

What was the biggest factor contributing to a trauma response during the Holocaust?

My project will be investigating what the biggest cause of a trauma response was in the holocaust, this includes unpacking the different types of abuse that the victims endured. Starting with the best-known types, e.g. physical, emotional, then progressing onto things like sexual and discriminatory, of which may be less known about. Then I went on to explain that actually, there are different trauma responses for different events, e.g. acute and chronic. From this I concluded that rather than being one singular event or moral break, it was instead a mixture of them all being endured for a long time that led to the generational impact that the Holocaust had on civilizations.

Charlotte Acton



To what extent has the Taliban regime shaped or silenced Afghan women?

This EPQ argues that the Taliban have systematically silenced Afghan women through restrictions on education, speech and freedom of movement. Using feminist legal theory, intersectionality, and international human rights law, it argues that restrictions on education, speech, and movement form a system of gender-based exclusion designed to remove women from public life.

Yet silencing is only part of the story. Through women-only support networks, the matricentric feminist concept of subversive child rearing and legal reforms, Afghan women continue to shape their communities and futures despite these constraints. Their agency demonstrates that oppression has not eradicated resistance.

Ultimately, the future of women's rights in Afghanistan will depend not only on international legal protections and political action, but on recognising, amplifying and supporting the agency of Afghan women themselves. I hope to shine light on these silent revolutions and thus we must take note of these windows of opportunities and build on the agency exhibited by women inside Afghanistan charting the future trajectory of their country. Ultimately, change must come from within by dismantling the barriers that seem impregnable today, from the outside.

Zara Acum



Nature, nurture, or both? Investigating the factors influencing intelligence

The project extends learning beyond A-level Psychology by requiring deeper engagement with the nature–nurture debate, heritability research, and genetic–environment interactions than is covered in the specification. It demands critical analysis of scientific studies, research methods, and conflicting evidence, which provides appropriate stretch and challenge. The topic also links strongly to the student’s personal interest in cognitive development, allowing them to build on their knowledge while moving into higher-level academic material. My confirmed title for my EPQ project is: Nature, nurture, or both? Investigating the factors influencing intelligence. All my sources were referenced and were explained in detail as to why they would be useful in providing evidence for my chosen question.

Aminah Ahmed



To what extent can training, nutrition, and supplementation be scientifically and mathematically optimised for muscle hypertrophy in adolescents?

This project investigates the extent to which training, nutrition, and supplementation can be scientifically and mathematically optimised to maximise muscle hypertrophy in adolescents. The study explores the biological mechanisms involved in muscle growth, including muscle fibre types, mTOR signalling, hormonal influences, and satellite cell activity. It also examines the role of nutrition through protein intake, amino acid availability, and supplementation, with a particular focus on creatine and other commonly used products. Mathematical concepts such as volume-load calculations and dose–response relationships are used to assess how training variables can be structured and quantified. A five-week observational primary research phase was also conducted, tracking protein intake, training volume-load, and strength changes. Findings suggest that several factors influencing hypertrophy can be optimised through evidence-based approaches; however, biological development, ethical considerations, and individual variability create limitations that prevent complete optimisation in adolescent populations.

Iffath Ahmed



Can money really buy happiness?

This EPQ explores whether money can truly buy happiness by examining the relationship between wealth and emotional well-being. Research from a variety of academic studies and other literature pieces, consisting of psychology, sociology and economics was used to investigate how money affects life satisfaction and mental health. The project considers both the benefits money brings, such as financial security and reduced stress, as well as its limitations in crafting long-term happiness. It also explores the importance of non-material factors, for example relationships and personal fulfilment. The findings suggest that there is a certain extent of happiness that money can buy, particularly when basic needs are unmet, but lasting happiness depends on a balance of financial and emotional well-being.

Mariam Ahmed



An Analysis of C418's Profound Impact On The Indie Video-Game Landscape.

This project aims to provide an in-depth analysis of the direct and indirect influence of Daniel Rosenfeld - better known by the pseudonym C418- on the indie video-game landscape, focusing primarily on his musical contributions to the growth and popularity of Minecraft. I will be investigating different applications of sound design in the soundtrack, including the use of foley* and instruments, and the process of how C418 was able to craft a soundtrack that has been cemented into video game history.

Through examination of Rosenfeld's works along with other prominent composers for Minecraft, I plan to make comparisons that could highlight the influence of C418 on these composers, and what similarities are present in their work. These composers are Lena Raine and Aaron Cherof. The final key focus will be how modern games have created soundtracks that imitate the style of Minecraft, possessing distinguishable qualities that Minecraft is renowned for.

Calvin Anderson



To what extent does aerodynamic body work and driver body positioning affect the lap times of senior Rotax karts?

The aim of this project was to explore the effect of aerodynamic body work and driver positioning and movements within the kart on lap times of the senior Rotax class. Using a combination of academic papers, websites and personal knowledge, my findings showed that the drivers' movements can have a positive impact on improving lap times as they can assist weight transfer and help rotate the kart into corners. Aerodynamic body work is also key for minimizing drag allowing higher speed to be achieved on straights. Overall, my project concludes that while driver body positioning can benefit lap times, aerodynamic body work is the most vital factor as it determines the karts efficiency and speed potential.

Ollie Baker



To what extent do organ donations positively impact patient outcomes in transplant medicine?

Through the investigation of pivotal complications within organ donation including the transplanted organ attacking the recipient's body in graft-versus host disease, yet the phenomenon of a transplanted uterus allowing a female to carry and deliver her child, this project aims to evaluate the effectiveness of organ transplants as a form of treatment both physically and psychologically. Additionally, the dissertation reflects on several factors that could influence the success of a transplantation, including how the organ is transported from the donor to the recipient, the sex of the donor and how probable it is that these occur using primary research.

Lily Batch



What did the Nazi party do to convince their country they were right with what they were doing?

My EPQ project focuses the different ways Nazis gained power and support alongside how German citizens may have felt from the amount that the Nazis did to rise to power. It includes different ways that the Nazis used control over Germans and Propaganda to gain their power before and during WWII. Through all of this it also explores how Nazis ensured people felt terror if they supported any other party during the 1930s. They ensured people would comply with the Nazi Partys rules even if they disagreed as the Nazis had instilled panic into the minds of citizens if they went against Hitler. All these things have been explored throughout my project with the help of sources and analysation; this has helped support my claim of the Nazis moderation of Laws to make themselves seem like better people while also making German citizens fearful of stepping out of line.

Liv Batty



What are the effects of Period Poverty on women in Hull and the local area?

This project focuses on the effects of period poverty on the women of Hull. My aim was to address the extent of the impact it has on young girls and women. It has been found that this is a major problem even in developed countries, and many in the local area have struggled with it. The study concludes that it will continue to be an issue until the Uk government provides period products in all public spaces, allowing women to not worry about purchasing them at an unreasonable fee.

Tilly-Rose Berriman-Russell



To what extent did political and societal views influence Western architecture between the 18th - 20th centuries?

In this report, I have investigated the various influences on architecture between the 18th and 20th centuries, specifically in the West of the world. I have discussed the impact of political and societal views, technology, historical and cultural significant and the importance of aesthetics and the architect. I discussed examples of ways in which each factor has influenced architecture, including a study on 20th century Hungarian architecture, and concluded whether political and societal views had a strong impact on architecture, or whether it was alternative factors such as technology and aesthetics which have dictated architectural design.

Bethan Binsley



To what extent are African Americans disproportionately disadvantaged in the application of capital sentencing in the United States?

This project investigates the extent to which African Americans disproportionately face racial disparities in capital sentencing in the United States by analysing social, legal and systemic factors that may have an impact on the influence of who receives the death penalty. Although the death penalty's underlying aim is to be implemented depending on the gravity of the crime, the analysis of statistical evidence and legal challenges hints that racial discrepancies could sway sentencing outcomes.

Additionally, by analysing key Supreme Court rulings concerning racial bias and capital sentencing alongside sentencing data from states where the death penalty remains in use. OT evaluates the impact of factors for instance, the quality of legal representation, the race of the victim, socioeconomic status, examining if disparities can be explained by legal variables alone or indicate an implicit bias or systemic bias.

Keisha Boateng



Are African Americans disproportionately disadvantaged when it comes to facing capital sentencing?

This project investigates the extent to which African Americans disproportionately face racial disparities in capital sentencing in the United States by analysing social, legal and systemic factors that may have an impact on the influence of who receives the death penalty. Although the death penalty's underlying aim is to be implemented depending on the gravity of the crime, the analysis of statistical evidence and legal challenges hints that racial discrepancies could sway sentencing outcomes.

Keisha Boateng



Should transgender people be treated as their gender identity in single-sex spaces?

Within the 21st century, Western politics has become fixated on the finding an accurate definition for a man and a woman to determine the rights of transgender people in single-sex spaces. As of April 16th, 2025, the Equality Act, 2010, was altered to define gender as an individual's natal sex.

This report intends to utilise research papers and government statistics to compare the psychological anatomy and function, physiology, and safety of transgender people to that of cisgender people in order to evaluate the extent to which transgender people should be able to access single-sex spaces aligning with their gender identity. An analysis of these sources suggests that the psychology of transgender people aligns with their gender identity rather than their natal sex, and that the safety of a transgender person is improved when utilising public facilities aligning with their gender identity. While transgender men experience no biological advantage in men's sports categories, more effective methods of measuring absolute strength must be developed to fully evaluate whether transgender women should be permitted to compete in women's sports categories after 2.5 years of taking hormone replacement therapy.

Declan Bradbruy



Vaccine Hesitancy in the Post-COVID Era: Misinformation, Mistrust or Personal Choice?

Vaccine hesitancy has been around as long as the first vaccine. However, it still remains as relevant to this day. As COVID-19 took the world by storm, scientists worked tirelessly to produce a safe and effective vaccine - however, some people said no. This project investigated the primary reasons for Covid vaccine hesitancy, considering the role of social media and media misinformation, mistrust in government and vaccine developers as well as other factors such as ethics and religion. The essay concludes that, when misinformation and mistrust in those protecting us intertwine, hesitancy can soon follow.

Katy Brown



To what extent has green chemistry succeeded in reducing the environmental impact of chemical manufacturing?

Green Chemistry was first introduced in 1991 and looks to reduce the environmental impacts of chemical processes. This report aims to evaluate the main principles of Green Chemistry; understanding how well they have been implemented in chemical manufacturing. This report looks at evidence of the success of where the idea of Green Chemistry has been applied but also things that prevent a chemical manufacturing company or process becoming greener. Ultimately, deciding whether Green Chemistry has been successful or not by using statistics and other measures to see if the environmental impacts of chemical manufacturing have been reduced.

Oscar Brown



Did Elizabeth the 1st's reign truly represent a Golden Age in the years 1558-1603?

This report focuses on Queen Elizabeth the 1st and her reign during the so-called 'Golden Age' by assessing the negatives and positives of the Elizabethan period. It aims to highlight the different aspects of society which contributed to Elizabeth's reign such as international relations, religious differences and Elizabeth's royal court, all of which are extremely important factors to consider when assessing the overarching question of the 'Golden Age'. While Elizabeth did have an overall positive experience as monarch of England, did her reign bring about a period of prosperity or change? Was it all propaganda to cover up mass corruption of the monarchy? This report aims to express these doubts about Elizabeth by assessing certain aspects of society which could have contributed to her 'Golden Age'.

Izzy Buckle



Was Anne Boleyn an ambitious schemer or simply a victim of her political views?

