



Development of Psychology *- A Historical Perspective*

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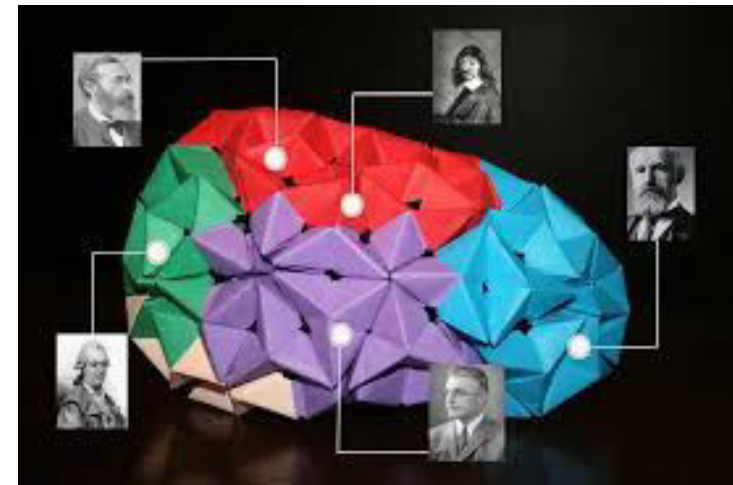
Jamal Mohamed College, Trichy

Development of Psychology

A. The Early Age of Pre-Scientific Psychology

B. The Modern Age of Scientific Psychology

C. The Recent Trends in Contemporary



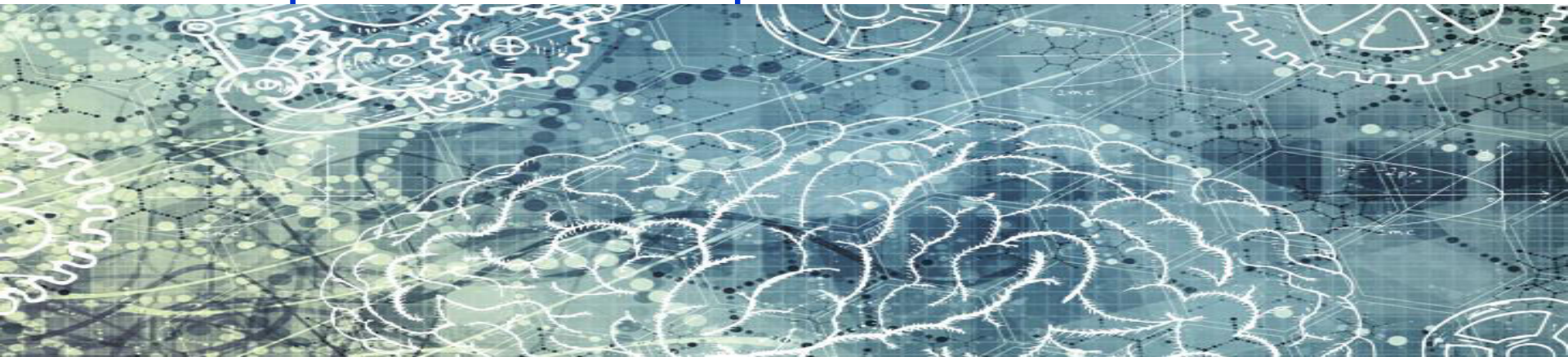
A. The Early Age of Pre-Scientific Psychology

How we behave ?

Why we Behave ?

- so are questions that have aroused curiosity from time immemorial.

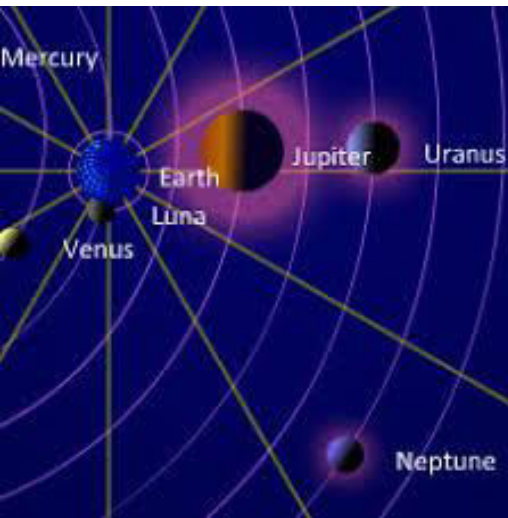
– They answered unscientifically on the basis of superstitions and speculations as follows:-



Unscientific – Answer 1

It was believed that a person's behaviour was the result of his fate which was bound to be influenced by the movements of the planets.

