**Mini Research Project: Psycholinguistics**

**Psychology Presentation materials due: ­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

For this project you will explore a question related to psycholinguistics, develop an answer based on your research, and present your findings to the class. You will research and actual debated question in psycholinguistics and related fields (anthropology, animal behavior, sociology, education, etc.). You and a small group of your classmates will conduct research and create a 4-5 minute presentation to deliver to the class.

Each group must research and present on a different question. It is possible for groups to explore the same general topic area, but you will need to create unique questions.

**Possible research questions/topics:**

The questions listed here are intended to get you thinking about the project you will complete. You may need to narrow the question, or you may want to shape your question so that it asks about a topic you are especially interested in. Your group will need to negotiate your research question and report to me what it is. If you interested in a topic that is not listed here, please ask me about it!

* Do animals use language?
* How do animals communicate?
* How do children learn to read?
* How do we use symbol systems other than formal language to communicate and make meaning of the world?
* What language issues (dyslexia or dysgraphia, for example) interfere with school performance?
* What are the psychological effects of illiteracy in the US?
* When should additional (2nd, 3rd?) languages be taught in schools? How should they be taught?
* What are the causes/effects of specific language disorders?
* What kinds of treatments, procedures, or rehabilitation are used with language disorders?
* How is technology changing language?
* In what ways has the English language changed within a given time period, why and with what consequences?
* How do bilingual/multilingual people think differently than monolingual people?
* How does the brain understand and/or create language?
* What is the importance of body language in communication?
* How is language used to persuade people (to buy products, to believe ideas, to vote in certain ways, to act in certain ways??)?
* Why do languages “die” and what are the consequences?
* How is language connected with cultural or individual identity?
* How do people code switch and with what effects?
* See me with your ideas!

**Project criteria (see rubric for grading specifics):**

* Conduct research to develop your position and that answers the question:
  + Clearly state your specific research question and position (answers) in your presentation.
  + Provide evidence to support your position in your presentation.
  + Define your terms so we understand what you are talking about.
* Think of a creative and interesting way to present your research. You can use PowerPoint, Prezi, or make a video. NO GOOGLE SLIDES, please. Talk to me about your ideas!
* Every group member must participate in all parts of the project.
* Create a VISUAL presentation—**don’t** just talk to us or show us words on slides. Create your presentation in an original, entertaining way.
* Use a minimum of 4 sources for your research. Cite your sources using MLA or APA citation style. Include a Works Cited slide or somehow clearly reference the sources you used.
* **At the beginning of the class period on the due date**, email me ([kara.lycke@psd150.org](mailto:kara.lycke@psd150.org)) or turn in your final presentation materials. Your group will be assigned an actual presentation date. If your group does not turn in all presentation materials or is not ready to present on the due date, 10% will be deducted from your grade for each day you delay.

TO GET STARTED:

* Meet with your group.
* Decide on a question everyone is interested in learning more about.
* Exchange contact information.
* Divide up the work—everyone is equally responsible for the product. No one is ready to present until everyone is ready to present.

**Groups**

#1

Mariana

Zach S.

Lexi

Destani G.

#2

Noah

Kasidy

Jenaya

Kianna

#3

Katie

Kedijah

Murphy

Thomas

#4

Julie Anne

Tyrail

Nevaeh

James

#5

Arneisha

Sean

Aarianna

Travis

#6

Madi

Zach G

Anitra

Destyni C.

**Mini Research Project: Psycholinguistics**

**Topic Request**

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ Group Members \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your research question: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What are your group members’ current thoughts, ideas, and/or opinions about the topic?

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What questions does your group have about the project at this point? How can I help you get started? What resources do you need?

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