My EPQ essay explores the reasonings surrounding Anne Boleyn's death and how she was viewed previously compared to now. I have explored this using four different subheadings to evaluate these points and come to an evaluative conclusion. I have explored Anne's role in the royal court and her involvement in altering the politics of the time. Another subheading I have explored is the reasonings that Henry VIII gave in relation to the order for Anne's execution. I then explored the religious aspects at the time and how Anne's differing views could have impacted the decisions against Anne. Finally, I have explored how Anne is perceived now compared to when she was alive. I have explored how these perceptions have changed and how Henry may have impacted this negatively. The final conclusion I have reached is that Anne was a victim of her views, she was an incredibly intelligent woman which could make her seem like a schemer. But, in reality, Henry disliked the power she held so decided to have her executed.

Izzy Buckle



Has Bess of Hardwick's legacy been overshadowed by Elizabeth I, and does she deserve greater historical recognition?

My Extended Project Qualification investigates whether the legacy of Bess of Hardwick has been overshadowed by Queen Elizabeth I, and whether she deserves greater historical recognition. Bess of Hardwick rose from a relatively modest gentry origins to becoming one of the wealthiest and most influential women in sixteenth-century England. Through four strategic marriages, property development, and her role at court, she challenged the traditional expectations of women's power and independence. Despite achievements such as the construction of Hardwick Hall and her involvement in key political events, Bess remains far less well known than Elizabeth I. My project will compare the historical reputations of both women, using both primary resources and historians' interpretations to assess why Bess has received less attention. It argues that while Elizabeth I's status as monarch dominates historical popularity, Bess of Hardwick made a significant contribution to society and if she is deserving of greater historical recognition.

Harriet Carden-Howe



How do the disasters of Helios Airways Flight 522 and Japan Airlines Flight 123 demonstrate cabin depressurisation and its significance in air accidents

My project has explored the importance and engineering behind cabin pressurisation in aircrafts, the system that allows humans to travel at inhabitable altitudes by flight while still being able to breathe. I have focused on two case studies which demonstrate disasters regarding a loss or lack of cabin pressurisation, known as cabin depressurisation, and the significance these events had on the world of aviation. Helios Airways Flight 522 is the deadliest aviation accident in Greek history, an example of gradual depressurisation due to the lack of automatic pressurisation of the aircraft after take-off. Japan Airlines Flight 123 is the deadliest single aircraft accident in all of aviation history, occurring due to an event of explosive decompression from the loss of the vertical stabiliser during the flight. Both these disasters investigate different causes and types of depressurisation, their outcomes, and the large danger it presents.

Zyana Cherian



How and why have portrayals of love, relationships, and romantic tropes in romance literature changed between the 18th-19th centuries and the 20th-21st centuries?

In this project, I will analyse the evolution of the romantic literature genre across the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st century. In doing this, I will investigate how and why elements such as love portrayals, relationships and romantic tropes (also known as subgenres) have changed throughout the selected periods, as well as argue how they differentiate with each other in each listed topic. I shall explore evidence that presents this such as the background of romantic literature, modernisation overtime and their consequences on real time relationships and mental health, and touch specifically on gothic literature's skyrocket into popularity through examples of 'Jayne Eyre' and 'Wuthering Heights'. By analysing these I will be able to make a clear judgement on the differences between the 18th-19th and 20th-21st centuries and how they influence others.

Holly Colclough



How did the Beatles evolve through genres during their musical careers?

This project will be looking into the Beatles as a whole, mainly focusing on their various musical genres that they developed and shifted into over their careers. The Beatles were a Pop/Rock band from the 1960s, starting their career in 1962 and finishing in 1970. They are considered by many as the greatest and most influential band of all time. They explored and created many genres, which will be discussed and analysed over the project. By exploring the influences they used throughout their career, it will help gain a deeper understanding of the band's thought process and ideology behind many key decisions of their musical creation.

Oscar Coleman



Is toughness culture essential for success in American sports and how does it affect the athletes themselves?

Toughness culture in American sports is commonly defined as an athlete's willingness to sacrifice for their sport, emphasizing resilience, consistency, and performance under pressure. This essay examines whether its extreme form is essential for success in major leagues like the NFL and NHL. It highlights how unrealistic expectations — especially on young players — are often normalized and even rewarded. Drawing on real cases, research, and athlete testimonies, it argues that while toughness can build discipline and endurance, it often harms athletes physically and mentally. Ultimately, toughness culture remains deeply embedded in American sports but carries significant detrimental effects on those who uphold it.

Abby Conroy



Is the Pursuit of Innovation Always Ethically Justifiable in Engineering?

Engineering is a vast and wide field, spanning many disciplines, this project aims to dissect the thought process as to why we think ethically particularly in engineering fields and especially as to what the consequences can be if these considerations are cast aside for the prospect of innovation. There have been many examples where ethics in engineering have been partially, or wholly cast aside in favour of rapid progress, and this project will analyse some of these feats of engineering and how they could've been differently managed alongside how they caused harm and struggles for the general public.

George Constable



How dictators manipulate and alter societies to align with their morals: An investigation of Nazi coercion techniques.

In this project I aim to analyse how dictators assume complete power over their societies, and how they maintain this power while asserting their own morals and ideas. It will look specifically into the most infamous dictatorship of the 20th century, the Nazi regime, and how Hitler explicitly used specialised manipulation tactics to enforce his own prejudice values. I will mainly investigate four techniques used by the Nazi party, and those are propaganda, indoctrination of youth, secret police and the persecution of minorities. This study aims to show the development of these tactics, and evaluate the impact this manipulation had on the German society.

Penny Constable



Research the work of Paul Tazewell and create a costume designed for a film and theatre production, inspired by his work.

The aim of this project was to look into the work of costume designer Paul Tazewell and design and create a piece with the intent of being used in film or theatre, inspired by his work. Tazewell is best known for his work on Wicked, Hamilton and West Side Story. During the course of this project, various websites, articles and watching numerous videos was used as a source of research, as well as collecting primary data using a questionnaire. This enabled the outcome of designing a corset to be used for the Wicked film, which had various strengths and limitations.

Evie Crawford



To what extent were the witch trials of the 16th and 17th centuries shaped by gender politics?

This project investigates the extent to which gender politics influenced the witch trials of the 16th and 17th centuries by exploring how women were impacted by social attitudes, particularly with ideas surrounding expectations, religion, and power. This project also considers other significant factors such as socio-economic influences, political instability, religious rivalry, superstitions, and other general hardships, and how these factors compare to gender as the primary cause of the witch trials. By analysing historical sources, as well as different opinions and interpretations by historians, this research project will conclude that gender politics were the most significant cause of the witch trials.

Niamh Dailey



Is animal marking on farms harmful to young animals?

The aim of this essay is to find an answer to 'Is animal marking on farms harmful to young animals?' which is an interesting topic as there are strict rules and laws around the marking of farm animals as they go into the food industry. Animal marking is the mutilation of an animal for a purpose such as ear tagging for identification. To answer this research into different types of marking, laws around farm animals, common practices and studies on marking was necessary. Research into this topic lead to the fact that marking is harmful but necessary in most cases and there are improvements that can be made to the laws that would reduce the harm to young farm animals.

Emma Davies



Should the research into embryonic stem cells continue from an ethical perspective?

This essay considers whether research into human embryonic stem cells should continue from an ethical perspective, ultimately considering quality of life v sanctity of life. It explores the scientific qualities and potential of stem cells, including embryonic, induced pluripotent, hematopoietic, and mesenchymal stem cells. The ethical considerations surrounding embryo destruction is contrasted using philosophical views on moral status, human dignity, and personhood. Although alternative stem cell sources offer advantages (particularly in relation to ethics) their scientific limitations mean they are currently unable to fully replace embryonic stem cells. The essay ultimately concludes that continued embryonic stem cell research is ethically justifiable provided it is conducted under strict regulation, informed consent, and a clear necessity. By prioritising existing human suffering over the preservation of a non-sentient, and only potential life, the essay concludes that such research can be morally permissible in pursuit of significant medical and societal benefit.

Benjamin Dobson



Will AI ever fully replace journalists in producing news content?

This discussion aims to explore the capabilities of AI to replace journalists in producing news content and whether AI should be a concern for current and aspiring journalists. To explore this research was conducted, into the current capabilities of AI, the economic benefits/downfalls of AI when producing news content and the ethical implications of the use of AI in newsrooms. I decided to focus my research into two categories the technological reasons and the socioeconomic reasons whether AI can fully replace journalists in producing news content. Across my research multiple themes were identified, the most notable being ethical concerns surrounding AI being used in newsrooms, AI being used as an aid for journalists and not something to fully rely on and the efficiency of artificial intelligence. After reviewing my findings, I have concluded that artificial intelligence will not fully replace journalists in producing news content, on the other hand it is important to consider the fact that AI can be used as aid to support journalists in producing content efficiently.

Lola Drury



To what extent is cannibalism wrong?

I aim to determine if cannibalism is ever wrong, right or acceptable, and what factors might influence how people feel about it. These factors include religion, media such as the movie Bones and all, 2022, legal and ethical views. This essay also takes into consideration the different types of cannibalism such as ritualistic cannibalism and survival cannibalism and how the different situations where cannibalism is carried out may influence people's opinion on the act.

Faith Ekwugum



To what extent has one overriding factor affected the phenology and wintering populations of European White-Fronted Goose and Goldeneye, and how does this differ between the two species despite their different geography?

Impacts like habitat loss; disease, and climate change have had an influence on the phenology (migration) and wintering populations of European White-Fronted goose and Goldeneye ducks despite their different geographical situations as European-White Fronted goose stopover in Siberia, Russia whilst Goldeneye ducks mainly spend the breeding season in Scandinavian countries. Both species overtime have decreased in wintering populations in the UK and experienced migration changes due to the three factors that were researched. To conclude, it was identified that the biggest impacting factor for European White fronted geese is climate change whilst the biggest impacting factor for Goldeneye was habitat loss.

Megan Elizabeth Kirkham



Are Hobbies a good thing?

For my EPQ, I decided to research if hobbies have a more positive or negative role in people's lives. In my findings, I discovered hobbies have a great mental and social benefit but, they are dramatically increasing in price. To experience this firsthand, I started to do a new hobby and document my experiences. I wanted to do clay sculpting as my new hobby as I thought it was interesting. This would help me see the effects I researched firsthand to see if they are true and, so I could see if I liked it enough to do continuously. I concluded that hobbies are a great thing and, more people should have one.

William Elvin



How has female representation changed in motorsport and how can it be improved?

Since the end of the 19th century, motorsport has been overwhelmingly male-dominated, leaving very few opportunities for women to emerge into the sport. This report investigates key factors influencing the participation of women such as gender discrimination, access to development pathways and the role of media visibility. Using research and analysis of academic journals and an interview with a professional motorbike rider, it concludes that although meaningful progress has been made, the representation of women in motorsport cannot yet be considered equal or fully inclusive.

Maia Everingham



Is the NHS giving the right amount of funding and clinical attention to mental health?

This report looks at the amount of funding and clinical attention the NHS gives to the mental health services. It looks at the overview of the how much funding and clinical attention the NHS gives to mental health services, how it has improved and looks at what further improvements it may need.

Meher Fatima



Does nature or nurture have a bigger impact on a child's development of relationships?