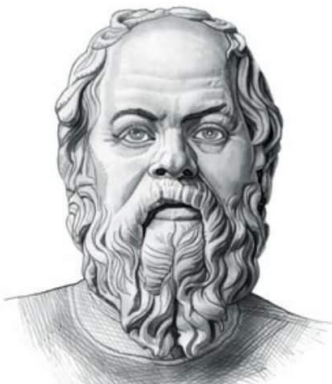
- Evaluating his Horoscope
- Role of Demons & Spirits
- Other Supernatural Forces



Unscientific – Answer 2

The Greek Philosophers are credited to look inside the human beings for clues to behaviour.

- ✓ **Socrates** - cooperative argumentative dialogue
question and answer
- ✓ **Plato** – Distinction between mind and body
- ✓ **Aristotle's** – the mind has the living moving
phenomenon



Unscientific – Answer 3

After the Fall of Roman Empire,

- The Catholic Church forced to explain **behaviour** (as a result of Evil Spirit and demons)
- As a Result of Renaissance in 7th century there arose a revolt against the superstitions, dogmatism and witchcraft.
- **Descartes** (middle of 7th Century) French Mathematician propound Theory of Dualism.

MIND



BODY

Separate Entities

- ✓ Therefore human behaviour can be explained through the mode of inter-actions between the mind and the body.
- ✓ They believe in **innate ideas**
(people are born with certain inborn ideas)

Unscientific – Answer 4

- ✓ The theory of Dualism gave **Birth to a lot of controversy and criticism.**
- ✓ **British Philosophers** like John Locke and Kant etc., after a lot of inquiry into the question of how the mind comes to acquire knowledge.
- ✓ Locke rejected the notion of **“innate ideas”**
- ✓ He said the concept of **“Tabula Rasa”** (at birth, the mind is like a blank slate)
- ✓ All Knowledge is derived from experience which is transmitted through sense organs.
- ✓ He also gave birth to burning dispute, whether **behaviour is the result of heredity or environment.**
- ✓ Later in the half of 8th century Kant propagated that behaviour is the result of experiences derived from two sources : **Things as they are in themselves and the mind.**

Unscientific – Answer 5

- ✓ Gave Birth to Associationism in Great Britain.
- ✓ Daniel Hartley, Sir William Hamilton, James Mill, John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer are known as the architects of this school.
- ✓ They said there is a direct connection between **sensation and idea.**

“If sensation has often been experienced together, the corresponding ideas will tend to occur together”

Unscientific – Answer 6

In the 18th century

- New wave of psychological thought by **Naturalists** like Rousseau, Pestalozzi and Froebel.
- They tried to revolt against too much **intellectualization** brought and insisted on the role of **feelings and emotions** and rejected the notion that man is essentially a creature of ideas and reason.

Unscientific – Answer 7

German Thinkers (First Half of 18th century)

– Reasoning, Thinking, Remembering etc.,

Friedrich Herbart (19th Century)

- Apperception and Mental Life

“He said new ideas may thrust the old or unimportant ones below the threshold of consciousness”

- ✓ In this way, ideas once derived from experience are never destroyed.
- ✓ He wrote mathematical formulae to state the laws of the mind.

Conclusion

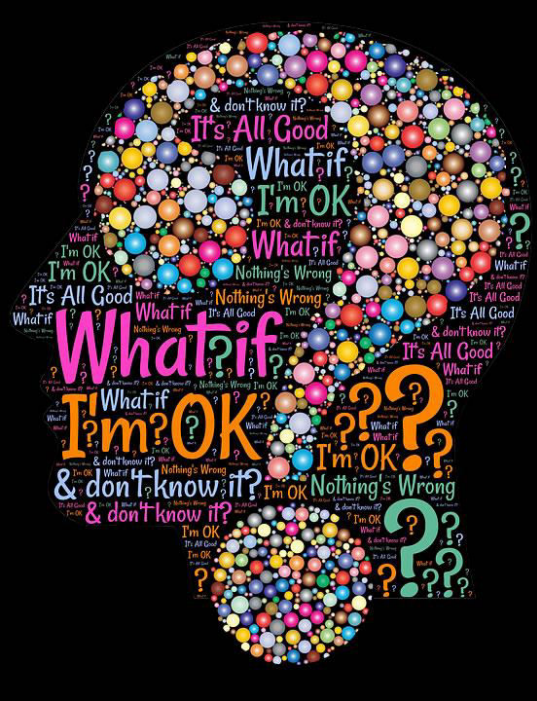
The middle of the 19th century thus witnessed the end of the period of unscientific psychology and placed psychology on the same footing as other sciences to be called as a science of behaviour.

