

Introduction
to

Psychology

We are in this together!

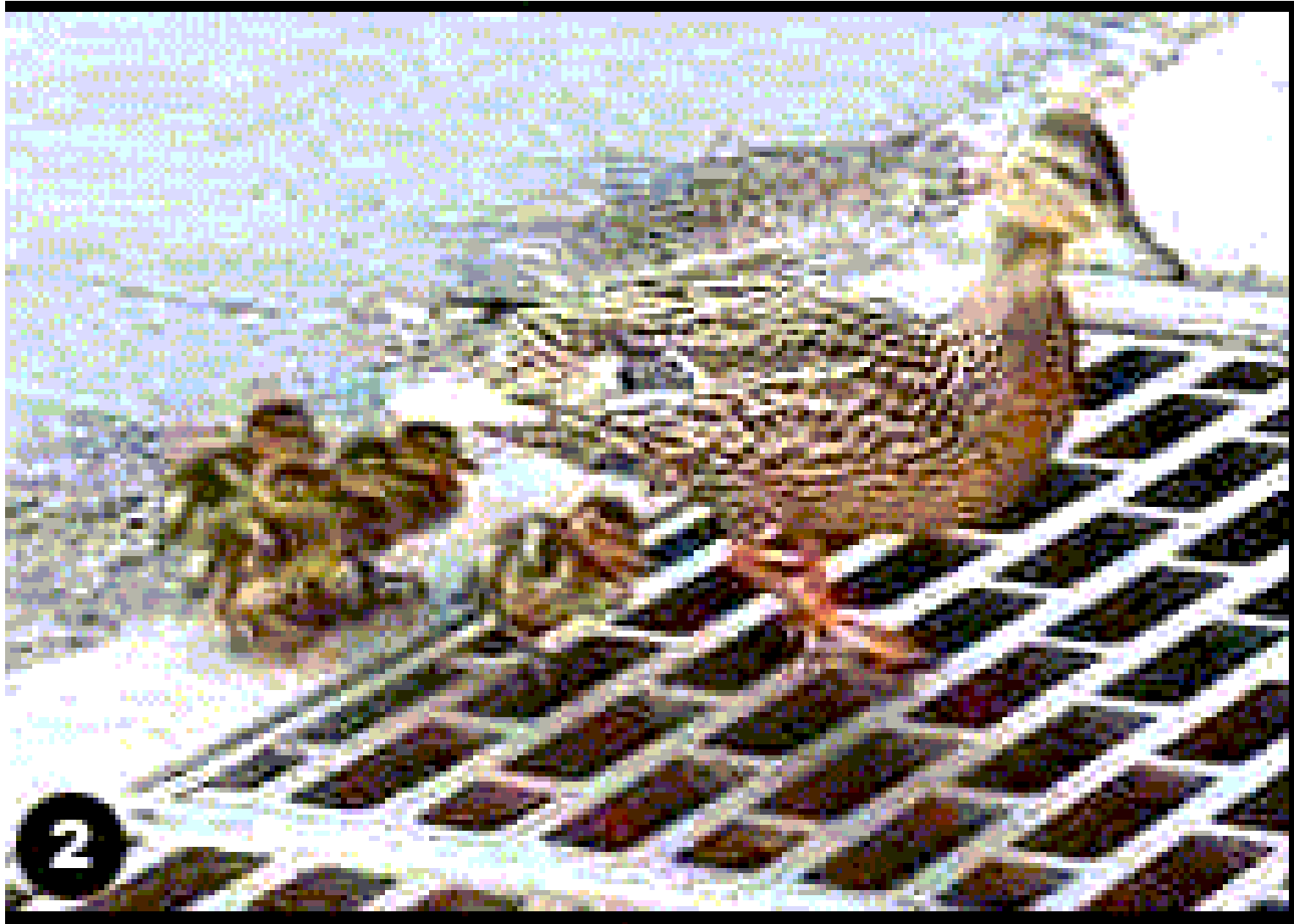
Education is a partnership. I will work hard to be prepared and to facilitate your growth as a student. You must provide an open mind and a willingness to engage me, fellow students and the curriculum.