This project investigates the impact of nature and nurture on the development of relationships. Nature refers to the influence of genetic predispositions and biological processes, and nurture refers to the influence of the environment. In terms of relationships, nature has an impact because of genes shared with parents or siblings as well as the effects of age, gender and birth order, and nurture has an impact because of the nurturance given by the primary caregiver as well as the main examples of the home and school environment. The impacts of nature and nurture are necessary to research because it can help understand how children develop their understanding of relationships and help provide the care needed for individual children to develop these relationships. This information can be used by parents (both biological and adoptive), primary caregivers, other family members, teachers, social workers and psychologists, making it evident that understanding this topic is necessary to advance society.

Elise Forster



Should the Olympics be ITF or WT Taekwondo

This project aims to analyse the difference between ITF and WT Taekwondo and trying to determine which would be better off in the Olympics. This report will cover both ITF and WT aspects of Taekwondo and will delve deeply into the pros and cons of each style. I will use my evidence that I have obtained to conclude my definitive answer on which style would be best suited. I will also back up my final choice using my research and other opinions I have heard along the way. I chose this title because it is a subject I have a large passion for and would love to have it as a career in the future. Hopefully using this EPQ I will be able to talk about the differences correctly without clearly siding with one side. It will also allow me to experience both styles to see which one I would like to pursue a career in. It will also allow me to review my past ideas on both styles and compare them to my latest ideas of the styles.

Lucas Foster



Have Comics changed for the better or worse throughout their existence? An exploration of their history, relationship to Society and Feminist interpretations

This essay explores the comic medium in its longevity, analysing if through the decades it has improved in quality due to the subject nature of the topic it utilizes the many aspects of the medium to focus on to reach a conclusion. These include History, Modernization, Cultural Impact and Feminism. Each of which has changed individually thus by evaluating each it allows for a more accurate conclusion. By analysing the individual decades with a variety of sample comics to use as evidence this paper thoroughly explores the medium's History to make the reader familiar with key concepts and figures such as the Comic Code Authority and writer: Alan Moore. Which are then used as indicators of improvement in analysis. Modernization refers to the process of altering a character to be suitable for a modern audience, this paper utilizes the character of Batman when placed within the prior established time periods to judge his own modernization aiming to determine if it has allowed the character to grow as a symbol or detract from his themes. Feminism and Cultural Impact then aim to assess comic book influences on the real world to determine if they've had a positive impact or are an outdated artform. This is discussed through art forms and storytelling tropes such as "bad girl" art and "fridging". Furthermore, the causes and blame of the Punisher Police Attacks in contrast to the comic book's presence in pop-cultural are at the centre of the discussion regarding the comic's presence in society. These points are evaluated using references to other papers, data from surveys collected for this paper, and samples from appropriate comics to reach a justified conclusion on the comic medium's improvement over time.

Mckenzie Gallagher



What causes the delay of human treatments being adapted for veterinary use and how can this delay be improved?

There is a significant delay between the individual progresses made by the human and animal health sectors in both the technology and methods they use to carry out their practices. The aim of this essay is to investigate why this is the case and evaluate potential solutions that could be used to narrow this gap, as it would strengthen both fields significantly. This paper draws conclusions from the analysis of a variety of academic reports and articles, as well as a primary interview with a former co-chair of the National Association of Veterinary Physiotherapists. The findings of this investigation show that the delay is caused by a communication gap between veterinarians and doctors and the limitations of clinical research. On the other hand, these problems could be solved by an increase in accessible funding, like research grants, and greater awareness of the One Health initiative.

Abi Gardham



How does the soundtrack of a film contribute to its success and emotional impact on the audience?

This project will comprise the analysis of the role of film scores in the subsequent emotional depth and impact a film has on its audience by employing the methodology and psychology of film soundtracks, and analysing 5 particular case study films: 'Interstellar', 'Schindler's List', 'Fight Club', 'Whiplash', and 'There Will Be Blood'. It will go into depth regarding the respective composers for these films' soundtracks, and each of their thought processes when creating them in relation to key themes and tropes throughout the film. Additionally, analysed results of certain research will be used to indicate the stated 'success' of the soundtrack. Research will be secondary, being exterior research completed by another individual concerning film soundtracks. This project will weigh in both positive and negative assessments of each soundtrack, taking into consideration and comparing with other reviews retrospectively.

Through this, the project hopes to achieve an accurate representation and critique, whilst additionally exhibiting what is necessary to create emotional impact through a film soundtrack, taking into account the methodology behind it, along with previous successful scores.

Daniel Gibbons



How do different diets affect our health?

This project aims to analyse and evaluate science-based reports and journals relating to living a healthy lifestyle. This report will cover 5 different diets: keto, vegetarian, mediterranean, vegan, and carnivore. These diets are differing philosophies on what is the best way to maintain a long and fulfilling life and by exploring a range of sources relating to these topics I will evaluate if science supports them in maintaining good health. I will conclude with what the evidence suggests is the role that diet plays in maintaining good health and which diet I have found the most effective and personally plan to implement in my own lifestyle.

Harry Grantham



The cultural melting point: How New Orleans shaped jazz

New Orleans is widely regarded as the birthplace of jazz, a genre that emerged from a rich blend of cultural influences in the early twentieth century. This essay explores the origins of jazz and traces its evolution over time, highlighting key stylistic changes and developments. It also examines modern perspectives on jazz, including how modern musicians interpret and redefine the genre today. Through this discussion, the essay demonstrates how jazz continues to evolve while maintaining its cultural and historical significance, whilst also discussing whether jazz is positively or negatively viewed.

Toby Graves



How can low-level programming be used to create stunningly realistic virtual worlds?

In the modern world, computer programming has become increasingly abstract, limiting the capabilities of both programmers and software. In my project, I have explored how low-level programming can be used to create life like computer generated images, and the different approaches and techniques used by industry leaders to render scenes for films, television programs, physics simulations and concept imagery. To carry out this investigation, I have written several computer renderers, which I have used to render images and compare the results. This has given me the freedom to explore the two main avenues of computer graphics – rasterization and ray tracing. I have rendered several scenes with each to compare the two and conclude which technique is more effective, along with the main applications of each and which strategy yielded the best results.

Ben Griffith-Jones



How does Instagram create unrealistic body image in adolescents?

This project aims to explore how Instagram contributes to the creation of unrealistic body image amongst adolescents. It will explore how the role of influencers, editing tools and social comparison have on psychological effects of low self-esteem or body dissatisfaction. However, it will also take on a different viewpoint and consider whether Instagram can also have a positive influence on body image and how adolescents can develop healthier relationship with social media.

Kaytlin Hallewell



To what extent does an application of mathematics and probability improve one's ability to play blackjack?

In my project I aimed to address whether a mathematical and statistical approach to Blackjack improves a player's odds. The project begins by explaining the rules of Blackjack and introducing some of the most well-known mathematical applications within Blackjack such as card counting. For each technique I delve into the advantages as well as their flaws. To test my research, I conducted my own experiment to explore the effect that they had on a player's success which was followed by a deep dive into the results to analyse the effect on the player's results. The project finishes with a conclusion, which explains why mathematical approaches offer less of a gain than expected.

Luke Hancock



To what extent do neurological factors contribute to serial killer behaviour?

This project aims to analyse the extent that neurological factors influence serial killers' behaviour, focusing on whether neurological factors can independently explain patterns of serial killer behaviour. By looking at the effects of the MAOA and CDH13 gene, brain scans and different neurodevelopment factors. This is then contrasted with environmental factors for example, childhood trauma, upbringing, and early development. Through analysing scientific research and case studies. The project concludes that whilst neurological factors contribute substantially to the behaviour of serial killers, they are not enough of an independent factor when identifying the main cause of serial killer behaviour. But rather neurological factors are more influential when combined with environmental factors.

Lilly Harbottle



How do different dance styles impact the choice/style of accompanying music?

This essay is an analysis of the link between music theory and dance theory and how different styles of dance impact the choice of music when choreographing dances. I will discuss four genres of dance, Contemporary, Modern-Jazz, Commercial, and Classical Ballet. I will explain what key conventions are a part of each style and how that can be represented through the aural setting. Using primary and secondary research from many reliable sources to aid my understanding and explanation of this topic. In addition to this essay, I have also produced four songs, in each style that I am studying, to evidence my studies. I have then also had short snippets of choreography produced for each song to portray the accurate representation of the chosen style. To compose each song, I used a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) called Logic Pro.

Elsa Hardy



Should the two-child benefit cap be removed in the UK?

Since the 6th of April 2007 UK households on Universal Credit have been restricted in not receiving Universal Credit allowance for more than two children. This was because of the implementation of a government policy known as the Two-Child Benefit Cap and this project explores reasons for keeping the policy and reasons behind the removal of it. The Two-Child Benefit Cap is a policy that is viewed favourably by the public for the equality that it provides but using a variety of sources this project evaluates the real impacts of the policy to conclude that despite public sentiment the removal of the policy by the UK government is justified.

Zac Harries



How has priority changed in the development of U.S. Military jet since the 1970's?

My project covers the history of U.S. Military fighter jets since the 1970's. I will cover a total of six different fighter jets that I and most people would consider to be the most important aircraft in the recent history of the U.S. and the most iconic of their time. My project focuses on how different features changed for each fighter and whether these changes were made appropriately or whether they were not necessary for the development of that jet. Eventually I discuss my perspective on what the future of military aircraft will be for the U.S. and all other countries while taking my research and writing into account.

Matthew Harris



How does media coverage effect the occurrence of mass shootings in the USA?

Research shows that limiting the amount of media coverage about mass shooters can help to prevent mass shootings from occurring as often. Offenders often use their knowledge about previous shootings to influence their behaviour in their own crime or may even inspire them to commit the same crime. This report acknowledges that media coverage can also spread awareness about mass shootings, leading to more gun legislations in America, however the negative impact appears to outweigh the positive.

Rachel Harris



Exploring the gender gap in crime: Why are men more likely to offend?

Crime is a long-existing social issue, with statistical and empirical evidence suggesting that men commit more crime than women. This report evaluates the possible reasons why more men are imprisoned compared to women. It will show how social factors throughout the life model can influence the likelihood of criminal behaviour. The chronological structure will begin by explaining how adverse childhood experiences can contribute to poor academic performance and different social behaviours. Following this, an analysis on the long-term consequences of childhood trauma and how it differs between men and women in adulthood shows that reasons for men committing crime. It concludes by assessing crime until sentencing, indicating gender bias in the court systems. Although this report aims to show why more men commit crime, some findings suggest that women experience more social disadvantage, which would suggest an increased possibility of them offending; however, the statistics show men still offend more.

Jack Hayward



How does One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest present the assimilation of Native Americans?

The asylum in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's nest can be seen as a metaphor for the forced assimilation of Native Americans: the oppression and the identity stripping described can be linked to the government's attempts to strip Indigenous people of their culture.

Amelia Hedgecox



History written by the victors: How Tudor bias shaped the story of the princes in the tower. Who were the possible culprits and what actually happened in 1483?

My EPQ is an exploration into the story of the disappearance of the Princes in the Tower; one of the world's oldest murder mysteries. I will dive into the effects of Tudor literature, including plays such as Richard III, which had a significant impact on the direction of the narrative. How did writing portraying Richard III as tyrannical impact future generations and why will we never know the culprit.

Hatty Henderson



Should religious architecture be built?

Religious architecture is something we acknowledge in our everyday lives but never really appreciate by the purpose it serves. Whilst also being a place to pray and learn about religion, it also plays significant roles in the community and charities whilst also being a contributing factor to conflict. In this EPQ I have explored the relevance of religious architecture to these events and explored theories such as: the benefits and disadvantages of religious demolition, whether religious architecture can stay a positive contribution to society or just become an outlet for hatred, the easy misuse and manipulation of religious monuments, and the importance of religion to a society.