Bye!



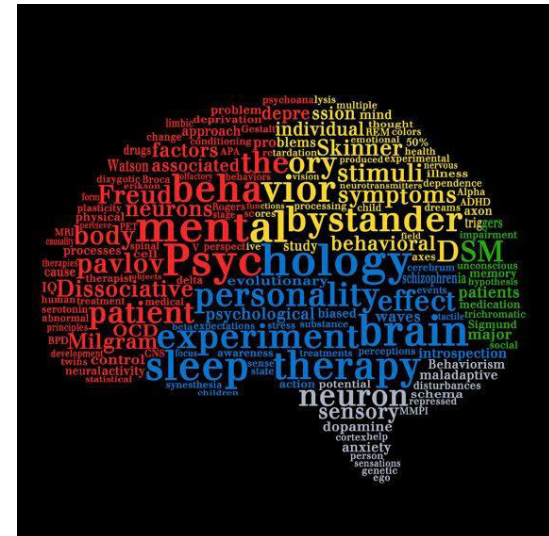
THANK YOU



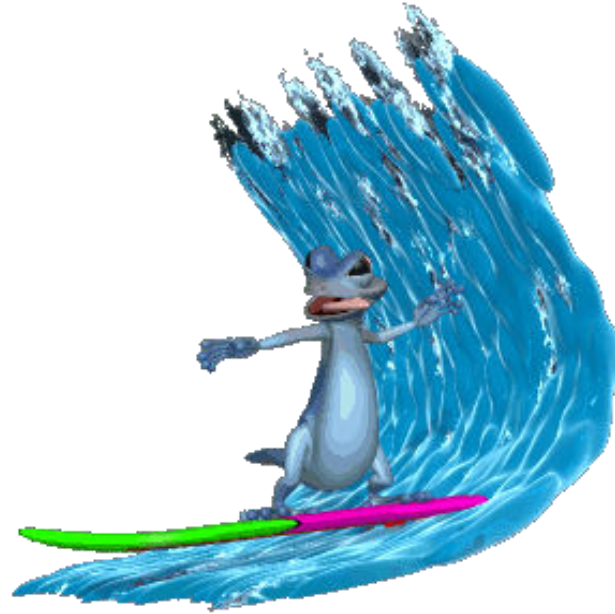


Development of Psychology - A Historical Perspective

B. The Modern Age of Scientific Psychology



Waves of Psychology



- The science of psychology has gone through **several waves since it started.**
- Waves are different **ways of thinking** over time.

Modern Psychology Rooted in History

In the latter half of **19th century** with the influence of the great studies in the field of

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Zoology
- Geology
- And other natural sciences

It was felt that human behaviour should now be studied through scientific methods instead of speculations which could not be tested under laboratory conditions.

Modern psychology developed from several conflicting ideas including

- Structuralism,
- Functionalism,
- Gestalt psychology,
- Behaviorism and
- Psychoanalysis.



Structuralism



Wilhelm Wundt 1832-1929

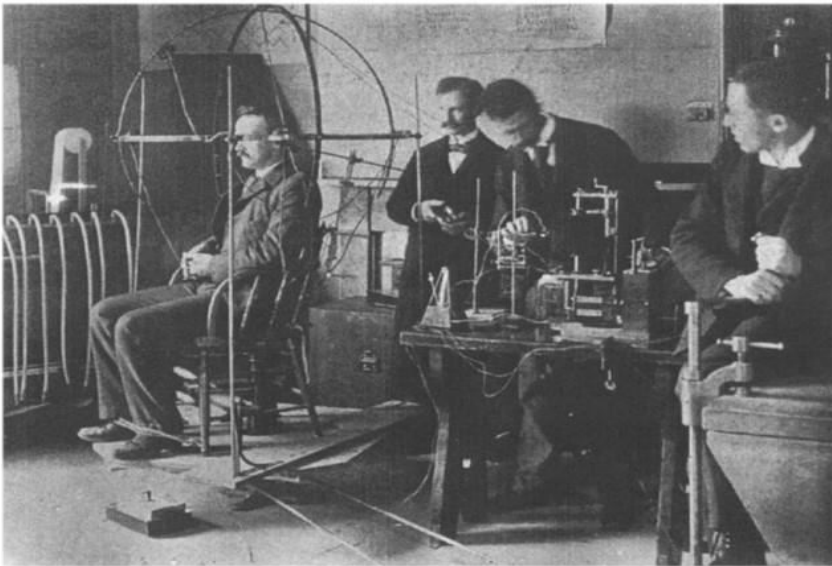
- **Wilhelm Wundt** (Voont) was the first to declare himself a psychologist.
- Considered **“founder”** or **“father”** of psychology
- 1879 – created first formal lab for research in psych
 - ✦ Located @ University of Leipzig
 - ✦ Considered psych’s date of birth
- ✦ 1881 – 1st journal to publish psychology research
- He believed in **structuralism**.

