

Starting with confidence >>

Psychology

The following is a list of activities you may like to do during your summer holidays, in preparation for studying Psychology.

- Are you someone who always likes to have a book 'on the go' and would not mind a few recommendations as to what might be worth reading
- Are you applying to study Psychology (or a related subject) at University and want to do some extra reading to beef up your Personal Statement?
- Are you someone who just enjoys the subject and wants to find out more?

Reading any (or all) of the following books will not necessarily enhance your chances of getting a better grade in A Level Psychology, but they would take your knowledge and understanding of the subject in general a bit further; they would also be interesting and enjoyable.

Non-fiction

Author(s)	Book Title	Subject Matter
David Canter	<i>Criminal Shadows</i>	Offender profiling
Lisa Genova	<i>Still Alice</i>	Alzheimer's disease
Ben Goldacre	<i>Bad Science</i>	How data presented in studies can be misleading – a lot less dry than it sounds!
Jon Ronson	<i>The Psychopath Test</i>	Psychopathy – an easy and fun read
Lauren Slater	<i>Opening Skinner's Box</i>	The stories behind some of the classic studies in Psychology
Richard Wiseman	<i>Quirkology</i>	Offbeat research in Psychology
Philip Zimbardo	<i>The Lucifer Effect</i>	How situational pressures can make good people do bad things
Walter Mischel	<i>The Marshmallow Test</i>	Why can some children resist temptation? Can we learn self-control?
Daniel Kahnemann	<i>Thinking Fast and Slow</i>	The unexpected ways we make decisions

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Fiction

Author(s)	Book Title	Subject Matter
Jonathan Coe	<i>The house of sleep</i>	Sleep abnormalities and obsessions
Fyodor Dostoevsky	<i>Crime and punishment</i>	Guilt – if you're up for a long read!
Mark Haddon	<i>The curious incident of the dog in the night-time</i>	A fictional account of a boy on the autistic spectrum
Ken Kesey	<i>One flew over the cuckoo's nest</i>	Life inside a mental hospital in the USA in the late 1950s / early 1960s
Lionel Shriver	<i>We need to talk about Kevin</i>	The psychology of high-school killings
Jed Rubinfeld	<i>The interpretation of Murder</i>	Freud visits New York and gets caught up in an interesting murder case
Emma Donoghue	<i>Room</i>	Attachment between parent and child, as well as the effects of isolation
Nathan Filer	<i>The Shock of the Fall</i>	A young man with psychosis