Imogen Hewick



Has it ever been morally justifiable to exploit animals for our own personal benefit?

This essay covers the exploitation of animals by humans using a historical approach, first covering the traditional sport of hunting, and evaluating the morality of this behaviour on different social scales. Then focusing on the development of zoos and the ethicality of specific feeding practices since their establishment, including why there are differences globally in cultural attitudes towards zoos. Next, the ethicality of modern-day meat production is evaluated with a focus on the sustainability of farming and the experiences of animals being reared for slaughter. Finally, an overall conclusion on the morality of animal exploitation throughout time after evaluating these three examples.

Lexi Hewitt



Why depression is so common among footballers?

My project researches and concludes why depression is so common among footballers by using both primary and secondary data. It finds that despite the perception of an easy life, football creates high pressure through expectations, injuries, career dissatisfaction, alcohol misuse and congested schedules. These factors lead to stress, identity loss and reduced mental wellbeing. My project highlights footballers' stigma around mental health, discouraging players to seek help. While football can provide enjoyment and support, it can also significantly increase the development of depressive symptoms. My study concludes that better awareness, support systems and open discussions are essential in reducing depression among footballers in the future.

Lucas Hill



Does living with coeliac disease impact on an individual's life?

This essay aims to analyse some of the main aspects of Coeliac Disease (CD) that impact an individual's life. I will discuss common symptoms and physical effects such as dermatitis herpetiformis, osteoporosis and malabsorption. Additionally, the increase of poor mental health when diagnosed with CD and the challenges that follow. I will explore the financial setbacks and monetary stress caused by CD but also the help available like NHS gluten free (GF) prescriptions and GF subsidy cards. I will also explain the social impacts associated with CD such as limitations in employment, socialising with friends, fear of eating out and concerns when travelling to certain countries. In addition to this, a section on research and future treatments such as Epithelial Lymphogram, ZED1227 and Tissue Proteomics to emphasise the importance of diagnosis and reducing the chances of developing other conditions later in life. However, it is important to note that a diagnosis of CD can enhance the individuals' livelihoods with the vast array of support available and the relief from previously experienced health issues. To do all the above, I will use scientific research from many reliable sources to aid my understanding and explanation of these topics.

Lily Hocking



What makes a successful fashion brand in today's market?

My project is all about how fashion is incorporated within the business world. I talk about marketing, finance, competition, operations, sustainability and more.

Everything you need to include when creating a fashion business. This also includes the design elements and principles involved with creating garments as well as different methods where designs can be influenced by this. I referenced this with case studies from the two major fashion brands of skims and Chanel. This is all followed up with my artifact and creation process.

Jess Holden



Motherhood and identity: How pregnancy reshapes a woman's sense of self

Many women struggle with their individuality when entering motherhood and the feeling of no longer being themselves, but simply "mum". I have found that there are so many conflicting ideas and factors surrounding pregnancy, but there is still not enough importance laid upon the full experience of becoming a mother. Throughout this dissertation, I touch on the array of aspects that can play a role in identity, such as neuroplasticity, the 'maternal instinct', mental disorders, stereotypes and more. After researching various scientific journals, articles and partaking in interviews, I have come to a conclusion on whether motherhood is a total loss of identity or a process of adaptation.

Grace Holtby



To what extent were the themes in Jane Eyre influenced by the culture and lifestyle as the time of writing?

Charlotte Brontë published her novel 'Jane Eyre' in 1847, a time at which women were both oppressed through capitalism and patriarchy, providing us with the revolutionary figure that we have today. This dissertation will explore the life experiences of Charlotte Brontë and how they affected her novel 'Jane Eyre'. She suffered through multiple bereavements and harsh cruelty, yet also experienced delights such as travelling to other countries and became a very educated woman of her time. These factors are evident in the writing of Jane Eyre, through characters such as Mrs. Reed and Mr. Brocklehurst and can even be so accurate to her own life that her previous head teacher threatened to sue her for libel. In conclusion, it is clear that living in a patriarchal society affected her experiences and writing much more than any other factor as this influenced her experience at school and criticisms of the novel.

Isla Houlden



To what extent did foreign influence affect the cultural development of the circumpolar people known as Inuit from the 1700s to present day?

My project focuses on the influences of cultural developments on the circumpolar people known as Inuit, previously, in some cases derogatorily, known as Eskimos. It identifies the contrasts of cultural identity and asks the question if the collaboration of ideologies from two different continents because of colonial intention was beneficial or detrimental to the Inuit of today. Historically the project aims to inform of the comparison between present and past Inuit beliefs due to events rather than specific dates that support this change, out of respect to the adapt and continuous development in how their culture views their own history.

Sam Hunt



The Influence of social media on teen reading and writing cultures.

In this project I will be assessing and evaluating the extent to which social media has influenced the reading and writing culture of teenagers by assessing the advantages and disadvantages of social media in teenage reading and writing. In other to do this, I will delve into other reports and articles that either directly correlate with this project or contain elements of utmost importance to the topic focus. I will also present results from my own research to back up any claims made in the project to show a more real time and real-world perspective through visit to libraries and more. The social media platform I will be focusing on is primarily TikTok with other platforms playing a supporting role to show the wider influence of social media on teenage reading and writing cultures.

Lois Inioluwa Gomez



To what extent has modern media transformed feminist interpretations in comparison to 20th century portrayals?

This project investigates the extent to which modern media has transformed representations of women in comparison to portrayals throughout the 20th century. The study explores the evolving relationship between feminism and the media, by analysing how women have been represented through advertising, film, television, newspapers, and social media, as well as how they have shaped social perceptions surrounding femininity and gender expectations over time.

The project examines both historical and contemporary media representations of women by analysing feminist literature, academic articles, documentaries, advertisements, and online media studies. Key sources include Andrea Dworkin's *Woman Hating*, Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, feminist media studies such as 'femvertising', and theories such as Laura Mulvey's "male gaze". The project also considers the rise of digital feminism activism through platforms such as TikTok and Instagram, alongside the impact of online activism like the #MeToo movement.

The findings suggest that although modern media has significantly increased the visibility of feminism, there still are many patriarchal expectations that are reinforced onto women daily in more subtle forms and commercialised forms. While the 20th century media often aligned women with motherhood, domesticity, and restrictive beauty standards, modernised media frequently repackages these expectations through influencer culture, online beauty standards, and empowerment-based advertising (femvertising). Furthermore, this project argues that media has maintained a complicated relationship with feminism by promoting visibility and feminist discourse while also profiting off the commercialisation of feminist movements. Ultimately, the investigation has concluded that media representations have significantly improved over time, however underlying gender inequalities and gender roles remain rooted into modern media culture.

Daria Ion



To what extent has the need for romantic love declined due to technology in a functioning modern Western society?

Despite romantic love being a shared experience in a modern Western society, our sociological understanding of the phenomenon remains limited. Utilizing a wide range of secondary qualitative data, this project concludes that technology is not the main factor behind the declining dependence on romantic love in a functioning society. Instead, the primary issue lies with the rise of consumerist culture implemented by capitalist and patriarchal societal frameworks. By applying Marxist and feminist theoretical perspectives, this essay evaluates how these overarching socio-economic systems alter contemporary intimacy.

Mihaela Ionescu



To what extent can Ricky Ponting's Australian Test team be considered the greatest side in the history of international Test cricket?

Ricky Ponting has had a career which is often considered legendary within the world of cricket with significant success across the different formats in the game such as three world cups in the one-day international format and imposing records in the test arena in both his time as captain and as a regular player. The aim of this project is to explore the Australian Test Cricket Team under the captaincy of Ricky Ponting to assess the claim that this side is the best that cricket has seen. This has been achieved through both source and statistical analysis of both this team and others targeting a range of specific factors which were crucial to the success of the team. Through this research, it has become clear that this idea is easily justified despite some reasonable challenges which have also arisen through investigating various resources and statistics.

Charlie Ireson



Is China's death penalty a tool of justice or state control?

This essay discusses how China's death penalty is influenced by either state control, suggesting how China is much more focused on controlling society by threatening criminals with the punishment of execution with a possibility of silencing individuals from preventing sensitive information from being leaked, or bringing justice – punishing criminals for committing crimes and protecting the innocent public from such harm. However, it can be argued that both do play a part within the legal justice system within China as such criminals can also be grouped with very influential figures seen within society (such as any ambassadors, past presidents etc) and may be categorised as a risk to leaking possible information that could harm the government and the control it has over society. I have determined that the more dominant factor is state control as it allows the government to silence anyone who dares to go against them and give a false perception to the public that nothing major is going on behind the scenes seen within the legal system.

Celine Jakimow



To what extent does social media contribute to rising levels of anxiety and depression in young people?

This project explores the extent to which social media contribute to rising levels of anxiety and depression among young people. While researchers have attempted to establish a direct correlation, this remains challenging due to the presence of numerous extraneous factors that may also influence negative mental health outcomes. Through the analysis of peer-reviewed journals and a range of secondary sources, this investigation aims to evaluate the strength of this relationship. The project presents a balanced argument by considering evidence from both perspectives before drawing an overall conclusion. Additionally, primary research was conducted with a substantial number of participants, providing valuable supporting data to further inform the analysis.

Adrianna Jamal



Has media over time positively or negatively influenced how we view reptiles?

A reptile, by definition, is a vertebrate animal of a class that includes snakes, lizards, crocodiles, turtles and tortoises. They are distinguishable by having dry scaly skin and naturally cold blood. Reptiles have been around for centuries and seem to mostly be portrayed as symbols of sin and corruption or have been presented as dangerous and evil creatures that by nature are prone to kill.

Even from a modern perspective, within film, online news reports and other key media representations, reptiles are negatively seen, with very few exceptions of positive media. With media, it is crucial to evaluate a source by reliability and what impact it has, and why this has had the specific impact it did. This project aims to look deeper into the question of whether media over time has positively or negatively impacted how we, as a society, view reptiles?

Alex Jennings



What factors were most influential in the rise of Formula 1s popularity and overall success?

This essay is an evaluation of Formula 1 as a sport and its influential aspects. Formula 1 is single-seater formula racing cars, driven by 22 drivers from 11 teams competing for a driver championship alongside the constructor's championship to be won by one team each season. I will discuss the rise of Formula 1 and how it began, whilst focusing on; drivers who played key roles in making the sport great, the cars that made it possible and how it dominated motorsports and conquered the sporting world. I will use commentator and journalist research direct from the sport as well as peer assessed documents.

Abigail Johnson



Beyond Perfection: Developing a comic book around the concept of The Flawed Hero.

As media in the comic-book industry has developed from the 20th century to the 21st century, there has been an increasing number of heroic characters that defy the standards of morals, aesthetics, and power; as defined during the Golden-Age of superheroes (1938-1956). The focus of this study is to analyse to what extent characters in these media have continuously evolved from this definition of Western perfection and partially explore the impact changing cultural standards have had on this.

The findings of this study are interpreted in the form of an artefact piece, which itself explores the flaws and inconsistencies of superhero characters through a visual storytelling format.

Adam Johnson



Are dreams mere byproduct of neural activity or intertwined with our emotions, memory, and learning?

