

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL
AP PSYCHOLOGY
SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Perspectives

In the world of psychology there are several different perspectives that psychologists use to describe and explain human behavior and mental processes. You can think of these perspectives as different “lenses” you can wear to study psychology.

We will approach psychology from the following seven perspectives:

Biological, Evolutionary, Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic, Behavioral, Cognitive, Humanistic, and Sociocultural

For example, if you approach psychology from a biological perspective you might ask questions about how a person’s biology determines their behavior/thought processes. If you approach psychology from a sociocultural perspective you might try to explain a person’s behavior/thought processes by looking at how others may have influenced it.

Use the internet (remember to use credible sources!) to find information about each of the aforementioned perspectives in the field of psychology. For EACH of the following perspectives, you will answer the following questions and provide information on a famous psychologist/theorist related to that perspective. There is an example chart below, replicate the chart to record your answers. Charts have no size regulations, rather ensure the content is thorough and accurate.

1. What are the basic beliefs, assumptions, or approaches of the perspective?
2. Application
3. Who is a famous psychologist/psychological theorist associated with this particular perspective?
For each individual, include the following information: name, image, lifespan, specific area of study (1-5 word description), basics of the individual’s study/work/theory – include the names of any famous studies or theories they are particularly known for (**bold and underline these**)
4. Use each of the psychologists/theorists (one for each perspective) – Freud, Skinner, Loftus, Milgram, Sperry, Maslow, and Darwin
5. Be sure to identify your references

Example – Create a chart for each perspective like the one below. Yours does not have to look exactly like mine, but needs to include the listed elements.

Psychological Perspective	<i>Write one of the 7 perspectives from the list above (perspectives are in bold)</i>
Focus of the Perspective	<i>Define the approach with the theories, beliefs, and major points of the theory.</i>
Application	<i>This is a “real world” example and not just rewriting the focus / definition. Everyone will have different applications as you are CREATING them using the focus.</i>
Famous Psychologist - you are picking ONE of the people mentioned in item #4 above and including all of the information in item #3 **Each chart will have a different psychologist and ALL will be used one time.	
Reference	<i>List the website (s) of your source for each chart. There is no need for full citations. Be mindful of the sources you choose.</i>

You will create a chart for each focus using the items listed above. Don't let the size of the boxes fool you regarding the quantity of information!