✦ *He focused his experiments on conscious experience involving one’s*

- ✦ **Thoughts**
- ✦ **Feelings**
- ✦ **Sensations**
- ✦ **Perceptions and**
- ✦ **Ideas**

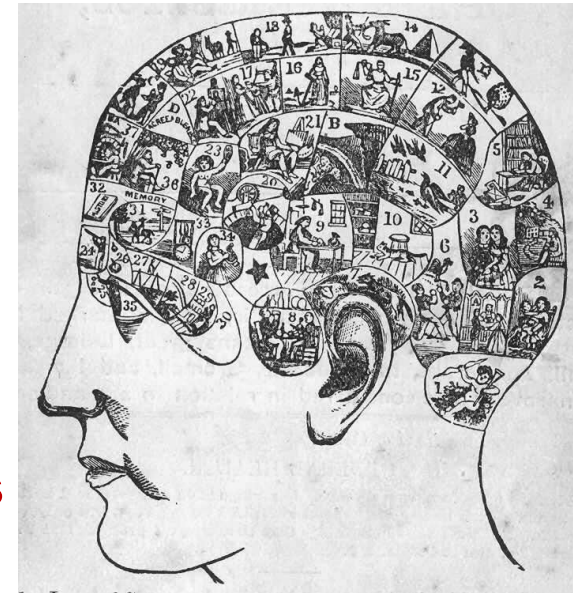


First Lab of its kind..



Structuralism

- Wundt and his students performed experiments in the laboratories by using the **art of introspection**.
- The subjects were usually asked to report exactly what they were experiencing at the moment, they were exposed to the stimulus like
 - **Light**
 - **Colour**
 - **Sound or**
 - **Feel of an object.**
- The psychologist performing experiments also worked as the subjects for the observations and recording of their **own perceptions and feelings** and then presenting the analysis of the activities.
- *Leipzig lab produced most of the leading psychologists.*



Structuralism

- The first school of psychology focused on breaking down mental processes to understand the “structure” of the mind
- The consciousness can be broken into three basic elements
 - **Physical Sensations** (*What we see*)
 - **Feelings** (*Our like and Dislike*)
 - **Images** (*past experiences*)

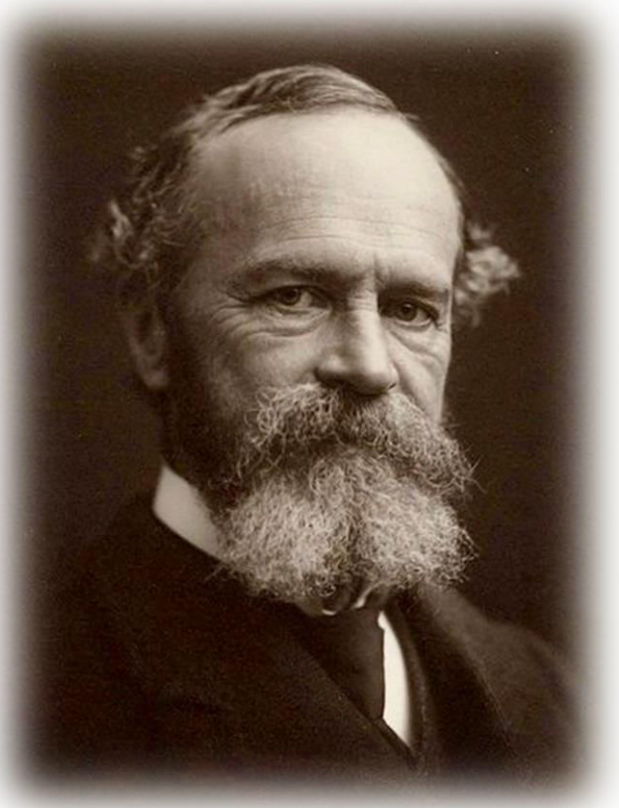


Edward B. Titchener (1867-1923)

In the coming years, this school came in for a lot of criticism because of introspection method. This method ultimately failed to provide objective and reliable information for scientific study.