In this dissertation the ongoing debate surrounding the function of dreams is evaluated. Most theories for the function of dreams fall into the categories of them having a primary function or just being epiphenomena (byproduct) of the sleeping brain's activity. Both sides of the debate are explored and assessed on their scientific credibility, supported by scientific research across the past century. Studies and findings from both a more recent, technologically advanced era, and that of the first pivotal studies, are discussed and analysed. The essay concludes with belief in dreams playing a crucial role in our emotions, memory, and learning. This belief is supported and explained using the evidence previously analysed throughout the dissertation, resulting in an objectively acquired conclusion.

Evie Johnson



Is it possible for life forms as little as micro-organisms to be found on Jupiter's moon, Europa?

As humans progress civilization, the question of life beyond Earth has become more prominent in our minds. This question has also intrigued space scientists who have completed many investigations and explorations into interplanetary bodies to find extra-terrestrial life. This report will go into great detail on one of Jupiter's moons which has been labelled as the most likely place where life could exist outside of Earth. In this report, the factors which enable this life to exist, scientists' opinions on the likelihood of life and the form it would take on, and my opinion will all be covered in great depth. The intended result of this report is to deeply analyse Europa and ascertain the likelihood of life existing on this icy moon, and what it means for life on Earth.

Cecil Jones



In what ways has Taylor Swift's interpersonal relationship with her fan base acted as an inspiration for other solo artists aspiring to establish similar connections with their audiences?

Acknowledging Taylor Swift's status as a global phenomenon with a vast choice of potential research options, this project requires a narrower approach in order to produce an obtainable hypothesis.

Therefore, the overall aim of this study will be to examine the ways in which Taylor Swift's interpersonal relationship with her fans acted as an inspiration for other solo artists who aspire to build similar connections with their audiences. In order to try to prove or disprove the hypothesis, two different questionnaires were devised and distributed to both Taylor Swift fans and general music listeners. Alongside the research gathered and my own study findings, it would generally support the hypothesis that Taylor Swift does inspire other solo artists to emulate her approach in building connections with her fans.

Libby Judd



What is the primary cause of the Russo-Polish War 1919-1921?

In 1919 a war broke out between a newly independent Poland and the new Bolshevik government in Russia. Poland at this time was focused on consolidating her land and expanding into a Międzymorze, the Polish idea that they should build a federation in eastern Europe which stretched from the black sea all the way to the Baltic Sea. On the other side of this conflict, the Bolsheviks were fighting a civil war against the white armies and just lost much of their western territory to the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Thus, wanted to consolidate and control land of the old Russian Empire and prepare to export the revolution westward. Therefore, both states were volatile, and expansionists had already fought wars to consolidate their position. Many Historians are one sided in this conflict believing that either the evil communist imperialists in Russia, or Pilsudski's expansionist bourgeoisie government hold most the blame. These views are incredibly one sided, thus I have tried to come to a logical and fact-based conclusion into the primary cause of the outbreak of war.

Xavier Juszczyk



To what extent are socioeconomic factors the primary determinants of paediatric oral health?

This dissertation critically evaluates the extent to which socioeconomic factors influence paediatric oral health in comparison with biological determinants. Drawing on academic research, clinical interviews as well as implementing public health statistical evidence, it analyses how household finances, parental education attainment, housing environment and location affect oral health outcomes in children. It also examines biological factors like genetic susceptibility, anxiety and illness. Although these factors produce potentially severe individual consequences, the report concludes that the most decisive influence are socioeconomic determinants as they provide a foundation for the presence and action of other factors, affect a substantial proportion of the population, as well as directly impacting long-term oral health trajectories in children.

Amelia Juszko



What is the most significant factor that has prevented the Kurdish population from achieving statehood?

After the conclusion of the First World War and the breakdown of the Ottoman Empire, the countries that once made up the empire were bordered into independent countries within the Middle East. This was determined by third party world leaders and actively excluded the region of Kurdistan despite the nationalist motivations of its people. To the present day, despite many near occurrences, the Kurdish people yet remain to fight for some sort of autonomy, facing constant failures that often result in violence and mistreatment. This report considers the circumstances of Kurds and splits the preventive causes into three factors: geopolitical interests, ethnic tensions and internal divisions, to help determine what the most constraining factor that has prevented this development to independence is. It will ultimately conclude geopolitical interests as the most significant throughout the century.

Larah Kadir



To what extent should the court judgement be influenced by a child's preference to live with one parent over another?

My EPQ focuses on the concept of divorce cases involving children, and to what extent the Court's decision should be persuaded by which parent the child wants to live with. I consider the benefits and the downsides to the Court taking into account what they want, coming to a point on 'how far' it is - neither side of the argument should be fully correct, they shouldn't be completely considered or completely neglected. The main point is figuring out how much of a factor it should be.

Ruby Kay



How does playing video games affect mental health and cognitive skills?

Through analysing a variety of sources, including blogs, books, documentaries, studies and professional websites, this essay explores what the positive and negative effects of gaming on mental health and cognitive skills are, and how they occur. It also assesses if factors, such as social group, mental health conditions and being a child of divorce, can shape results from gaming.

Jess Kellington



How is Immigration from the Indian sub-continent reflected in English Literature since 1960's to the current day?

Immigration has considerably changed the face of British literature from the 1960's to the present day. This is mainly due to the Commonwealth Immigrants Act in 1962, which enabled citizens from Commonwealth countries to enter Britain freely. In this period there was a significant amount of immigration from countries within the Indian subcontinent. Prior to the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, immigration was greatly misinterpreted by mainstream publishing which caused young writers of South Asian backgrounds This EPQ dives into all the different perspectives of immigration from the Indian subcontinent and how that has evolved to how immigration is perceived to current day.

Ashvine Kevincya Satheeskumar



How has architecture changed throughout Europe from the 1800s until now and how is the sustainability agenda impacting this?

The world's recognition of climate change's effect on Earth has shifted society to become more environmentally aware over the years. This has also become a huge factor in the construction industry, where architects and engineers now have a huge role to play in the journey to a sustainable future. This report aims to introduce a sustainable perspective in the history of architecture, highlighting key time periods, movements and styles which have through time evolved into the architecture we design today; adopting key characteristics to reduce waste, cost demands and essentially allow architecture and nature to exist cooperatively.

Aline Klimova



How have transport systems been improved to make them more environmentally friendly in Europe?

This essay explores how transport systems in Europe have been improved to become more environmentally friendly through the increased use of electric vehicles, such as electric cars and buses. It talks about the investment into cleaner technologies to reduce the dependency on fossil fuels and the decrease of harmful carbon dioxide emissions. In addition, it also considers the impact of these new infrastructures on the overall development of Europe as well as focusing on the positive and negative factors of each individual investment and infrastructure development.

Natalia Kulus



Does Anorexia Nervosa affect the brain?

Anorexia Nervosa (AN) is a complex psychiatric disorder associated with significant psychological and neurological changes. Restrictive eating contributes to reductions in global and regional brain volume, alongside abnormal neural activation to stimuli, which influence cognition, mood, and behaviour. Nutritional deprivation and hormonal imbalances further impair brain function and cause emotional dysregulation. Psychological characteristics linked to AN may both predispose individuals to the disorder and develop because of it to reinforcing starvation and altering temperament. This report examines how neurological and psychological alterations interact in AN and considers their implications for treatment and recovery. Together, the organic and psychological changes contribute to the persistence of AN and complicate recovery, highlighting the profound relationship between AN and brain function.

Priya Lad



To what extent are Biomarkers useful in the treatment and monitoring of diseases?

This essay aims to explore what Biomarkers are, how they can be measured, as well as how they can be used within Medicine. In addition, this essay will focus on evaluating how useful biomarkers can be in the diagnosis and monitoring of diseases. Both Alzheimer's disease and Lung cancer are discussed to explore specific examples of how biomarkers can be used to predict the progression of diseases and treatment selection. Through the use of example biomarkers from both diseases, such as Circulating Tumour Cells (a Lung Cancer biomarker), this essay can consider the heterogeneity of biomarkers and difficulties in the quality of biomarkers regarding their specificity. Along with how using new technologies and collection methods can provide medical practitioners with more efficient and rapid procedures when diagnosing and monitoring diseases.

Chloe Lewis



How is combatting antibiotic resistance changing? A periodical analysis of how combatting AMR has changed over time.

The aim of my EPQ was to research what antimicrobial resistance is, understand how it works in different microorganisms: bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites and finally investigate different methods for combating, specifically, antibiotic resistance so I was able to evaluate how it is changing. To achieve this, I looked at a range of sources including articles, news reports, documentaries, magazines, etc. As well as these secondary sources I conducted two interviews, one with a medical school student and the other with a biomedical scientist. From this research I found that bacteria gain resistance not just through mutations but can share their resistant genes through a process called horizontal gene transfer which can occur by conjugation, transformation or transduction; I also found out alternative methods of combatting antibiotic resistance, with bacteriophage therapy being a promising option, as well as the introduction of AI being an innovative approach to fight this world-wide crisis.

Megan Lily Vizor



When belief meets heritage: Religion's impact on Nigerian cultural identity.

The topic above was chosen to explore the interchanging relationship between religion and Nigerian culture and how that has come to affect the perceived form of cultural identity in Nigerians living in the country and across the pan-African diaspora. There will be investigations into the effect of religion and evaluations to form a conclusion if these corresponding changes in cultural identity has negatively erased or positively developed Nigerian cultural identity to adapt to the refashioned society humans now thrive in. It will be written in the form of a report with subheadings used to guide the reader to the final evaluation of the full topic.

Christabel Madu



Mechanical vs human error; which aspect causes more psychological fear in humans?

In my dissertation I aim to answer the question proposed by my title; does human or mechanical error cause more fear in humans? Through the discussion of different accidents and the public's responses to each one, my essay to explore different forms of responses and opinions towards commercial aviation, with different data all composing to form one conclusion based around the theory of risk perception. Fear is defined as a natural emotion that triggers the fight or flight emotion in our bodies. This essay focuses on the effects that media has in peoples' opinions on flying, and how overacting with different types of media shapes opinions. Furthermore, I explore ideas on cognitive bias and how people choose to react to the type of error that causes catastrophe.

Chido Marecha



To what extent do OCAAGs help or hinder the prosecution of child sex offenders in the UK?

OCAAGS are Online Child Abuse Activist groups run by volunteers from all over the world. Their main aim being to support police in identifying and successfully capturing and prosecuting child sex offenders. Their work has contributed to some police cases give a successful prosecution, however their efforts can also cause evidence to be inadmissible as it can be seen as entrapment potentially hindering the legal process. I also explore how social media has enabled offenders to expand their presence online and briefly consider what social media companies and the police must do to prevent offending before it occurs.

Phoebe Marshall



To what extent does the English and Welsh jury system ensure impartial and representative verdicts?

This project evaluates the extent to which the English and Welsh jury system ensures impartial and representative verdicts. It engages with debates surrounding factors that may influence a juror's decision making such as the impact of media coverage and pre-trial publicity, as well as situations that may provoke unconscious bias. This includes rape cases and the involvement of minority groups in a trial. These limitations have gained prominence during a period of public scrutiny following David Lammy's proposed reforms to reduce trial by jury in late 2025.

Despite these limitations, the research supports the assertion that no other method provides a more impartial and representative means of reaching a verdict than the jury. This is consequent to safeguards such as the majority verdict, random selection, and the legitimacy derived from public participation. Ultimately, this research validates that the jury remains the cornerstone of democratic justice in England and Wales.

Xanthe Martin



To what extent do the founding fathers still impact contemporary American politics?