Our partnership might
look like this...

Mr. Sommer and his AP Psychology class!



Marching through the curriculum



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They were with me a second ago...



Communication

- In order for you to achieve at the highest level possible, it is essential to communicate with me about your struggles as well as your successes! (You are the first person in the room that knows if you understand or don't understand lessons and concepts.)

Take risks anyway because...

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

Winston Churchill

Success.



Course Expectations

- This course is designed to be like a introductory college course.
- We will use two textbooks (David G. Meyers - Psychology: Ninth Edition in Modules and Rod Plotnik – Introduction to Psychology Tenth Edition) that are used by many Universities.
- **Like a college class, I expect you to be self-motivated. I will expect you to come to class prepared to discuss what you have read.**
- The lessons will be part lecture and part activity. The activities will be most useful in **reinforcing** what you have read – you cannot learn all of the information needed to do well on the exam by **merely** attending class – **you need to put in the time away from class.**

Classroom Expectations

- Electronic Devices – **No** electronic devices (including **cell phones, Ipods, MP3 type players** [both audio and visual], calculators, radios, CD players, etc.) are allowed unless **I request that you use them** for a particular activity. If I observe you text messaging, reading text messages or playing games in class, you will get one warning for the year. If there is any subsequent time, I will take your cell phone and you may collect it from me at the *end of the* **school day**. If the problem becomes habitual, your parent or guardian will have to retrieve the phone from me. On some occasions (which we will discuss in class) you may be permitted to listen to your headphones.

Cell Phones

You should not have your phone out in class unless I ask you to use it for an academic purpose.

Therefore, cell phones need to be turned off and put away (as opposed to on your desk, hidden from me by a backpack or purse, or hidden in your lap). Use of your cell phone during class will result in loss of participation points.

POLICIES

- Food and Drink – Food and drink are permitted in class as long as they do not become a distraction. Clean up after yourself.
- Language/Courtesy – I will address you respectfully and courteously. I expect you to do the same for me and your fellow classmates.
- Lining up at the door at the end of class – DON'T.

POLICIES

- Student Handbook – Be familiar with it ... I will expect you to adhere to what is both required and expected of you. Pay particular attention to the sections discussing the policies on excused and unexcused absences and student behavior.
- Late to class – I expect you to make every effort to be in class on time. Being tardy has a negative impact on your participation grade.
- Hall passes – You get three per quarter.

SINGLE PERIOD ABSENCES

- Attendance is very important. Since we meet first period I know there may be more variables involved in getting to class (traffic, appointments, etc...). Single period absences were an issue in previous years. I needed to develop a way to be thoughtful about your situation as well as fair to your fellow classmates.

SINGLE PERIOD ABSENCES

- I am attempting to resolve the problem in the following ways:
- If you miss first period and arrive on campus later that same day, come by room and turn in work for that day (hopefully before noon).
- Submit any work that is due electronically prior to the start of the class that you will be missing (8:15). For instance, take a picture of your completed work and email it to me.
- This is a new process for me and I am willing to work through this with you. **Communication is essential!!!**

SINGLE PERIOD ABSENCES

- Alternatives forms of assessment will be given for single period excused absences on test day. If you have an unexcused absence you will not receive credit for the work that is due that day. If you have an unexcused absence on a test day you will receive a “0” for that test score.

TEST MAKE UP

- Students will have two school days to make up any exams that are missed unless there are considerations made by the instructor. Communication is essential!
- Students who miss a test make up without communicating with me will not be allowed to make up the test.