Functionalism



William James (First
American Psychologist)
1842 - 1910

- He was heavily influenced by the evolutionary theory of Charles Darwin.
- His interest is in
 - **Anatomy**
 - **Physiology**
 - **Medicine**
- He adopted a biological approach and declared that there was definitely wrong in earlier approach.

Arguments on Earlier Approach

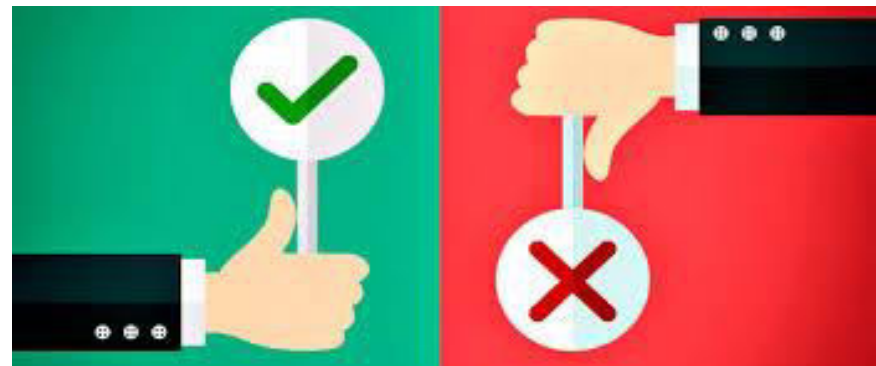
- The consciousness or Experience cannot be broken up into elements.
- There is no way to separate ideas, thoughts, sensations or perceptions.
- Earlier Structuralism does not reveal anything about what the mind really does or how it goes about doing it.
- Knowing the composition or structure of the mind is not nearly as important as understanding its activities or functions.



James' Functionalism

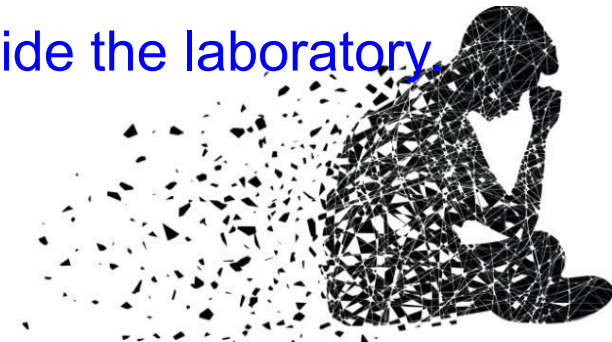
- James' criticize, Wundt's structuralism was boring and inaccurate because it was **only done in the laboratory**.
- James wanted to see **how people functioned in everyday life**, not just in contrived situations.
 - *He also believed that mental processes were not static. He described them as a "stream of consciousness."*
- Investigate mental testing, patterns of development, effectiveness of education, and behavioral differences in sexes.
- Led to women joining the field

Therefore, he Advocate the Theory of Mental Life and Behaviour.

