

Reading Assignment 1

- I. **About the Reading Assignment:** A reading list is created for the Reading Assignment (please refer to Page 2) containing 9 papers focusing on different arguments of Psychology. Some broad theoretical questions would be asked based on these arguments, Students needs to go through these readings, take a stand on answering these questions, and provide insightful justification in favor of their opinion.

The questions provided below are guidelines for structuring the answers. You can write your answers over and above these questions based on your understanding of the arguments this reading list discusses.

- II. **Guideline for Assignment Formatting:** Please follow the guidelines below while formatting your assignment.

- **Word Limit:** The minimum word limit for this assignment should be at least 1000 words. No upper word limit is given in this assignment.
- **Outline of the Assignment:** The assignment should focus on answering the questions asked (please refer to page 3), but it should NOT be limited to that. Answering all the questions is compulsory. The answer should be crafted from the papers attached to the reading list.
- **Formatting:** The answers should be divided into three parts: Introduction, Main Points, and Conclusion.
- **Plagiarism:** Please refrain from using any online AI software or copying from peers. Plagiarism of any shape or form will be strictly penalized for a 5-mark deduction.

- III. **Guideline for Assignment Submission:** Please follow the guidelines below while submitting your assignment.

- **Deadline:** September 11, 2023 (Monday). Time: 11:59 PM. No further Extension will be permitted. Late submission will attract a serious penalty.

- **File Submission Format:** The assignment must be submitted in *one MS Word file* containing all three subsections. Submission file should be named as “Assg1_(EntryNo)_(Name)”
- **Submission Platform:** MS Teams. (The submission link on the platform will be activated soon).

IV. Marking Scheme:

Reading Assignment 1 will be evaluated out of 15 Marks.

Reading List:

- Libet B, Gleason CA, Wright EW, Pearl DK. Time of conscious intention to act in relation to onset of cerebral activity (readiness-potential). The unconscious initiation of a freely voluntary act. *Brain*. 1983 Sep;106 (Pt 3):623-42.
- Haggard P. Conscious intention and motor cognition. *Trends Cogn Sci*. 2005 Jun;9(6):290-5.
- Libet, Benjamin W. (1999). Do we have free will? *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 6 (8-9):47-57.
- Burgess PW, Dumontheil I, Gilbert SJ. The gateway hypothesis of rostral prefrontal cortex (area 10) function. *Trends Cogn Sci*. 2007 Jul;11(7):290-8.
- Aron, A. R., Robbins, T. W., & Poldrack, R. A. (2004). Inhibition and the right inferior frontal cortex. *Trends in cognitive sciences*, 8(4), 170–177.
- Sperry, R.W. (1976). Mental Phenomena as Causal Determinants in Brain Function. In: Globus, G.G., Maxwell, G., Savodnik, I. (eds) *Consciousness and the Brain*. Springer, Boston, MA.
- Sperry RW. Mind-brain interaction: mentalism, yes; dualism, no. *Neuroscience*. 1980;5(2):195-206.
- Crick, F., Koch, C. A framework for consciousness. *Nat Neurosci* **6**, 119–126 (2003).
- Crick F, Koch C. Consciousness and neuroscience. *Cereb Cortex*. 1998 Mar;8(2):97-107.

PDFs of these papers will be uploaded to the OneDrive folder shared with you.

Question Format:

1. What is your viewpoint on the role of unconscious processes in shaping our intentions and decisions, and how does this relate to our perception of free will?
2. What are your opinions on the role of PFC in behavior, and how does this influence our understanding in cognitive control processing?
3. What are your opinions on the role of mental phenomena in shaping brain function, and how does this perspective influence our understanding of the mind-brain relationship?
4. What are your opinions on the role of a structured and comprehensive approach to understanding consciousness, and how does it shape our understanding of the neural correlates of consciousness?