

# Stage 1 Psychology

## Science as a Human Endeavour Investigation

### Description of assessment

You will investigate a contemporary example of how psychological science interacts with society in relation to ***the use of psychedelics as a treatment for mental illness and emotional distress.***

### Task Requirements

You will use and acknowledge a variety of relevant sources to find data and information to support your chosen topic. Your research, findings and outcome should have a focus on **at least one** of the key concepts of Science as a Human Endeavour listed below:

<b>Communication and Collaboration</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Science is a global enterprise that relies on clear communication, international conventions, and review and verification of results.</li><li>• Collaboration between psychologists and stakeholders advances research and understanding. It requires shared evidence from many sources in a multidisciplinary approach.</li></ul>
<b>Development and Application</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developments in research and technology lead to advances in psychological understanding.</li><li>• The application of psychological understanding can enable scientists to develop solutions, design actions, and evaluate and respond to economic, sociocultural, and environmental factors.</li></ul>
<b>Influence</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Psychological knowledge and its application are both influenced by, and influence economic, sociocultural, religious, ideological, political and environmental perspectives in a local, national and global context.</li><li>• The use of psychological knowledge may have positive, negative, or unexpected consequences that require monitoring, assessment and evaluation. The use of psychological knowledge must take into account risks and ethical considerations.</li></ul>

### Your finished product should include the following:

- An **introduction** to identify the focus of the investigation and the aspect of science as a human endeavour that it links to.
- An **explanation of relevant psychological concepts** or background.
- An **explanation** of how the focus of the investigation illustrates **science as a human endeavour**.
- A **conclusion** with justification (discussion of potential impact e.g. further development, effect on quality of life, environmental implications, economic impact, intrinsic interest etc).
- **Citations and referencing.**

## Assessment Conditions

Based on your research, prepare a scientific text covering the above points. Your scientific text can take the form of:

- A report
- An article
- A blog
- A podcast
- An infographic
- An oral presentation
- A multimodal presentation

Your task should be limited to a maximum of 1000 words, a maximum of 6 minutes for an oral presentation, or the equivalent in multimodal form.

A draft of the assignment is to be submitted online via SEQTA.

## Potential Resources

Listed below are some potential resources to get you started. *You need to supplement this with your own research, you cannot just rely on these.*

- [Psychedelic microdosing investigated for pharmacological effect on the brain - ABC News](#)
- [Hallucinogens as treatment for PTSD, anxiety and depression | Department of Veterans' Affairs \(dva.gov.au\)](#)
- [Hallucinogens for Severe Depression | Psychedelic Drugs & Depression \(healthgrades.com\)](#)
- [Hallucinogens and Depression | Psychology Today](#)

Make sure all sources are credible. The online databases available through the SMC library page also contain a good range of credible articles.

## Scaffold for SHE task

There are some important features in the subject outline that need to be addressed in the science as a human endeavour report. The following questions will help to guide you through those features.

<b>Introduction</b> 50 words		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why is this important?</li> <li>● The topic stated clearly - link your focus to the relevant topic</li> <li>● SHE concept is <b>explicitly</b> stated (<i>italicised</i> is advised)</li> <li>● Briefly explain how to focus of your investigation will show the interaction between <b>science and society</b></li> <li>● How will your discussion of the purpose, potential impact, or application lead psychology to further understand complex problems and challenges globally in the future? (e.g. effect on society, environment, economic impact, technological impact and further development)</li> </ul>		
<b>Background Science</b> 100 words		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Concise and coherent explanation of the psychological concept(s) involved</li> <li>● Outline: who, what, where, when, why (be clear what the recent discovery, innovation, issue or advance is)</li> <li>● Not just facts and figures</li> </ul>		
<b>Context Specific Science</b> 50 words		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are the scientists looking at <b>doing</b>? <b>How</b> are they doing it?</li> <li>● Explain the recent discovery, innovation, problem etc. in the context of the research you found</li> </ul>		
<b>Select one or two <u>SHE Concepts</u> to focus on:</b> 600 words		
<b>Communication &amp; Collaboration</b>	<b>Development &amp; Application</b>	<b>Influence</b>
<p><b>Collaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How was this collaboration done?</li> <li>● International Collaboration?</li> <li>● Local collaboration?</li> <li>● Benefits/risks that arise from international/local collaborations?</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How is the finding communicated to the public?</li> <li>● How are the organisations involved communicating to one another?</li> <li>● Who has access to this information?</li> <li>● Review/verification of results? (peer reviewed)</li> </ul> <p>Must all link to: <i>What impact</i></p>	<p><b>Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Psychology concepts linked to improving</li> <li>● Links to society - benefits/detrimental impacts</li> <li>● Sustainability (future focus)</li> <li>● Discuss how developments inform public debate/opinion</li> <li>● Development of scientific theories requires a wide range of sources/evidence (describe/discuss)</li> </ul> <p><b>Application:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How have developments been utilised to solve problems? Who is impacted? Who has access to these applications?</li> <li>● Who or what might resist the change of these developments?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Influence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A discussion of how advances in psychological understanding are <b>influenced by</b> economic, sociocultural, religious, ecological, environmental, sustainable, ideological and political perspectives in a local, national and global context.</li> <li>● How are these factors influenced by the findings?</li> <li>● How do the findings influence these factors?</li> <li>● Describe the influences of other fields involved in the research</li> </ul> <p>Must all link to: <i>What impact does this have on society?</i></p>