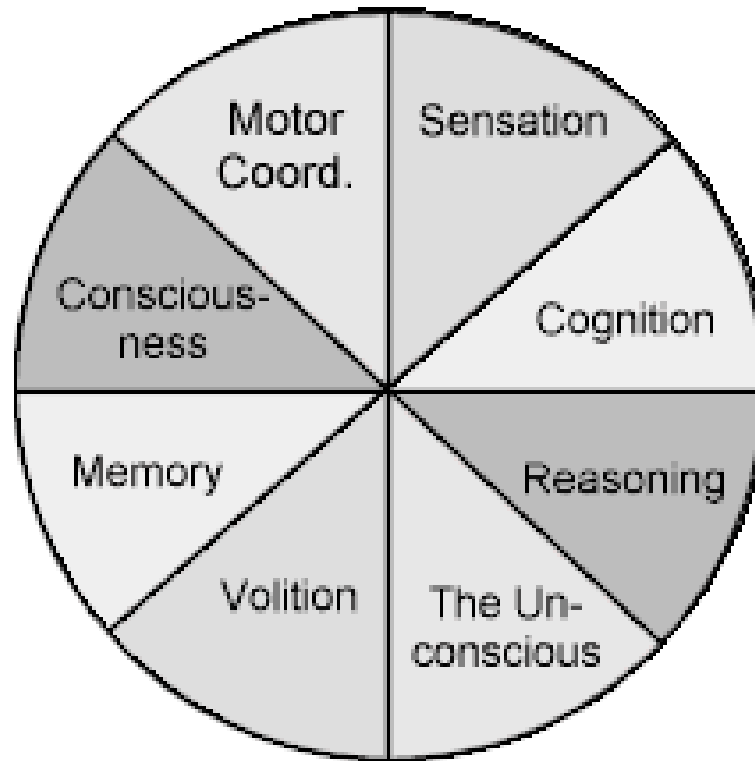


Theory of Mental Life and Behaviour

- Our minds are constantly weaving associations, revising experience, starting, stopping, jumping back and forth in time for adding to our functional abilities to adapt to our environment.
- He further concluded that habits are nothing but the **functions of the nervous system**.
- When we repeat an activity a number of times, our nervous system are altered so that the next time we do it automatically without much thought involved.
- James thought that psychology should explain how people adapted-or failed to adapt-to everyday life outside the laboratory.



The Parts of the Functionalist view of Psychology



In the subsequent years of the 19th and 20th centuries, William James theory were strengthened on more scientific footings .

Women in Field

▶ **Mary Whiton Calkins (1863-1930)**

- Studied under James
- Was refused the Ph.D. she earned from Harvard because she was female
- Founded labs at Wellesley College
- Invented widely used tech for studying memory
- 1st APA woman president (1905)



▶ **Margaret Floy Washburn (1871-1939)**

- 1st PhD in Psych for Women
- Wrote “The Animal Mind” (1908)
 - Served as beginning of behaviorism
 - Standard reading for generations of psychologists
- 2nd woman APA president



Women in Field

▶ Leta Stretter Hollingworth (1886-1939)

◦ Pioneered work in

- Adolescent development
- Mental Retardation
- Gifted children
 - 1st to use word “gifted” to describe children who scored exceptionally well on intelligence tests
- Tried to invalidate certain theories of her time
 - Women are inferior to men



▶ Eventually theory of functionalism led to development of behaviorism & applied science

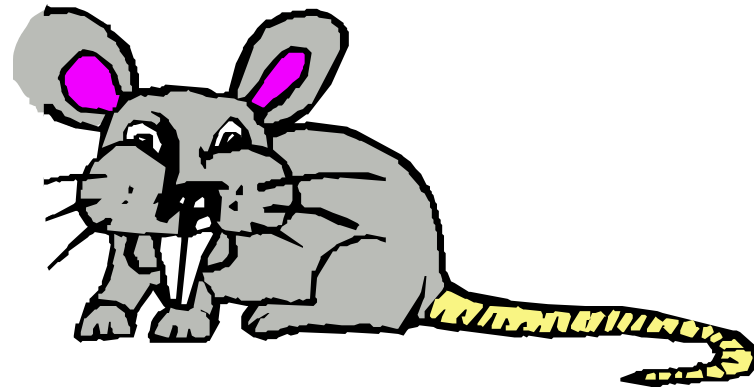
Behaviourism

Scientific Psychology should focus on **observable behavior not introspection.**

**Mental Processes cannot
be studied directly**

Psych = the Science of Behavior

**Stimulus
Response
Psychology**



John B. Watson

- Founder of Behaviorism
- Studied only observable and objectively described acts
- Emphasized objective and scientific methodology
- Believed consciousness was irrelevant to psychology



