

## Project Proposal form

|                  |                      |                |                   |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Learner Name     | <u>P. Turner</u>     | Learner number | <u>XXXX</u>       |
| Centre Name      | <u>Projects High</u> | Centre Number  | <u>XXXXX</u>      |
| Teacher Assessor | <u>Mr Smith</u>      | Date           | <u>18/10/2012</u> |
| Unit             | <u>P301</u>          |                |                   |

Proposed project title Is the mind the same as the brain?

### Section One: Title, objective, responsibilities

Title or working title of project (in the form of a question, commission or design brief)

Is the mind the same as the brain?

Project objectives (eg, what is the question you want to answer? What do you want to learn how to do? What do you want to find out?):

- I want to research the different theories relating to the mind/body problem
- I want to explore the way in which thinking about the human mind has changed over time
- I want to find out how scientific ways of studying the brain are affecting the way we think about the mind
- I hope in my project to see how a question can be studied which has links to several different subject areas

If it is a group project, what will your responsibilities be?

This is not a group project

### Section Two: Reasons for choosing this project

Reasons for choosing the project (eg, links to other subjects you are studying, personal interest, future plans, knowledge/skills you want to improve, why the topic is important):

I am studying biology and psychology A levels, and an AS in philosophy. I would like to go on to study psychology at university and feel that this question will help me prepare for this. I find the topic of the human mind extremely interesting and enjoy reading about how it is studied both by psychologists and philosophers. In psychology, we have learned about some theories relating to the mind (behaviourism and cognitive psychology) and the theories of dualism and materialism have been discussed in our philosophy classes. This project will give me a chance to explore the background to the development of these theories and to decide on what I think. The topic is important because how we think about the mind affects how we treat issues like mental illness. It is also important because it is all

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <p>about who we are - if the mind is the same as the brain then does this mean that we are just physical beings and there is no soul?</p>   |                                 |
| <p><b>Section Three: Activities and timescales</b></p>  |                                 |
| <p>Activities to be carried out during the project (eg, research, development and analysis of ideas, writing, data collection, numerical analysis, rehearsal techniques, production meetings, production of final outcome, administration, evaluation, preparing for the presentation, etc):</p>  | <p>How long this will take:</p> |
| <p><b>Project planning</b><br/>         I am going to do some initial research to see what articles and books I can find before I finally decide on my choice of title. I also hope to make contact with a nearby university to see if I can make use of their library</p>                        | <p>1 week</p>                   |
| <p><b>Research</b><br/>         I am going to look for books, articles and information from websites which are relevant to my topic. I will make notes then write this up as the research section of my project. I hope to be able to explore the historical background to the topic as well.</p> | <p>5 weeks</p>                  |
| <p><b>Development of arguments</b><br/>         I will need to spend time evaluating the arguments I have found and developing the discussion section of my project with both arguments and counter-arguments.</p>  | <p>6 weeks</p>                  |
| <p><b>Other sections of the project</b><br/>         I will add the abstract, introduction, conclusion, evaluation</p>  | <p>2 weeks</p>                  |
| <p><b>Editing</b><br/>         I will re-draft and edit my project when I have had feedback from my supervisor</p>  | <p>3 weeks</p>                  |
| <p><b>Presentation</b><br/>         I will plan, rehearse and give my oral presentation</p>   | <p>1 week</p>                   |
| <p>Milestone one: First draft of research section and plan for discussion</p> <p>Target date (set by tutor-assessor): 6 December 2012</p> <p>Milestone two: Hand in complete dissertation</p> <p>Target date (set by tutor-assessor): 14 March 2012</p>   |                                 |
| <p><b>Section Four: Resources</b></p>   |                                 |
| <p>What resources will you need for your research, write up and presentation (eg, libraries, books, journals, equipment, rehearsal space, technology and equipment, venue, physical resources, finance):</p>  |                                 |

I will be using my school library and also hopefully the library at my local university  
 I will use my A level psychology and philosophy textbooks.  
 I have been reading a book called 'The mysterious flame' by Colin McGinn which explains various theories.  
 I have found a number of useful websites including [www.closetotruth.com](http://www.closetotruth.com) and  
<http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/topic.htm> which contain many useful interviews and articles

What your areas of research will cover?

I will be exploring the history of different theories in psychology and philosophy about the mind.  
 I will be looking at the debate between dualism and materialism in philosophy.  
 I will be looking at how brain scanners have been used to study processes in the brain which go on while people are thinking particular things.

**Comments and agreement from tutor-assessor**

Is the learner taking this project as part of the Diploma? Yes/No

If yes, which Diploma are they taking? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (optional):

Is project derived from work which has been/will be submitted for another qualification? Yes/No

Which qualification (title and unit)? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (optional): The student is making use of subject knowledge studied in her other courses but her project is extending her studies by addressing an issue which she has not studied yet.

I confirm that the project is not work which has been or will be submitted for another qualification and is appropriate.

Agreed: P. J Smith (name) 1/11/2012  
 (date)

**Comments and agreement from project proposal checker**

Comments (optional):

I confirm that the project is appropriate.

Agreed: P. J Smith (name) 1/11/2012  
 (date)