



# Extended Project

If you could design  
your own A  
Level/BTEC course  
what would it look  
like?

## What is the “EPQ”?

- ✓ It is the extended project qualification
- ✓ It gives you the opportunity to study something of your own choice and design.
- ✓ The project can be essay based/ field study/ performance or artefact. In the current situation it is far easier for it to be essay based. Unless it is IT based artefact. There is a 5,000 word guideline
- ✓ The EPQ is based on university-style independent but supervised learning.
- ✓ It is worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  an A Level and graded A\*-E



# Why undertake an EPQ?



Pathway to Russell Group

Pathway to university and higher education

Pathway to Apprenticeships and work

It covers your interest area that your A Levels/BTECs don't

It may open doors to popular courses

You may get a lower offer

# The Process of completing an epq whilst studying at home

The project takes about 120 hours from start to finish.

This would be the equivalent of 2 hours a day Monday –Friday for 12 weeks.



1. Complete the expression of interest, as detailed on the emailed letter, so we can add you to an email group and return to Miss Virgin.
2. Create a proposal document / question based on email conversations with Mrs Young and following the sample material we will send out.
3. We will then link you with a mentor via email.
4. Mrs Young will send you regular tutorials on how to research, create chapters, reference etc... These will arrive in a logical order so you can progress at your own pace but not be overwhelmed.
5. Drafts can be emailed in for advice on next steps.
6. The final piece needs to have a presentation to a small audience – *advice on this to follow when we know more.*

# Examples of projects



Abbeyfield  
School

Can training and diet improve flat-water canoe techniques?

Is the culling of badgers a realistic solution to the spread of bovine T.B.?

Is it ethical to genetically engineer babies for designer purposes?

Why do people live next door to volcanoes?

Without the discovery of oil, would the world be as it is today?

“Up the Oak Tree”. A short story influenced by Lewis Carroll.

[Use this link to access sample material on the website](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/dexcel-project-qualification/level-3.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FCoursework-materials)

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# EXTENDED PROJECT

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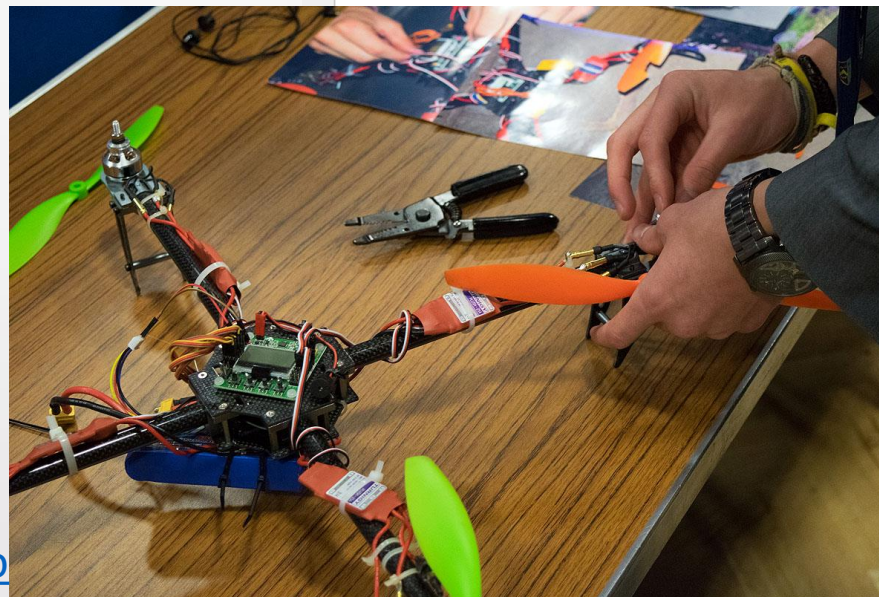
## Is our current approach to protecting against human African trypanosomiasis appropriate?