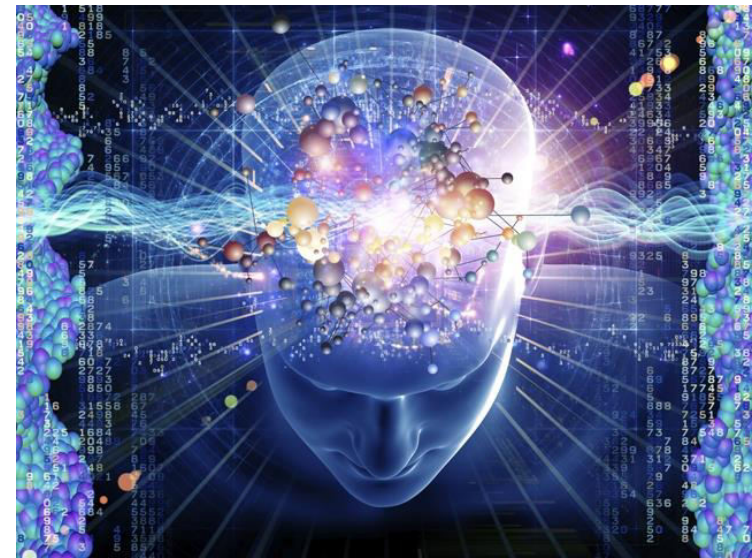
John B. Watson (1878–1958)

Arguments on Earlier Approach

- Watson in his book “Psychology As the Behaviourist Views it (1913).

Criticism on consciousness (Functionalism)

- He concluded that the whole idea of is meaningless.
- It cannot be proved by any scientific test
- It cannot be seen, not touched, nor exhibited in a test tube.



Arguments on Earlier Approach

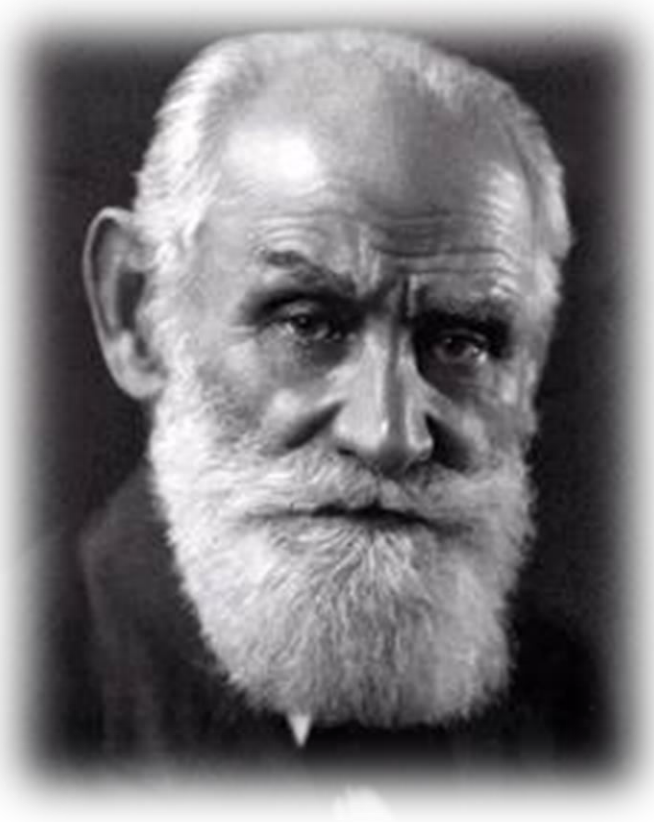
Therefore, if we intend to make psychology a science of behaviour, we should concentrate only on the observable and measurable behaviour.

Consequently, behaviourism as a method of studying the behaviour focused its attention totally on the observable behaviour.

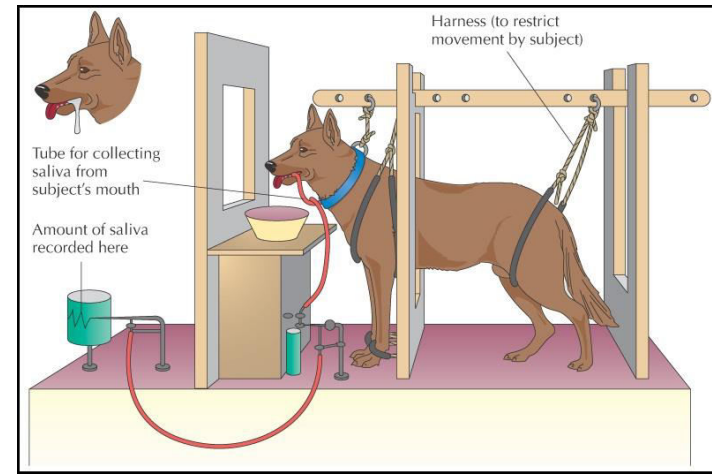


Behaviourism - Ivan Pavlov

- Behaviorist
- Russian Physiologist early 1900s
- Pavlov's research on the digestive systems of dogs led to his discovery of the classical conditioning process, which demonstrated that behaviors could be learned via conditioned associations.
- Emphasized the study of observable behaviors

