**Introduction to schizophrenia: Homework 1**

1. Watch this video to give you an idea about how the symptoms of schizophrenia present themselves in patients: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVAbNL8mrgk>

* Make a list of all the symptoms that are identified in the video.



This video follows an artist Bryan Charnley who suffered from schizophrenia. In an attempt to portray the experience of the disorder he reduced his medication and painted a series of 17 self-portraits. This is a video presentation of the portraits, alongside entries from his diary. Very interesting insight to the disorder!

1. Access this website: <http://www.mentalhealthcare.org.uk/mental_health_diagnoses>

Make notes on the following questions:

* How do psychiatrists make a mental health diagnosis? What information do they use and how?
* What is the ICD-10?
* What is the DSM-5?
* What problems are there with overlap of symptoms?
* What are the pros and cons of a diagnosis?

1. Research task:

* Write a definition of positive symptoms and describe 3 examples (this must include hallucinations and delusions).
* Write a definition of negative symptoms and describe 3 examples (this must include avolition and alogia (speech poverty)
* Find out what co-morbidity means. Can you find any disorders that are co-morbid with schizophrenia? Look up Buckley et al. (2009)
* What symptoms of schizophrenia may overlap with other conditions? (Specifically look at bipolar disorder)

1. Watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txCnQLxy1XY>

* Make notes on the key differences in schizophrenia between males and females.

1. One of the most controversial approaches in Psychology is Reductionism. Your task is to find out exactly what this approach is about by logging onto the website below:- and considering 4 questions

* What is reductionism
* Why it may be considered an ‘undesirable’ theory in psychology?
* Why it may be considered a useful theory?
* Give 2 examples of reductionism in psychology

[www.psychologistworld.com/issues/reductionism.php](http://www.psychologistworld.com/issues/reductionism.php)

1. Challenge: Read this article on the cultural and demographic factors that affect schizophrenia. <http://www.psychosocial.com/IJPR_10/Cultural_Demographic_Factors_of_Sz_Russo.html>