### Abstract

One of the most neglected tropical diseases claiming many lives a year is human African Trypanosomiasis also known as HAT or sleeping sickness. It is caused by the protozoan parasite *Trypanosoma brucei*, transmitted by tsetse fly {Figure 1}. The disease takes two forms and each of them affects various sub-Saharan countries. Prevalence is strongly dependent on control measures which are often neglected during periods of political instability, thus leading to resurgence. Clinical presentation is complex and so is diagnosis and treatment. The available drugs are difficult to administer and often lead to adverse reactions. International organisations have recently introduced national control programmes with the prospects of eliminating this disease. In this dissertation I have examined whether all that can be done is being done given that thousands still dying from the disease each year. I have examined many medical journals focussing on a broad range of contributory factors and approaches, as I believe these are the most important. As a result of this work I conclude that given the circumstances that the current approach against HAT is appropriate.

### Introduction

Human African trypanosomiasis, which can be fatal if left untreated, has been a major public health problem in sub-Saharan Africa for many years.



# Choosing your topic



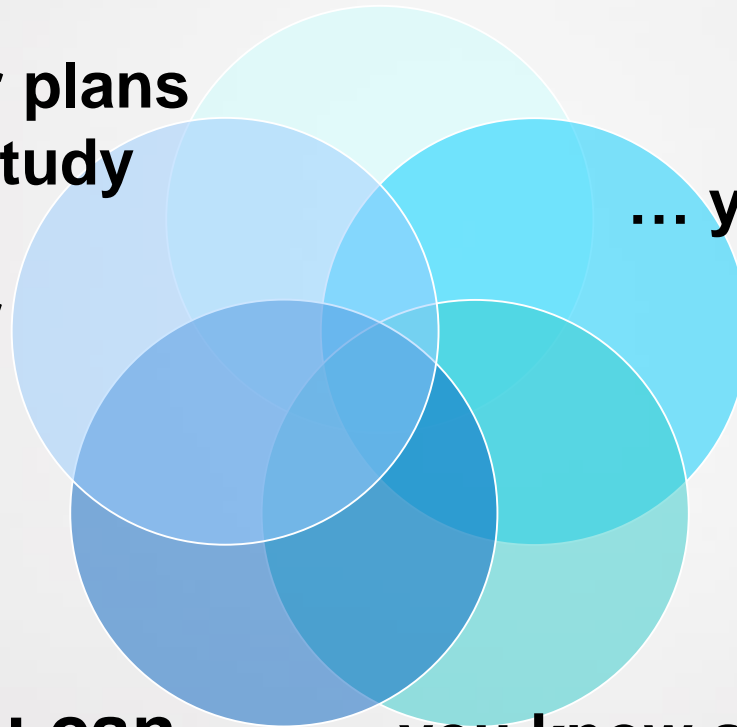
**...you're really interested in**

**...that's related to your plans  
for the future, e.g. study  
at university or  
possible career**

**... you're curious about**

**... that you can  
realistically research**

**...you know something - but not  
everything - about already**





# Final thoughts

The project takes about 120 hours from start to finish.

This would be the equivalent of 2 hours a day Monday –Friday for 12 weeks.



Preferably you need to have a title which has a yes/no answer so that you can have a strong and rigorous argument – this is essential for the top grades.

There has to be a balance to this argument eg Is the world round doesn't give you much scope for arguing well

Examples of good titles which current Year 12/13 are working on:

- Could biodegradable plastics become a sustainable long-term solution to the global plastic crisis?
- Would the world be better if the Roman Empire still existed today?
- Is enough being done to minimise the risk of vulnerable people (special needs, mental health issues) being put into the penal system?
- Does the rapid growth of the Chinese economy result in a social cost to society?

# Assessment Criteria



There are 4 areas of assessment:

**Management /9** This includes: your title and proposal, development of timescales and keeping an activity log recording everything you do and next steps.

**Resources /12** . This is the quality of your research (I have lots of free search engines for you to utilise) and how you use it in your project. It also includes how you reference others' work and the bibliography.

**Development /24** This is the actual writing of the project and the quality of your discussion, organisation of chapters etc...

**Review /9** This is your presentation (usually powerpoint to a small audience) of your work and a written evaluation of the project as a whole.