does <i>this</i> have on society?	Must all link to: <i>What impact does this have on society?</i>	
<b>Impact on Societal Groups and Conclusion</b> 200 words		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss areas requiring further development</li> <li>● Identify different interest groups who are affected. E.g. International communities (e.g. UN, WHO, big business), federal government, state government, local (workplaces/schools), cultural groups, family/friendship groups, individuals.</li> <li>● Describe the different types of impacts e.g. health, economic, sociocultural, environmental, etc.</li> <li>● Describe the effect on quality of life, intrinsic interest</li> </ul>		

<b>Referencing</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Check all referencing is included (APA or Harvard preferred - consistency is key)</li> <li>● In-text referencing and reference list</li> <li>● Ensure all images are references and are relevant (i.e. explain, connect, enhance your discussion of a topic)</li> <li>● Don't just use images for appearance/presentation if not relevant</li> <li>● Try to use a variety of sources: news articles, journal articles, credible websites</li> <li>● Avoid wikipedia, non-credible news sites...</li> </ul>

## Stage 1 Psychology Performance Standards

	Investigation, Analysis, and Evaluation	Knowledge and Application
<b>A</b>	<p>Critically deconstructs a problem and designs a logical, coherent, and detailed psychological investigation.</p> <p>Accurately and thoroughly obtains, records, and represents data.</p> <p>Systematically analyses and interprets data and evidence to formulate logical conclusions with detailed justification.</p> <p>Critically and logically evaluates procedures and their effect on data.</p>	<p>Demonstrates deep and broad knowledge and understanding of a range of psychological concepts.</p> <p>Applies psychological concepts highly effectively in diverse contexts.</p> <p>Critically explores and understands in depth the interaction between science and society.</p> <p>Communicates knowledge and understanding of psychology coherently, with highly effective use of appropriate terms, conventions, and representations.</p>
<b>B</b>	<p>Logically deconstructs a problem and designs a well-considered and clear psychological investigation.</p> <p>Logically obtains, records, and represents data.</p> <p>Logically analyses and interprets data and evidence to formulate suitable conclusions with reasonable justification.</p> <p>Logically evaluates procedures and their effect on data.</p>	<p>Demonstrates some depth and breadth of knowledge and understanding of a range of psychological concepts.</p> <p>Applies psychological concepts mostly effectively in diverse contexts.</p> <p>Logically explores and understands in some depth the interaction between science and society.</p> <p>Communicates knowledge and understanding of psychology mostly coherently, with effective use of appropriate terms, conventions, and representations.</p>
<b>C</b>	<p>Deconstructs a problem and designs a considered and generally clear psychological investigation.</p> <p>Obtains, records, and represents data with some errors.</p> <p>Undertakes some analysis and interpretation of data and evidence to formulate generally appropriate conclusions with some justification.</p> <p>Evaluates procedures and some of their effect on data.</p>	<p>Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of a general range of psychological concepts.</p> <p>Applies psychological concepts generally effectively in diverse contexts.</p> <p>Explores and understands aspects of the interaction between science and society.</p> <p>Communicates knowledge and understanding of psychology generally effectively, using some appropriate terms, conventions, and representations.</p>
<b>D</b>	<p>Prepares a basic deconstruction of a problem and an outline of a psychological investigation.</p> <p>Obtains, records, and represents data with occasional accuracy and effectiveness.</p> <p>Describes data and undertakes some basic interpretation to formulate a basic conclusion.</p> <p>Attempts to evaluate procedures or suggest an effect on data.</p>	<p>Demonstrates some basic knowledge and partial understanding of psychological concepts.</p> <p>Applies some psychological concepts.</p> <p>Partially explores and recognises aspects of the interaction between science and society.</p> <p>Communicates basic psychological information, using some appropriate terms, conventions, and/or representations.</p>
<b>E</b>	<p>Attempts a simple deconstruction of a problem and a procedure for a psychological investigation.</p> <p>Attempts to record and represent some data.</p> <p>Attempts to describe results and/or interpret data to formulate a basic conclusion.</p> <p>Acknowledges that procedures affect data.</p>	<p>Demonstrates limited recognition and awareness of psychological concepts.</p> <p>Attempts to apply psychological concepts.</p> <p>Attempts to explore and identify an aspect of the interaction between science and society.</p> <p>Attempts to communicate information about psychology.</p>