

IB Psychology Internal Assessment guide - Suggested timeline

Stage	Task	Focus
1	IA Introduction	Understand the task, assessment criteria, and ethical guidelines
2	Topic Selection	Identify a real-life problem and a relevant population of interest
3	Background Research	Explore psychological studies and theories related to the problem
4	Research Question and Aim	Create a focused question or aim that addresses the issue
5	Choose Research Method	Select one method from the approved list and justify its use
6	Design the Procedure	Plan the full step-by-step process for how the investigation would be carried out
7	Create the Data Collection Tool	Design an original tool (e.g. questionnaire, interview schedule, checklist)
8	Anticipate Ethical Issues	Apply ethical guidelines to the proposed study and explain how concerns will be addressed
9	Anticipate Challenges	Identify possible issues during data collection and explain their impact
10	Draft the Discussion Section	Predict possible findings, link them to policy or practice, and reflect on bias
11	Propose an Additional Method	Choose a second method to expand understanding of the issue
12	Final Write-Up	Compile all sections into a cohesive report within the 2200-word limit

13	Review and Edit	Check for clarity, alignment with criteria, and academic honesty
14	Submit Final IA Report	Ensure the final document includes title, code, word count, references, and appendices