

# Edexcel Extended Learning Project (EPQ)

## LEVELS 1 and 2

- Freedom to choose your own topic and work on your own.
- Develop essential independent working and research skills.

### Why the EPQ?

The EPQ means you can develop areas of your own interest and gain a qualification through them.

Your project is marked for process; the content of your project demonstrates the processes you have used:

- **Management:** selecting, planning and carrying out a project, applying skills and methods to achieve objectives – 17.5%.
- **Use of resources:** researching, selecting, organising and using information, and selecting and using a range of resources. Interpretation of data and applying findings – 22.5%.
- **Development and realization:** selecting and using a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies; and problem solving, to achieve the planned outcomes – 42.5%
- **Reviewing:** evaluating the project outcomes and own learning and performance – 17.5%.

### Some examples of project titles:

- Has the introduction of organic foods changed the way we shop and eat?
- Exploring the use of public transport in my local area. How could it be improved?
- Creating a training programme for a sport.

- Producing a range of coordinated surface pattern designs for use in a 'themed' restaurant.
- Designing and producing a teaching aid to help young children understand number and basic mathematical concepts.
- How much power does advertising have and how effective can the use of shock be?
- What pollution issues are there in the Hemel Hempstead area? What can be done to improve the situation?
- Should human cloning be allowed?
- What effect does TV have on family dynamics and the upbringing of children and teenagers?
- Should children be forced to exercise?
- Should the growth of hybrid embryos be permitted for scientific and/or medical research?
- What effect have superstores had on local shops in my local area?
- Have smoking habits and attitudes changed since the indoor ban?
- Does food labelling affect how people shop?
- Production of a) a series of photographs and text for a brochure or publicity leaflet
- Or b) a short video film, with commentary, to promote a visitor attraction in the area.
- Designing and making the prototype for a mural panel, or a piece of public sculpture, commemorating an event from local history or celebrating an industry or craft that is closely related to your area.

- Taking an existing everyday object and redesign it to make it more effective, more marketable, more attractive, more fashionable, or more environmentally friendly.

These are just examples of what you can do—it's up to you, and your supervisor will help you choose something appropriate. The EPQ shows that you are:

- Independent
- Think for yourself
- Committed
- Able to develop, research and present your own ideas

### **What is the Extended Learning Project?**

A project—a written assignment, performance or artifact on a topic of your own choice, worth the same grade as half a GCSE A\* - G. It is an independent project and so has less taught hours than other subjects.

### **What it entails**

The EPQ is a one year course, assessed by the production of a final project and a presentation at the end. There is no exam.

The project topic is entirely up to you; it is usually related in some way to your interests and future career ideas. It can be an interest or talent you've had for years, or something which is new but interesting to you.

You will be required to attend the scheduled lessons each week of teaching, and will also need to spend time above that working on your own.

As a rough guide, an entirely written project should be around 1,500 words long; a practical project should be supported by around 750 words of writing.

### **Your Holiday Tasks**

To be completed and handed in by your first lesson in September 2014

Reflect on your skills. Are you:

A good writer?

Good at Art ,Music or Drama?

Good at Media?

Interested in Sport?

Interested in Current affairs?

Interested in History?

**Think of a topic that you would find interesting to research.** For example: if you were interested in Boxing, explore how there are TWO different viewpoints about the sport; one which suggests it should be banned and one which supports Boxing as a valid sport which should continue.

Research your topic, and the different **viewpoints and opinions**.

Prepare a presentation to the group: it will include a power point presentation with images and bullet points to support what you have found out about the chosen topic. Your presentation should last around 2 to 3 minutes.

**Your Holiday Task continued.....**

**Find out the meaning of these terms, which are parts of an EPQ project:**

Provide definitions for.

Abstract

Bibliography

Counter arguments

Hypothesis

Objective

Primary Source

Plagiarism

Secondary Source

**Have a good summer!**