw arrows, stars, or do whatever works for you when you want to study written material.

**SECOND**, in your own HANDWRITING, in BLUE OR BLACK INK, 1. take thorough notes, making sure you understand the terms, major concepts and the psychological studies (and their authors). 2. identify the key terms in your own words and provide examples. Do more than just copy the terms and define them. **Do not use the word or a derivative of the word** in the definition. Although they may be in the notes you take, **you must have a separate, numbered list of the key terms** and their definitions in a folder or notebook that you will use for the entire year. These will be checked during the first week of school. They will help you prepare for the AP Exam in May.

**THIRD**, I have included 30 study questions. These questions need to be answered on sheets of lined paper, in your own HANDWRITING, in BLUE OR BLACK INK. Your answers should be handwritten, legible and in complete sentences. Make sure you provide SPECIFIC EXAMPLES for the terms and concepts. This is to be handed in on the first day of school and will be graded as an assignment.

**FOURTH**, know that during the first week or so of school, you will be given a test on the material in that unit. The test will consist of 50 multiple choice questions and one Free-Response (Essay) question. Make sure that you are prepared for this test. It will not be open notes nor can you use the answers you wrote for the 30 study questions.

**FIFTH**, let me strongly suggest you purchase a copy of **Barron's Guide to AP Psychology** which can be ordered at any bookstore for approximately \$20. It is an excellent study manual for AP Psychology and it will come in handy for test preparation during the course as well as the final AP Exam next May.

## Unit 14: Social Psychology Study Questions: To Be Turned In the First Day of School

**Directions:** Answer each of these questions on loose-leaf paper in blue or black ink. Neatly & legibly in your own handwriting, use complete sentences and give examples to illustrate the term/concept.

1. What is **attribution** theory?
2. Explain the **fundamental attribution error** and give three practical examples of it.
3. What is the **actor-observer bias**?
4. Our attitudes and actions are often contradictory. Under what conditions will our attitudes be consistent with our actions?
5. Explain the concept of **cognitive dissonance** and give an example.
6. Explain the **foot-in-the-door phenomenon** and give an example. How can this be used to get people to do some rather evil things? How about getting people to do positive things?
7. Look up Zimbardo's famous **Stanford Prison Study** (1972). What did he do? What were his findings? Why is his study so controversial?
8. The whole world knows about the abuses of Iraqi prisoners at the hands of the US military. Using what you have read from Milgram & Zimbardo's studies, explain why the soldiers behaved the way they did.
9. What is the **chameleon effect**? Give an example.
10. Solomon Asch did a famous "**Line segment**" **experiment** (1955) on conformity. Fully explain his experiment. Make a list of the factors that strengthen conformity and the factors that might diminish conformity. (An actual AP Exam essay question one year.)
11. Explain the difference between **normative influences** and **informational influences** on social behavior. Give an example of each.
12. Few studies in social psychology are more famous or controversial than that done by **Stanley Milgram (1963) on obedience**. Fully explain his study and list the factors that contribute to blind obedience and those that are necessary to resist blind obedience. (An actual AP Exam essay question one year.)
13. Explain **social facilitation** and provide three concrete examples.
14. Explain **social loafing** and why it might explain why most students hate group work.
15. What is **deindividuation** and give three concrete examples of it at work
16. What is **group polarization** and give an example.
17. Explain **groupthink** and give three examples.
18. Explain the terms "prejudice," "stereotypes" and "discrimination". Be clear in their differences.
19. Explain how the following all contribute to prejudice: **social inequalities, ingroup and outgroup bias, scapegoating, categorization, vivid cases (a.k.a the heuristic of representativeness), the just-world phenomenon (blame-the-victim)**
20. Explain what we know about the biology of aggression. Include Freud's theory, genetics and neural (brain) influences, biochemical influences and the role of alcohol.
21. Explain the **frustration-aggression principle**.
22. Explain what we know about how learning affects aggression, especially as it affects the young.
23. What does the research show about the effect video games have on aggression and violence?
24. Explain what a **social trap** is and how it contributes to conflict in the world. Give three examples.
25. What is the role of the following on relationships and attraction? **Proximity, the mere exposure effect, similarity.**
26. Explain the **equity theory** of love.
27. Discuss the factors that affect **altruism**. When are we likely to engage in altruistic (**prosocial**) behavior? (An actual AP Exam essay question.)
28. The **bystander effect** is an important concept. Explain it and list the factors that contribute to it as well as listing the factors that promote our coming to the aid of someone in need. (An actual AP Exam essay question.)
29. Explain the **social exchange theory** and provide an example.

30. Discuss Mustafafer Sherif's (1966) experiment with the boys at Boy Scout Camp. What was the role of **superordinate goals**? What does this tell us about fostering friendly relations among different social groups?