This dissertation investigates the extent to which the founding fathers still impact contemporary American politics today. It ultimately explores key constitutional principles established by the founding fathers that continue to shape the contemporary political landscape, it also places an emphasis on Federalism, egalitarianism and the amendment hypocrisies and controversies. This report will analyse modern debates surrounding many topics that also proved to be disputable in the late eighteenth century. It argues that the founders impact remains heavily influential on politics in the United States albeit, through the prolonged influence of a perhaps outdated constitution and founding documents. However, this report also considers factors that would suggest their influence remains important but perhaps not beneficial for a modern society.

Phoebe Maslin



Is there such a thing as pink tax?

The pink tax refers to gender-based economics inequalities within consumer markets. Within this essay the main topic of discussion will be debating the answer of 'is there such a thing as pink tax?'. Period poverty will be mentioned also as it has a significant impact on the pink tax, due to how the high cost of menstrual products adds extra financial pressure on women. This essay will aim to highlight the suffering of those living in poorer countries especially those living in South Sudan (poorest country in world as of 2026) because it is important that people know what truly happened to women in the world since they are the ones silently suffering one week a month for decades. There will be a comparison of South Sudan and the United States of America to prove that depending on how wealthy the country you live in is, the amount of suffering for women both mentally and financially does differentiate.

Libby McBain



How did the collapse of the soviet union affect and shape the economy, military, and the political landscape of communist China and how has China developed since then?

My research is about how the dissolution of the union of soviet socialist republics (USSR) affected the economy, military and political landscape across communist China. In my research, I discuss the life of the USSR, from its beginning, with key events such as the October revolution, to the end of the union in 1991 with the signing of the belozheva accords and then analyse how the USSR's life and collapse shaped Chinas modern day policy and the implications its holds for modern society. Furthermore I discuss how the Chinese viewed the collapse of the union and how they used it to ensure that they wouldn't succumb to a similar fate.

Isaac McCormick



To what extent has the Barbie brand influenced perceptions of femininity since the 1950's?

Aim- The aim of this essay is to answer the question 'How has Barbie influenced perceptions of femininity since the 1950's?'. To do this I'll be researching both the positive and negative effects that Barbie has had on society in regard to femininity.

Discussion- The discussion will explore how the Barbie brand has impacted perceptions of femininity. This will be done by looking at her role in setting beauty standards and causing body image dissatisfaction, looking at how she inspires young girls and looking at her range of diversity. This will be supported with both primary and secondary research.

Conclusion- It is hard to reach a single conclusion due to Barbie having such a personal impact in so many people's lives in both a positive and negative way. Studies also don't reach a singular conclusion as there is evidence to support both arguments. Her message has had a profound impact in inspiring girls to a life beyond being a housewife but her impact on body image has also impacted millions of girls across the world.

Saffron Millington



To what extent has social media impacted public views of vaccines?

Through this project I aim to explore how the use of social media has led to changes in attitudes towards vaccines, specifically the Covid-19 and MMR vaccines, which have been associated with misconceptions and controversy for years. I will also explore how general vaccine uptake has been impacted and the correlation between vaccine uptake and social media usage. Within this, I will examine recent and older statistics to explore how people's attitudes have changed as the use of social media has evolved. Further, the use of case studies will be included to convey how individuals have been directly impacted by social media in association with vaccination. Additionally, I aim to explore how social media has been used as a tool to spread misinformation and how this use of social media has directly led to changes in the public's perspective of vaccines, indirectly influencing their vaccine related decisions and fuelling vaccine hesitancy.

Emily Mitchell



What are dogwhistles and how are they used in society?

This report aims to provide an explanation about the impacts of dogwhistles on society and the many different ways people may use them. Furthermore, the report focuses mostly on the different minority groups that dogwhistles tend to affect and how to spot dogwhistles based on context.

Dogwhistles are a subject that many people tend to not be educated about; this report aims to educate people on how to spot them and call them about in order to make society and the internet a better place for minority groups. The report starts by explaining the meaning of dogwhistles and then goes on to explain their background and how they were first discovered. As the report progresses, the report goes into detail about the four main ways dogwhistles are used, and how they are used in society to spread harmful rhetoric. Finally, the report ends with explaining plausible deniability and how calling it out helps prevent more harmful rhetoric.

Destynie Monkman



To what extent can semaglutide benefit mental health outcomes in non-diabetic individuals? A pharmacovigilant analysis.

My EPQ aims to investigate whether through biological mechanisms and societal perceptions, whether the GLP-1 Receptor Semaglutide could be used to benefit mental health outcomes for non-diabetic adults. Semaglutide is the active ingredient in many weight loss drugs such as Ozempic, Wegovy and Rybelsus. It's mode of action involves modulating neurotransmitter release and enhancing brain neuroplasticity - which poses the question could it do the same for addiction, depression and other neurotransmitter effected disorders? If so, Semaglutide would pose as a curative treatment as it enhances neuroplasticity, however it's crucial to consider societal consequences of its original weight-loss intention in a pharmacovigilant analysis.

Phia Morais Hadley



To what extent will privatizing the NHS affect the standard of healthcare delivered?

The paper analyses a range of factors that may be impacted by privatising the NHS, ranging from the economical impact on consumers to the logistics and operational side, I've drawn comparisons between our current NHS, the original NHS model and other healthcare systems such as the one in America among others. I've also analysed the extent of privatisation in the NHS as of 2025 and the adverse impacts they've had on the NHS. Another aspect of my paper was critical analysis I've conducted to provide quantitative data to support the conclusion I've come to, increasing the validity of my findings.

Tambal Muiz Tambal



How has Germany dealt with the memory of the Holocaust through memorials and education?

This dissertation explores how Germany has dealt with the memory of the Holocaust through memorials and education. It examines the development of Holocaust remembrance from the post-war period to the present day, focusing on concentration camp memorials, national monuments, and compulsory Holocaust education within schools. The research combines academic sources with primary research, including interviews with individuals educated in Germany during the 1960s–1970s and students currently in the German education system. The dissertation argues that Germany has created one of the world's strongest cultures of remembrance, although challenges such as generational disengagement, technological change, and debates surrounding the effectiveness of memorialisation continue to affect Holocaust education and remembrance today.

Amber Newbould



What mental illness is the most common after a traumatic event and why?

There are many stigmas around trauma today as it has become a slang term to mean something embarrassing or awkward. Yet, a traumatic experience can be harrowing and bring forth many mental illnesses alongside it. This project discusses which mental illness is the most common after a traumatic event and why by using primarily UK based studies and articles alongside interviews with University professionals, a trauma survivor and a project-specific survey. Factors such as genetics, age and how much time an individual must wait before being treated can change how a survivor may react to their trauma. Mental illness is not a single label; it is more of a scale of severity which can change depending on many factors and often lead to multiple at once. Despite these factors, studies show that some are more common than others leading to a higher diagnosis rate in illnesses such as Depression and Anxiety.

Andromeda Norton



How has 3D printing enhanced medicine?

This project intends to analyse how 3D printing has enhanced medicine by looking into the areas it has impacted socially and economically. It will also include what future applications will look like for medicine and analyse whether this will be significant. The project will include three key areas 3D printing is involved in, which are applications towards patients, how surgeons and doctors use this method and the different applications with regards to the education of students and patients. Not only will the project look at what 3D printing can do, it will also assess how useful its applications are. The definition of 3D printing is explained as; “3D printing is the method of fabricating three-dimensional objects by adding successive layers of materials at a regulated rate and thickness.” (Kantaros, 2022). Bioprinting is also a form of 3D printing which is; “a technique used to print living cells in a pre-designed pattern” (Mendoza-Cerezo et al., 2023). Both methods are regularly used and tested, to enhance medicine even further, ensuring cheaper costs, patient specific models, reduced hospital times and an increase in successful, quick recovery. For each of the three areas, the project looks at the advantages but also the limitations of this process, including access, range of materials and approval for clinical use by institutions such as the FDA.

Chloe O'Sullivan



To what extent can marine animals adapt to climate change, and in the case of failure, what effect will this have on the planet?

This project will discuss the effect of climate change on 4 marine species and their ability/inability to adapt. In each case these species are currently declining due to anthropogenic climate change. By collecting information from multiple resources this project aims to assess whether each species will be able to survive and return to a stable or increasing number.

It will then go on further to discuss the possible/current effects of loss of 3 out of 4 of the species.

Here, the project aims to expose the risks of climate change often unknown; this topic of repercussions caused by climate change is often simplified to extinction of species despite the multitude of impacts decline and loss of marine animals can have on the planet.

Lola Paish



How did the Mitford sisters reflect the relationship between British aristocracy and fascism in the 20th century?

This EPQ explores the relationship between British aristocracy and fascism through an analytical study of the Mitford sisters during the interwar period. Fascism is examined as an expanding ideology across Britain and Europe, particularly through the rise of Oswald Mosley and the British Union of Fascists, while the extent of its impact on British political culture is explored. The project investigates the influence of individual sisters as prominent socialites, considering how aristocratic status and visibility could glamourize extremist politics and attract wider public attention to the fascist cause. By contrasting the fascist sympathies of Unity and Diana Mitford with the anti-fascist views of Jessica and Nancy, the report argues that aristocratic privilege could amplify and legitimize extremist ideology without determining a single political outcome. Ultimately, the project evaluates the extent to which elite involvement strengthened the cultural prominence of fascism within twentieth-century Britain.

Alex Palmer



How is China leading the electric car market?

In recent years it has come apparent to people that China is very advanced in technology compared to the world through leading tech businesses and ahead of the curve innovation in firms. In this essay I am going to be talking about Electric cars specifically and how China is leading the path into the future, not just recently but what actually started the development of this powerhouse country for electric cars that now make up a dominating 51% of all EV car sales.

George Palmer



How did feminist ideals in the mid-20th to early 21st century affect the female archetype and character design in animation?

For this paper, the impact of feminism on female characters in animation during the mid 20th to early 21st century is evaluated. The two key aspects of the female character that are focused on are the character design and archetype. These refer to how a character looks and what kind of personality they have and how this impacts the narrative. Feminism has changed a lot in the specified time frame, and this has impacted the female character in many different ways. This change will be evaluated with 4 key characters from mainstream films made in this time.

Ellie Parker



To what extent does wealth determine access to justice in the UK in family and common law?

Access to justice means the ability of persons to seek a remedy through the legal system in protection of their rights. Furthermore, access to a lawyer and access to legal advice. This essay will consider how influential wealth is at determining access to justice in family law and common law. Namely civil law. This will be done by taking into consideration both doctrinal changes (Primarily the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 “LASPO”) and empirical metrics such as legal aid expenditure, provider counts, default judgements and court times. Wealth can often determine your access to legal ability and therefore results. Although this isn’t always the case. The demise of legal aid after LASPO, The rise of Litigants in person (Lips). Advice ‘deserts’ in some regions and ongoing information asymmetries in the legal services market all contribute to how helpful having your own financial resources are. If you are looking to navigate through private family law (child arrangements orders and financial remedies) or civil money claims and civil claims. As an unrepresented party, the experience you will endure will be trying. The subject matter is complex you will face long waits. To finish, one party may have significantly more financial resource than you to barrage their arguments forward. There are some forces that help even the playing field. Early legal advice gateways for domestic abuse. The progress of digital reforms and proposals to change this include. A statutory right to justice. When your justiciable problems arise wealth isn’t the only factor that determines your access to justice, but it sure is king. Under the current regime wealth is the most important factor. This creates a problem for equality before the law and healthy democracies.

Vruti Patel



How do statistics affect the performance of a professional football team?