AP Exam

- Section I = 100 multiple choice questions
 - 70 minutes
- Section II = the free response section
 - 2 questions
 - 50 minutes

14 TOPICS

- History and Approaches (2-4%)
(Module 1 Meyers/ 1 Plotnik)
- Research Methods (8-10%)
(Modules 2-3 Meyers/2 Plotnik)
- Biological Bases of Behavior (8-10%)
(Modules 4-6 Meyers/3-4 Plotnik)
- Sensation and Perception (6-8)
(Modules 17-22 Meyers/5-6 Plotnik)
- State of Consciousness (2-4%)
(Modules 7-10 Meyers/7-8 Plotnik)

14 TOPICS

- Learning (7-9%)
(Modules 23-25 Meyers/9-10 Plotnik)
- Cognition (8-10%)
(Modules 26-31 Meyers/11-12 Plotnik)
- Testing and Individual Differences (5-7%)
(Modules 32-35 Meyers/13-14 Plotnik)
- Motivation and Emotion (6-8%)
(Modules 36-44 Meyers/15-16 Plotnik)
- Developmental Psychology (7-9%)
(Modules 13-16 Meyers/17-18 Plotnik)

14 TOPICS (Continued)

- Personality (5-7%)
(Modules 45-47 Meyers/19-20 Plotnik)
- Psychological Disorders (7-9%)
(Modules 48-52 Meyers/21-23 Plotnik)
- Treatment of Psychological Disorders (5-7%)
(Modules 53-55 Meyers/24 Plotnik)
- Social Psychology (8-10%)
(Modules 56-59 Meyers/25 Plotnik)

Date of Exam

- Our test is Monday, May 7th
- Cost to take the exam is \$94
- That gives use roughly 30 school weeks to cover 14 topics.

Topic percentage of AP Exam

- History and Approaches (2-4%)
- Methods (8-10%)
- Biological Bases of Behavior (8-10%)
- Sensation and Perception (6-8%)
- State of Consciousness (2-4%)
- Learning (7-9%)
- Cognition (8-10%)
- Motivation and Emotion (6-8%)
- Developmental Psychology (7-9%)
- Personality (5-7%)
- Testing and Individual Differences (5-7%)
- Psychological Disorders (7-9%)
- Treatment of Psychological Disorders (5-7%)
- Social Psychology (8-10%)

Daily Work

- Reading and note taking
- Vocabulary
- Assigned projects
- In-class projects
- **Daily work will amount to 40% of your grade**

EFFORT MATTERS



Class Participation

5% of your grade is based on **attendance, promptness, effort, and on task behavior.**

Show up on time, ready to learn and give your best effort every day. In addition, **discussion is a very important component** of this class and thus it is necessary for students to attend and engage both the instructor and other students.

Assessments

- Tests, quizzes and projects
55% of grade

Late Work

- Work turned in late will be reduced by 40% of the possible points. Late work will be accepted up until five days before your scheduled final in the semester. Late work must be complete.

Many things change
throughout the year!

