



Subject: Psychology Pre-University (Extension Material)

Know It (Knowledge)	Use It (Application)	Stretch It (Development)
<p>We do not study the impact of social media as part of the A-level course, but this is a very interesting area of study, where researchers are investigating a relatively new phenomenon. Carry out your own review of research in this area:</p> <p>What does research suggest overall?</p> <p>Is there a balance between potential positive and negative effects?</p>	<p>Watch the film 'Rainman' (1988) starring Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise. The film tells the story of a man developing a relationship with his brother – an autistic savant of whom he had previously been unaware.</p> <p>As you watch the film, think about how this links to the Cognition and Development topic, including concepts such as perspective taking.</p>	<p>Visit the American Psychological Society's free journal articles page Follow Link 2 (below).</p> <p>This site contains links to a whole world of contemporary research, with a wide variety of topics addressed. Select at least one article to read in full – this will inform you of the nature of psychological journals and reporting formats, crucial knowledge for your university studies!</p>
<p>Many students are interested in forensic psychology, with some considering this as their focus for study at university. This is not one of the topics that we study, but you have access to the materials through the digital textbook. Review the content, looking at the key areas of research and the ways in which different psychological approaches are applied.</p>	<p>Watch the film 'A Dangerous Method' (2011) starring Michael Fassbender and Keira Knightley. This film tells the story of the turbulent relationships between Carl Jung, Sigmund Freud and Sabina Spielrein, a patient of Jung's who subsequently became one of the first female psychoanalysts. Links to the approaches topic and the development of Psychology.</p>	<p>Watch a selection of the many TED talks that are available linking to the topic of cognitive neuroscience Follow Link 3 (below).</p> <p>This is a crucial area for current research in Psychology that is only addressed in limited depth at A-level. It is a fascinating area of research that is likely to feature more prominently in your course.</p>
<p>Watch the documentary 'BBC Mental: A History of the Madhouse' Follow Link 1 (below).</p> <p>As you watch, think about how the treatment of mental illness has changed over time. You could look at examples of modern-day institutions to provide a clearer contrast.</p>	<p>Watch the film 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest' (1975) starring Jack Nicholson. A criminal pleads insanity and is admitted to a mental institution, but things do not work out as he would have hoped. Links to the validity of diagnosis (as addressed in the schizophrenia topic).</p>	<p>Read the book 'How the Mind Works' by Steven Pinker (1997). In this book, the author (a leading cognitive scientist) brings together explanations from cognitive, evolutionary and other approaches to explain what the mind is, how it evolved and how it operates in our everyday lives.</p>

Links to websites used in this A-level extension sheet:

Link 1: BBC Mental: a History of the Madhouse – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00sfpvf>

Link 2: American Psychological Society free journal articles – <https://www.apa.org/pubs/highlights/sample/>

Link 3: Cognitive Neuroscience TED talks – <https://www.ted.com/talks?topics%5B%5D=cognitive+science>