

Research in the humanistic perspective

This activity will help you to...

- Recall the strengths and weaknesses of different research methods
- Consider how a researcher's assumptions may affect their choice of method
- Assess the humanistic perspective in terms of its evidence and methods

What would Carl Rogers do?

Decide how likely a humanistic psychologist might be to use each of the following research methods. For each one, suggest why they would or would not use it (and, if appropriate, which variation they would use).

Experiment	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Very unlikely	
Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Very unlikely	
Interview	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Very unlikely	
Case study	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Very unlikely	

When you have decided, check your answers. Then discuss some possible answers to the following. Make a note of your conclusions.

- What are the chief advantages of the types of method preferred by humanistic psychologists?
- To what extent can the humanistic perspective be considered a scientific approach to psychology?