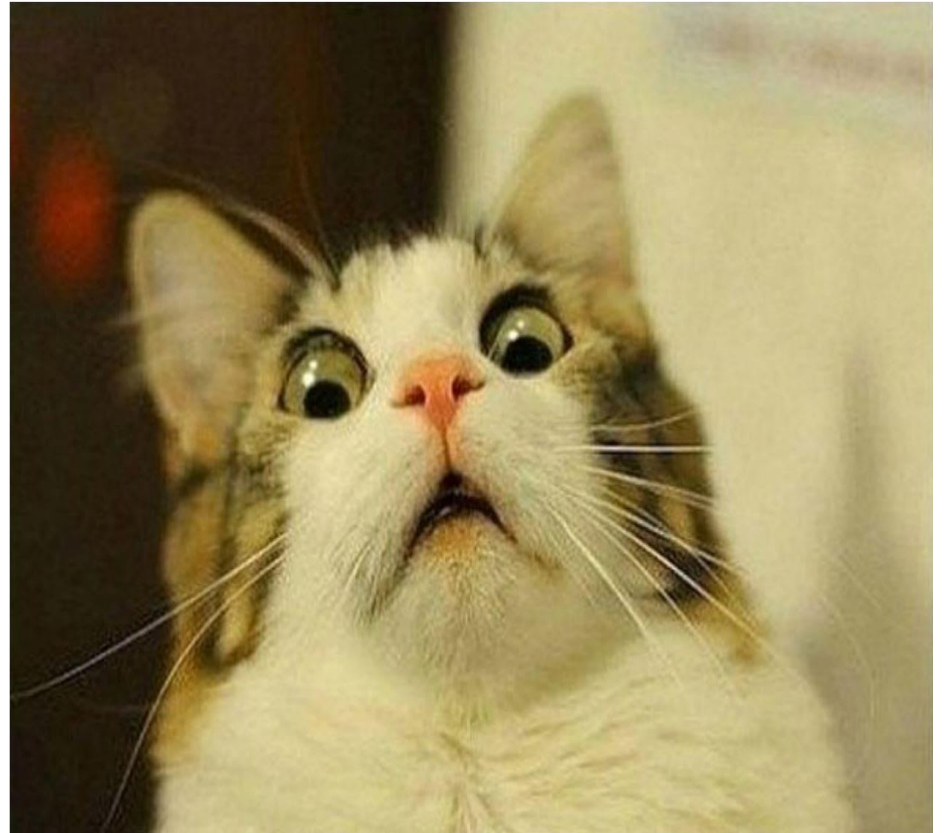
West Linn student at the beginning of the year doing outdoor activities.



West Linn High transfer student



West Linn students on the first day of AP Psych.



A West Linn student when told how much we will cover in AP Psych this year



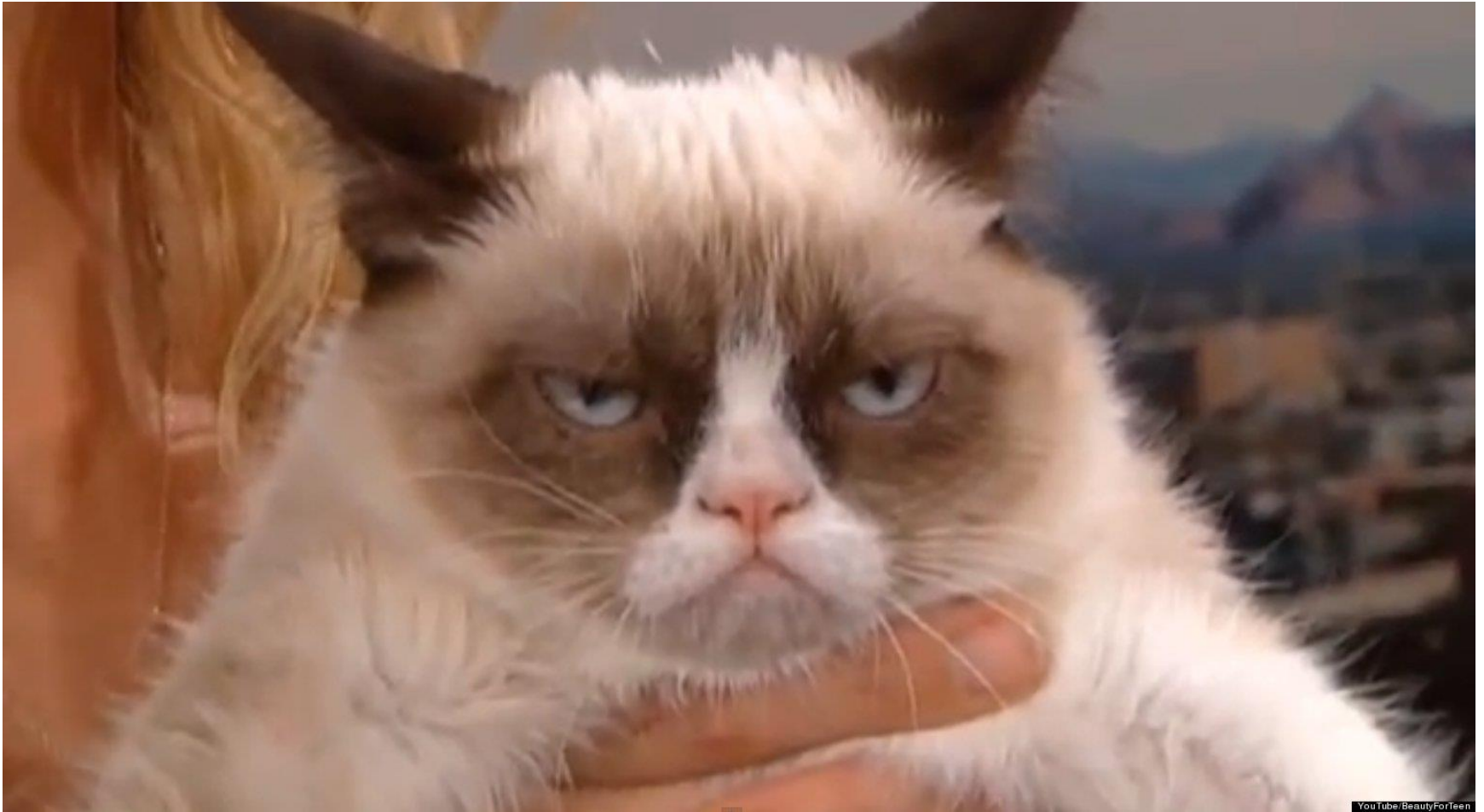
West Linn students in class at the end of the year