My EPQ project looks at how statistics affect the performance of a professional football team. I have explored how data such as possession, pass accuracy, shots on target, distance covered, and player fitness can help teams improve results. Statistics are now a big part of football because managers and coaches use them to make decisions about tactics, training, and transfers. I have also looked at examples from teams in the Premier League to see how using statistics has helped them succeed. This project shows whether data can be just as important as skill on the pitch.

Isaac Peaks



How does additive technologies affect the traditional manufacturing process in the aerospace industry?

This report delves into how a novel additive technology builds layers of material to form the final product, and the impacts this has on conventional manufacturing processes in the aerospace industry (producing plane engines and components, drones, and satellites). By evaluating topics such as lead time, certification, and design freedom using academic and industrial sources, and by drawing on primary research from interviewing experts in the field, this reports aims to assess the compelling advantages and disadvantages of additive technology, how it can be integrated into the manufacturing process, and its role in the future of aerospace engineering.

Elizabeth Pearson



Is the medical and surgical treatment of colic overall significantly successful in horses?

This project's aim was to find out whether the treatment (both surgical and medical) of colic is successful in horses. Colic is an umbrella term for gastrointestinal pain.

Each case presents differently, with several factors impacting the treatment decisions as well as the type of colic that presents. However, many factors create limitations. These include insurance policies, lack of technological advancements and a consistent understanding, both from owners and veterinary clinics themselves, which have subsequently hindered the progression of equine colic treatment and management. The research is grounded in a comprehensive review of veterinary journals from Hull University, academic literature sources, and publicly available articles. On top of this, one aspect of my primary research was an interview with Sarah Freeman (University of Nottingham), a specialist in equine surgery and colic, where we discussed the future of colic technology in treatment and management. With the report delving into primary and secondary research, credibility is clearly highlighted, aiding the ability to explore the impacts to allow for a stronger judgement. The findings of the report have found that treatment can be successful, but external factors have impacted and shaped medical capability. The research suggests that with current resources and understanding, prevention remains the most effective management strategy, although future advancements have the ability to shift this balance.

Matilda Peek



How effective is UK legislation in protecting women from domestic violence, and what gaps remain?

Domestic violence remains a major issue within the UK, disproportionately affecting women despite increased legal protection. This project investigates whether current UK legislation, including the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and Clare's law 2014, effectively protects survivors and prevents violence. By analysing the strengths and limitations of these laws, the project explores whether the government's response is sufficient and what challenges remain for survivors seeking protection and justice. In addition, it examines whether survivors receive adequate support from the justice system and wider society. This research aims to evaluate how effective current measures are in reducing domestic violence within modern British society.

Tilly Preston



What is the most effective treatment for dogs with oral cancer?

Canine Oral Cancers, including OMM, SCC, and FSA pose significant challenges due to their local aggressiveness and metastatic potential. Management options include monotherapies and combination therapies, with the most common options being Surgical excision, radiotherapy, Chemotherapy and immunotherapy. Surgical removal is currently the primary treatment for local lesions, as it aims for removal with clear margins. Radiotherapy can be used as a monotherapy when surgical excision is not an option, however it is most often used as an adjunctive to another treatment. Chemotherapy is used to manage remaining and/ or metastatic cancer; however it is not always successful, varying responses based on tumour type. Immunotherapy, including vaccines and targeted therapy shows promising results, especially in OMM. Understanding the advantages and disadvantages of each treatment depending on the variety of tumour, enables veterinarians to decide on the most suitable treatment for each patient. A case study and literature review have been undertaken to highlight the importance of a holistic approach to cancer treatment.

Evelyn Purcell



To what extent, is sport beneficial to mental health?

Throughout this project, I intend to explore the reasoning behind the impacts of sport on athletes' mental health. Many athletes suffer with mental disorders at some point during their sports career, there are many factors which cause this to happen, such as: negative coaching, pressure, over training and many more. Mental health in sport is my topic of interest due to personal experiences with coaches and injury, which now prevents me from being able to take part in the sport I grew up in. Some of the biggest stars like Simone Biles and Tom Daley have given us an insight into how they have had to take breaks and overcome mental health problems. Unfortunately, when investigating, research highlighted that many athletes are at a high risk of suffering with eating disorders, like Tom Daley, as well as other physical disorders which can be detrimental to mental health. Contrastingly, alongside exploring the negative impacts of sport I have also chosen to compare these to the information given in the UK by the NHS and other medically professional providers like MIND as they explore the positive aspects of sport and how taking part in physical activity boost your mood. Whilst using secondary research for the majority of my project, I additionally gathered my own primary data to allow me an insight into the real world and what genuine athletes opinions are even though they may not be at the highest level of participation.

Alana Reveley



To what extent can participation in netball reduce the symptoms of anxiety and depression in adolescents?

This project explores the extent to which participation in netball can reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression in adolescents. The investigation focused on the increasing rates of mental health issues among young people and whether sport, particularly team sports like netball, can positively affect wellbeing. Throughout the project, I explored biological, psychological, and social explanations for how physical activity may improve mental health. This included theories such as Bandura's Self-Efficacy Theory, the Social Interaction Hypothesis, and research into the effects exercise has on brain chemicals such as serotonin and endorphins. Different perspectives were considered throughout the essay. While many sources suggested that netball can improve confidence, reduce stress, and provide social support, I also explored counterarguments, including performance pressure, competition anxiety, and negative team dynamics. I also carried out my own questionnaire to investigate adolescent experiences of netball and mental health. Overall, I concluded that netball can help reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression to a moderate extent, although the impact depends on factors such as the environment, level of competition, and individual experiences.

Emily Richardson



What challenges teachers in the UK more, the students or the structure?

Abstract

This project aims to evaluate the challenges faced by current day teachers in the United Kingdom and whether these challenges originate from students or the structure of education to determine which is more impactful and significant in the profession. The number of teachers leaving one year after qualification is 10.3%, with 33.3% of those who qualified five years ago leaving, a statistic this project aims to identify the causes of (Department for Education, 2025).

By examining whether challenges from students or the structure are more impactful, this project will investigate the factors that are pushing thousands to leave the profession each year. The identified factors can then be analysed further to reduce their severity and alleviate the pressures in the education sector, improving teacher health and wellbeing to end the 'teacher retention crisis'.

Elias Robinson



To what extent do rehabilitation programmes prevent reoffending among young offenders convicted of murder?

This project looks at to what extent do rehabilitation programmes prevent reoffending among young offenders convicted of murder? This title was chosen due to an interest in the criminal justice system and the uncertainty about how young offenders are treated in young offender institutes because of how many young offenders reoffend after they are released from custody. This project aims to assess the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in preventing reoffending among the youth if they reduce the punishment a young offender receives to focus on rehabilitation. To present these findings effectively, research was carried out on news articles and reports to highlight how 5 young offenders were treated after being convicted of murder. These young offenders are John Venables, Robert Thompson, Mary Bell, Mohamed Umar Khan and Axel Rudakabana. This research has highlighted that both rehabilitation and punishment are important factors in young offender institutes.

Beth Rockett



Have national and international women's rights improved in the 21st century?

Determining the current quality of women's rights in the present day is affected by multitudinous factors – in particular, the country being studied, its culture, the religious beliefs and customs, amongst others. Conversely, the connection between miseducation and misconceptions of women to the prevalence of misogyny is demonstrative: men's violence against women derives from the feminist concept of the patriarchy, wherein men have the higher ground in society. Through collective surveys and interviews, as well as a general consideration of liberal and feminist viewpoints, this essay emphasises the profound importance of eliminating patriarchal beliefs from the traditional education of children, and promoting male support for feminist movements, to combat sexism in society. Yet, this essay also considers how the patriarchy is overly engrained in society – perhaps to the point of no retribution – and how this may result in individuals seeing patriarchal systems as inevitable, or potentially natural.

Jack Andres Rodriguez Medina



To what extent do dreams serve a meaningful psychological purpose?

There are many opinions and theories when it comes to the idea and if they do carry out their meaningful psychological purposes by focusing on key theories made by Freud, Jung and other individuals (McNamara). It evaluates where dream's purpose is wish fulfilment, emotional processing, memory consolidation or random neural activity. By assessing many different interpretations (activation synthesis, cultural interpretation) within this project, we can assess how far dreams contribute to mental wellbeing and self-understanding. Ultimately, the investigation argues that while not all dreams are meaningful, many play an important role in processing emotions and experiences within the human mind.

Wiktorja Rys



The anatomy and mentality of horses in Eventing: Is the thoroughbred better suited than the Dutch Warmblood?

Due to a personal interest in both horses and Eventing, I decided to write my project evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of two major horse breeds that are used in Eventing. In the essay, I wanted to investigate the reason for the recent and rapid decline in the numbers of Thoroughbreds used in Eventing as well examine the possibility of the Dutch warmblood being a better candidate. From my research I have found that there are many positive attributes for both breeds and each suit different disciplines more than others. However, the result of my research presented the Dutch Warmblood as the best suited out of the two breeds for Eventing due to its trainable mindset and elegant conformation.

Erin Scullion



Is time travel possible within the laws of physics?

Abstract

Time travel, long regarded as just a scientific fantasy is now being increasingly more studied than ever before through the works of Einsteins general relativity, this essay explores how time travel comes naturally from the mathematical field of spacetime, focusing more on gravitational fields and velocity based time dilation both of which have been experimented and confirmed to show the indefinite possibility of forward time travel, this essay also examines more speculative mechanisms for backward travel and which includes CTCs (closed time like curves), wormholes, rotating black holes and the Godel universe and these are all permitted by mathematical means but lack severe physical, logical and technological problems. This essay also covers paradoxes such as the most notable one being the grandfather paradox and the many worlds interpretation theory. Ultimately the essay argues that whilst time travel into the future is fully supported and backed with evidence, backward time travel remains impossible due to logical constraints by physics.

Jimmy Shaban



The Human Psyche - is it derailed by the rapid rise in online media?

Misunderstanding of the role of media within society commonly influences negative interactions surrounding virtual spaces. Studying the impact modified communication (through the rise of technological convergence) has on the human psyche indicates a wider influence of distorted reality has on human identity. The combination of psychological theories and journals with media insights demonstrates how excessive exposure modifies cognitive and behavioural patterns impacting communication and connection.

Abigayle Shooter



Is a collection always overconsumption?

Due to the rise in popularity of social media in the past decade, collections are often mislabelled as a practice riddled with dishonesty and unnecessary overconsumption. This essay aims to explore whether there is a pattern between hoarding items for ones own monetary benefit, fame on content creation platforms and the characteristics a person may possess, through several socio-economic theories and critical opinion to evaluate whether or not a collection is always overconsumption, and when the gathering of a group of items becomes an objective problem within society because of environmental, societal and financial consequences.

Finnley Skoczen



Why has there been a decline in home cooking?

This project is a 5000 word essay that focuses on answering the question 'Why has there been a decline in home cooking?'. It covers the topics of the history of home cooking, the decline itself, the economic impacts and causes, the health impacts and ends by looking at possible solutions to the decline. Ultimately, the projects suggests that the increase in demand for convenience food as opposed to home cooked food is the result of people's lives becoming much busier than they were in the past. There is, however, compelling evidence to suggest that people still want to cook but again do not have the time to do so. This project includes credible evidence from websites, articles, documentaries and books to attempt to provide an answer to its question.

Megan Smith



In what ways has social media influenced a return to traditional female roles within society?

