

Unit 6 Assignment: What Is Autism?

For this assignment, you are going to create an autism booklet intended to educate parents, grandparents, and others. Your booklet should provide an overview of autism and describe how autism has evolved over time to shape current views of this disorder. Some of the original theories and causes of autism have resulted in some misconceptions, and this booklet can be used to show how times have changed.

Using the template provided, write your booklet to include the following information:

1. What is autism?

Define autism and describe in full sentences some of the most common characteristics of children age birth-8 years of age with Autism Spectrum Disorders. This section of the booklet should be a minimum of 250 words.

2. What is the history of autism?

Describe the historical and theoretical foundations of autism. For example, how did the term/diagnosis of autism originate? What was thought to cause autism? How was autism originally viewed, and how were individuals treated with this type of condition? Please include at least two historical events or original theories that were first associated with autism in this section. This section of the booklet should be written in paragraph format and be a minimum of 250 words.

3. How has autism changed over the years?

Explain how some of historical events mentioned in the previous section have changed the current views of and treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders. For example: How is autism viewed today? What are some suspected causes of this disorder today? How are individuals treated/viewed with this diagnosis nowadays? How has education for these individuals changed over time? Please be sure to address why the treatments/views on autism have changed over time. This section should be written in paragraph format and be a minimum of 250 words.

4. How is autism diagnosed?

Describe how a child age birth-8 years of age is currently diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Please be sure to include the diagnostic criteria for the Autism Spectrum Disorders. This section of the booklet should be written in paragraph format and be a minimum of 250 words.

5. Family Supports and Resources

In this section of the booklet, you should include specific local and national resources for families use. List and describe (in full sentences) four specific local and/or national agencies and/or organizations available to provide support and information for children ages birth – 8 years of age with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. Make sure to include how these agencies and organizations can be utilized by children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. You must apply a professionally recognized method of formatting and documentation for the sources in this section. This section of the booklet should be a 250 word minimum.

In addition to using the information you have learned from course readings and other resources, be sure to use the Kaplan Library to research the background, etiology, characteristics, and diagnostic process of autism. Your booklet should compare your findings between what you researched and what you learned in this course thus far.

As with all writing, you must include citations if you use information from any source to avoid plagiarism. It is always necessary to give the author credit. **In addition, please make sure to include a reference page, with a professionally recognized method of formatting and documentation for all sources.** If you need assistance, please use the APA Quick Reference Guide in the Course Home Page or visit the Kaplan University Writing Center.

The viewpoint and purpose of this assignment should be clearly established and sustained and should follow the conventions of Standard American English (correct grammar, punctuation, etc.). Your writing should be well ordered, logical and unified, as well as original and insightful. Your work should display superior content, organization, style, and mechanics.

Submitting Your Assignment

Submit your completed assignment to the **Unit 6: Assignment Dropbox**. If you need help using the Dropbox, see the Dropbox Guide located in the Academic Tools tab.

Unit 6 Assignment Rubric

Point Range Total:120 points		Unit 6 Assignment Grading Criteria
/95 points		<u>Content</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defines autism • Describes some of the common characteristics of autism • Discusses the history of autism • Describes some of the suspected causes of autism • Provides a thorough description of the assessment process and how autism is diagnosed • Discusses multiple family supports and resources available • Meets the required word minimum for each section • Information appropriately cited in APA format for in paper cites
/25 points		<u>Mechanics/Structure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spelling, Grammar checked • Clear writing, smooth transitions • Complete sentences (no sentence fragments, run-ons) • Subject/Verb agreement, punctuation, capitalization, etc. • Minimum of three references listed in APA format