West Linn High Senior Pictures



A West Linn student during AP Exams



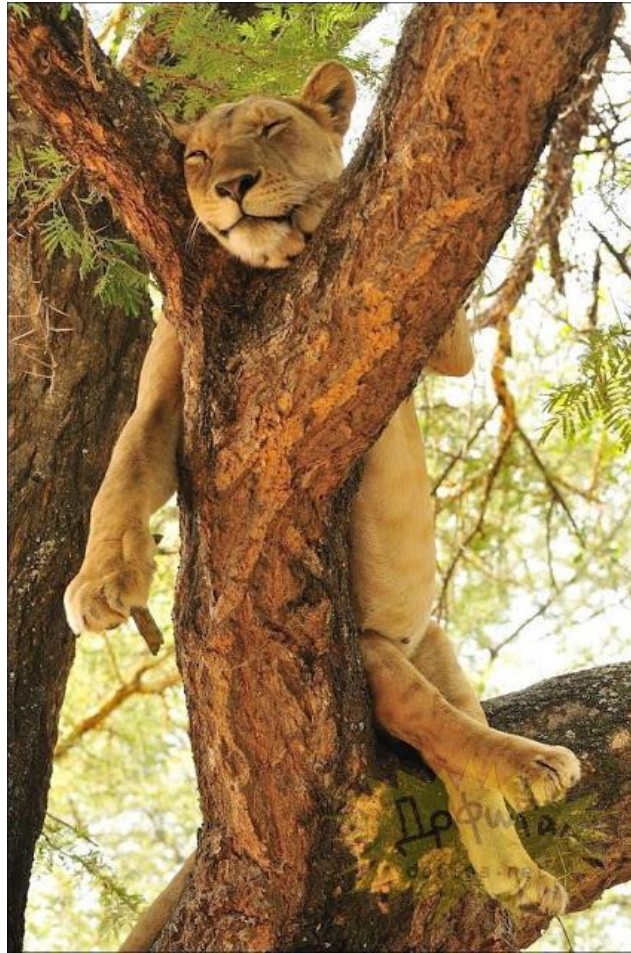
A West Linn student during finals week



A West Linn student after the AP Exam



A student relaxing when school is
out



A West Linn teacher when
school is out



- Look forward to a great year!!