

You are going to read an article in which four people who study psychology at university talk about their course. questions **47 – 56**, choose from the students (**A – D**). The students may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which student mentions feeling

concerned about the breadth of the subject?

47	
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unsure about how useful the skills developed on the course would be?

48	
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surprised by how scientific the course was?

49	
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frustrated by a lack of definite answers?

50	
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amused by certain perceptions of the subject?

51	
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inspired by the opportunity to work independently?

52	
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proud to have made a difficult decision?

53	
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appreciative of the support available?

54	
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impressed by the popularity of the course?

55	
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fascinated by a particular topic area within psychology?

56	
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Studying psychology

A

When I was at school and still considering whether to apply to do psychology, a teacher warned me that it involved a great deal of science. I didn't realise at the time, though, the extent to which it does relate to science. Given the rather superficial understanding of psychology that most non-specialists have, however, perhaps it's to be expected that people have little idea of the amount of science that it involves. But whatever area of psychology you're talking about – and there are many of them – I soon discovered that there are always numbers, statistics, trials and evidence to get to grips with, and in the process of doing so, you develop a repertoire of competencies. When I first walked into a psychology lecture and saw that every seat in the auditorium was taken, I was stunned. I've got used to that over the three years of my degree and it's reassuring in a way to think that there are many other people my age who recognise both the practical and sheer interest value to be gained from the subject.

B

When I tell people I'm studying psychology, they often say things like 'Can you read my mind, then?' or 'Can you give me some advice about a problem?' This used to get on my nerves. How could anyone be so ignorant, particularly given the large numbers of people that study psychology? I tend to see the humorous side of it these days, though. One plus is the wide ground that psychology covers – more than most would imagine – from genetics to the psychology of organisations. The latter might not sound very glamorous, but it's something that intrigues me greatly and, hopefully, is an area I can find employment in at some point. Whatever aspect of psychology you look at, however, it's important to take a critical approach. That's drummed into us from the word go. We're also always encouraged to work with other students, as well as on our own, and to seek advice from our tutors whenever we're faced with anything we feel we can't deal with by ourselves. This has been tremendous for me personally.

C

At school, the idea of being a doctor had always appealed to me. A few months into my first year studying medicine, however, I began to feel that I wasn't suited to it after all, and I managed to switch to psychology. It was quite traumatic, giving up the prospect of a great career and disappointing my parents. They had very little idea about what my new subject involved and whether I'd learn anything from it that could set me up for a good job. To be honest, I was far from convinced myself initially. With hindsight, however, I know I did the right thing, and I derive a certain satisfaction from having gone ahead with the move. Frankly, it puzzles me why more people don't end up doing the same. There's so much to psychology, including a scientific emphasis, which, given my background, I'm comfortable with. It can take you down all sorts of exciting career paths.

D

It would be wrong to say that I had a clear idea about what a psychology degree entailed when I applied to do one, but I think I made the right choice. At school, I loved science and I was advised that, although people often don't think of psychology as a science, it would suit me – and that proved to be the case. One thing about my degree is that it's incredibly diverse. The terms *neuro-*, *educational*, *forensic*, *clinical* and *sports*, for example, all precede *psychology* to describe well-established fields, and I must admit that, initially, I found this somewhat overwhelming. I also struggled with the notion that any idea or 'fact' has to be endlessly cross-examined and debated, to the extent that you doubt whether you know anything for certain. This still irritates me sometimes, but I can live with it. I'm in my third year now, and doing a project which involves some research and then delivering a presentation and submitting a written report. It's complex, but doing it on my own is exciting and has made me think about a career in which research plays a part.



You will hear part of a podcast by a biologist, called Dr Larry Clark, on the subject of butterflies. For questions 7 – 14, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

BUTTERFLIES

Larry explains that butterflies are less effective than (7) at
pollinating plants.

Larry has done research into plants that have a strong (8) and how
they attract butterflies.

Larry points out that butterflies are a vital link in the (9) , both as a
prey and predators.

Butterflies can be a good form of (10) , which means they can be a
benefit to farmers.

Butterflies are known by scientists to be good indicators of (11)

A type of butterfly called the Checkerspot now populates areas at (12)
than in the past.

Butterflies can attract (13) to an area and boost the local economy.

The European Meadow Brown butterfly produces a natural (14)
which may be of use to humans.

For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each gap. 1

Saying 'Thank you'

If you do someone a (0), you might assume they would normally say 'Thank you'. However, recordings of more than a thousand casual conversations between friends and family around the world (1) that this is not necessarily the (2)

A study of how often people (3) gratitude for a relatively trivial act found that 'Thank you', or words with the same meaning, occurred only once in every 20 interactions. There were some differences between the eight languages recorded, but even in the language which featured 'Thank you' most, it was only observed in 14% of exchanges. The researchers say 'Thank you' is (4) for unusual requests, and they also point to its standard use in more formal (5)

Experts believe the global reluctance to (6) helpful acts does not indicate rudeness. Rather, it demonstrates that close-knit groups take co-operation for (7) 'Social life (8) because it is in our nature to ask for help and pay back in kind, rather than just words,' said a researcher. 'There is an unspoken agreement that people will co-operate.'

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|---|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | A display | B uncover | C expose | D reveal |
| 2 | A point | B matter | C case | D event |
| 3 | A assert | B express | C utter | D announce |
| 4 | A reserved | B devoted | C engaged | D maintained |
| 5 | A backgrounds | B settings | C sites | D frames |
| 6 | A admit | B realise | C perceive | D acknowledge |
| 7 | A given | B agreed | C granted | D established |
| 8 | A thrives | B grows | C booms | D shines |

For questions 9 – 16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap.

Manuka honey

Manuka honey, produced in New Zealand by bees that pollinate the manuka tree, has become highly sought (0) as an alternative medicine. It is claimed to be effective in treating allergies, colds, flu, sore throats, infections and wounds. With a jar of genuine, undiluted manuka costing (9) to £100 in the UK, for example, it's (10) wonder that the food industry calls it 'liquid gold'.

But (11) beneficial is manuka in reality? The evidence is limited on (12) or not it helps with high cholesterol, diabetes and gastrointestinal problems – all conditions for (13) it has been marketed as an answer. But reputable studies have concluded that it can protect (14) damage caused by bacteria.

However, scientists are generally sceptical. '(15) benefits it may have in theory, or may be shown in laboratory trials, you need to think about volume,' says one. 'To obtain a significant antibacterial effect, you would need to consume huge quantities of high-grade manuka. And it's not as (16) the health benefits of manuka aren't available in other much cheaper foods and supplements.'