This project focuses on the impact of social media on the re-establishment of traditional gender roles in contemporary society. In the twenty first century although feminism served to enhance and make women equal to men in many areas, it has become possible for trends such as the "tradwife" movement to encourage more traditional forms of femininity, such as keeping house. With the help of their content, these movements persuade women to take on traditional domestic caring roles. However the role that social media plays in promoting positive aspects for women's lives, and giving women voice on topics that are relevant to women's issues and women's health, will also be analysed in this project.

Clara Snelling



Animal Testing; Does the cosmetic industry still need to test on animals for their products in the 21st century?

Animal testing is a grey area in the cosmetic industry where beauty brands test their products in the manufacturing stage on animals. This traditional process is to ensure no chemicals and ingredients will cause any harm to human health by consequently testing on animals. In this report there is a discussion about cosmetic companies using the Leaping Bunny Logo to show their certification of their brand not using animals to test their products. This signifies that the cosmetic brand is committed to ethical animal friendly practices to show to their customers the support phasing out animal testing. However; with new ever evolving technology there is now alternative ways instead of testing on animals. For example, in-silica, in vitro and (AI)-driven modelling frameworks. The "traditional" ways of testing on animals have proven to be more expensive and take longer to produce accurate and reliable results for customers to be able to use the products safely. However; with innovative technology advancing it has made testing ingredients and chemicals a lot cheaper for cosmetic brands, with faster results. This therefore means that the results acquired from alternative biological technology is far more consistent to depend on to ensure public health is the priority of the brand.

Harriet Stafford



To what extent is romantic love possible in the lives of younger people from 15-18 and is it beneficial or damaging?

This article aims to explore the affect that the presence or absence of love can have on a teenagers life- it is becoming increasingly worrying in how fast children are being forced to grow up; its being shown in the way they dress and how they act but also the relationships they form and I will be exploring how this can be dangerous, how it could be beneficial and finally, whether love is as necessary as teenagers are made to believe it to be?

Sienna Stephenson



To what extent can the actions of Lyle and Erik Menendez be morally and legally justified?

This project examines the extent to which the Menendez brothers' actions can be morally and legally justified. To achieve this, I conducted a literature review to explore and analyse legal and moral standpoints, while combining primary research interviews with a mental health professional and a police detective, allowing for a synthesised comparison of academic interpretations and professional perspectives. The analysis indicates that abuse may provide a real-world moral explanation for the brothers' actions, but it does not remove legal responsibility. Overall, the evidence indicates that the brothers' actions can be morally contextualised, but remain legally unjustified within established criminal frameworks.

Isaac Sunter



Why are young adults choosing medicine?

Each year, many students work extremely hard to get into one of the most competitive career pathways- medicine. From preparing for the UCAT to achieving top grades in sixth form, the process is highly demanding. Despite its reputation for extensive trainings stressful lifestyle, why do students still choose to pursue it? This study explores students' perspectives and uncovers their motivations for choosing medicine. These include a genuine desire to help others, influences from friends or family, or job security. Using questionnaire responses from pre-med students and academic literature sources, this study highlights how young people perceive the medical profession and why it continues to attract applicants each year. The findings suggest that many young adults are aware of the challenges and sacrifices involved in becoming a doctor. This study also evaluates how their perception can influence decisions to pursue it and whether these motivations have a positive or negative impact.

Ridya Sushil Kumar



How is terrorism integrated into the media in the 21st century?

My essay focuses on how terrorism is integrated into the media during the 21st century, focusing on two main terrorist attacks, 9/11 and the 2011 Norway attacks. The September 11th attacks helped to set a foundation in my essay as it became a gateway for islamophobia to access the world through the mass reporting , whilst the 22 July attacks in Norway have achieved to be a clear indicator of how the media works due to the narrative that the media gave before Anders Breivik was identified. Throughout the 21st century, the media has changed public opinions and perceptions on certain ethnic groups, they deem black individuals as criminal, Muslim individuals as terrorists and white individuals as the victims and have set a hierarchy in the public and in the media. As a result of the medias manipulation and twisting of narratives, many religious groups, races, people with different beliefs, have had to face the abuse and harassment from racist individuals who are held captive by the media and believe what they are shown not what they know.

Leila Sutton



To what extent is the medical industry biased towards women and how has this affected women overtime?

My EPQ investigates the extent to which gender bias in healthcare negative affects women's health outcomes. My project explores historical biases and how these have shaped the modern healthcare system. The project also analyses how these historical biases in medical research have led to the delayed diagnosis and the dismissal of women's pain and symptoms. Two case studies are examined: heart disease, which highlights the male-centred diagnostic criteria and endometriosis which demonstrates the normalisation of women's pain. The findings suggest gender biases in healthcare are a significant issue that requires not only a change in practices but also a shift in people's attitudes.

Olivia Sutton



To what extent does increased physical education in UK schools, improve the wellbeing of children and young people?

In my EPQ I will discuss the benefits that would be created if more PE/sport was offered in schools. I will talk about the mental, social, physical and academic benefits that sport has on young children. Sport improves children's mental well-being and health. I will also discuss the importance for more sport in primary school as this promotes sport from a young age and the importance of sport in secondary school as it can encourage lifelong habits which may lead to a healthier adulthood. I also will discuss that by adding just a couple of extra hours a week can change society positively.

Chloe Thornton



How do materials such as clay etc, affect the storytelling of stop motion animation and make it unique from the average cartoon animation?

This project contains how the material of clay can affect how a story is told more specifically through a stop motion film. In this project I have created a stop motion film of my own to back up this claim, comparing it to how different animations are produced for example cartoon animation. The film is just over a minute long and is a clay animation that I have created to make a visual reference to how I have used clay to bring something stationary to life, linking to the fact that if that storyline was to be told through cartoon the effect would be different.

Erini Vantilburg Roberts



How efficiently can electroshock therapy treat severe depression?

This project aims to analyse how efficiently electroshock therapy can treat people with severe depression by discovering how electroconvulsive therapy has developed throughout history starting in 1933 to the modern day, evaluating both positive and negative experiences and side effects of the procedure and to have a deep understanding of the different theories on how researchers believe this treatment works. The case studies give a detailed history of each patient and how they responded to electroconvulsive therapy they experienced. This gives us an inside view of a real-life application and not just the theory with statistics. This project will investigate how electroshock therapy is an effective treatment for severe depression by reducing the risks. These sections explore the efficacy it currently has and potentially will have in the future as more studies will be conducted by researchers.

Isabella Verity



To what extent do external pressures affect the mental health of elite gymnasts?

This project explores how different factors can have an effect on the mental health of elite athletes, focusing mainly on external factors. The aim was to see whether gymnastics has more of a positive or negative effect on elite gymnasts' mental health. Research was collected through books, peer-reviewed journals, the NHS website and documentaries. They were then put into a literature review where they were analysed and evaluated to remove any biased resources from my project. The results found through the research showed that in recent years after the Whyte Review, gymnastics does have more of a positive effect on elite gymnasts' mental health, however before the Whyte Review there was still many negatives which affected the mental health of elite gymnasts.

Scarlett Walster



Does an ACL injury impact runner's performances?

Suffering from an ACL injury can be devastating for a runner. It has a lengthy recovery time, and requires specialist treatment. This project will delve deep beneath the bone and reveal whether the ACL actually impacts a runner's performances post-injury, and how this happens, or whether, through sufficient treatment and patience, the athlete can regain strength and return to pre-injury levels. You may be thinking that the athlete will return to peak levels as that is how surgery and rehabilitation works. But, you will find that you are not absolutely correct. You'll just have to read and find out why for yourself.

Jack Watson



To what extent did the Black Death Impact Medieval Western European Society and Culture?

The aim of this essay is to investigate the extent to which the Black Death outbreak of 1348 impacted Western European society and culture for the rest of the late medieval era. By 'society and culture', the title refers to politics, religion and art, which are each discussed in this dissertation's 3 sections. Largely due to the fact that so many people in Western Europe died of the plague during this period, this essay concludes that the pandemic fundamentally changed the ways in which society functioned – most notably through its contribution to the decline of the feudal system and damage to the reputation or authority of the Roman Catholic Church. This essay finds that Medieval Western European culture was impacted to a very significant extent too, as art (including architecture, manuscripts and other art forms) saw a shift towards morbidity and realism.

Lottie Weaver



Are Disney princesses good role models for 5 to 10 year olds?

Within my project I intend to discuss the positive attributes as to what makes a princess a good role model and the negative one too. This will be discussed through a background and contextual analysis of the 10 princesses. I analysed the princesses within three eras the early era (including Snow white, Cinderella and Aurora), the transitional era (including Ariel, Belle and Jasmine) and the modern era (including Moana, Tiana, Elsa and Mulan). Discussing each era's similarities and differences while also showing how they reflect the different societies they were produced in. I also discover that determining a good role isn't a linear process and a role model isn't a standalone thing there are many factors and wider limitations to a role model being truly effective, this can be evident through age and alternative role models. Overall, I concluded that while the Disney princesses do possess some qualities that aren't positive for children, it is more dependent on how they are interpreted and understood within the wider society and cultural values.

Leah Wicks



How reliable are menstrual cycle apps and online skincare advice on providing accurate dermatological information?

This dissertation will aim to assess the usefulness of menstrual cycle apps on providing accurate and reliable information. Furthermore, evaluating the reliability of online skincare advice, by looking at social media platforms and to evaluate if scientifically accurate dermatological information is displayed. This dissertation will begin initially researching scientific information on the formation and treatment of Acne vulgaris, creating a baseline to make a judgement on the two aspects. This will be followed by looking at how social media platforms and if factual dermatological information on the treatment and conceptions about the skin is present. Furthermore, the second part of the dissertation will evaluate the reliability of menstrual cycle apps on providing scientific information and evaluate whether it provides accurate dermatological information. In conclusion, this dissertation explores the relationship between online skincare advice on social media platforms, menstrual cycle apps, and digital health. Therefore, evaluating the reliability of providing dermatological information and menstrual health information on digital health platforms.

Lawin Wiles



Are gastric ulcers more common in competition horses or leisure horses?

I chose my project 'Are gastric ulcers more common in competition horses or leisure horses?' because I ride horses myself and I have had some who have suffered from this terrible condition.

Through my project, I have examined how gastric ulcers are formed, what they are exactly, the impact these can have on a horse's physical wellbeing, and the different types that can form. I have also covered the reasons horses get ulcers in the first place, the symptoms of them, so owners are aware, and have evaluated the scoping process, treatment, and preventative measures that can be taken.

Tamsin Wiles



Economic efficiency of creatine compared to other forms of supplementation.

This project investigates the economic efficiency of creatine monohydrate by comparing its performance benefits and financial cost to alternative supplements such as whey protein, caffeine, BCAAs and pre-workout formulas. Using secondary research from peer-reviewed studies and market pricing data, the report evaluates creatine through concepts including marginal benefit, opportunity cost and consumer rationality. Findings show that creatine provides the greatest performance return per pound spent, offering consistent improvements in strength, power and lean mass at a low cost. The report concludes that creatine is the most economically efficient supplement despite market misinformation and behavioural biases.

James Woodhouse



Are mathematical discoveries universal truths or human inventions?

The title 'Are mathematical discoveries universal truths or human inventions' challenges our understanding of reality itself. By exploring the philosophy of mathematics and examining contradicting perspectives the question's complexity becomes clear. It's tempting to instinctively jump to a conclusion yet the more you deep dive into the rabbit hole which is the development of Platonism and Formalism the more you realise how intricately woven our universe is, begging the questions: If mathematics has nothing to do with humans then who put it there? and why did they? Conversely, if it isn't then how does it describe the world so effectively?

Jack Wright