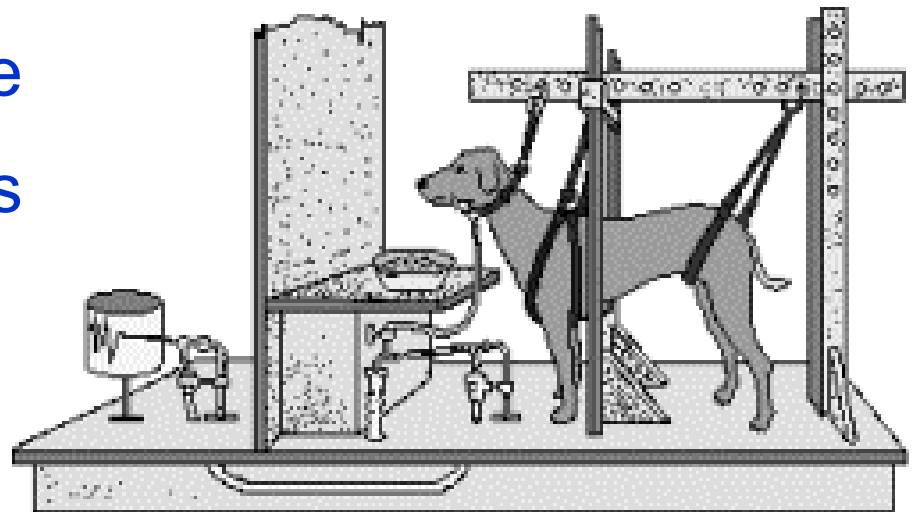
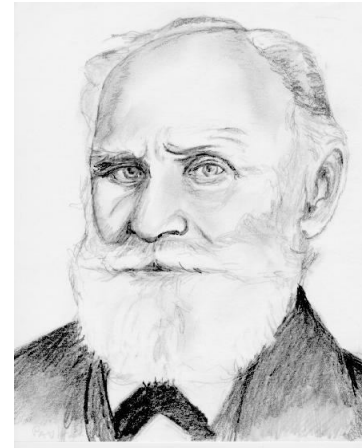


Ivan Pavlov, 1849 –1936



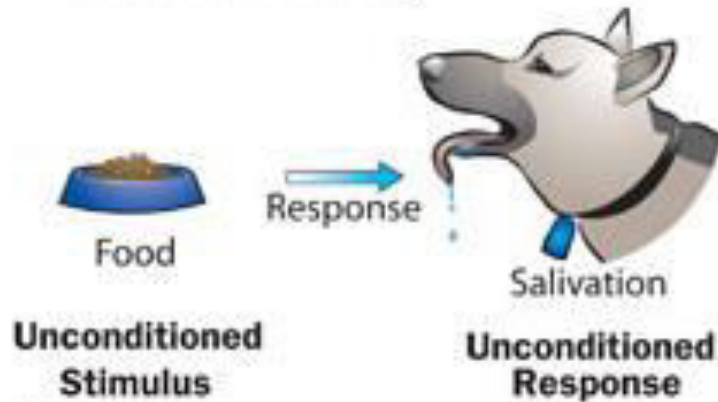
Behaviorist Perspective

- Ivan Pavlov used conditioning of dogs to show that behavior is learned.
- The dogs were conditioned to salivate when a tone was sounded.

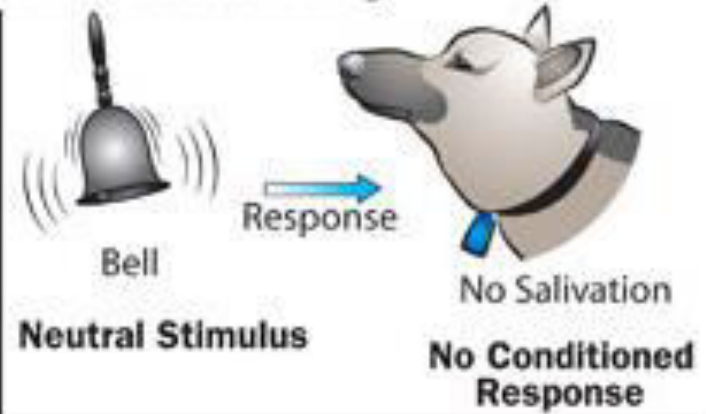


CLASSICAL CONDITIONING

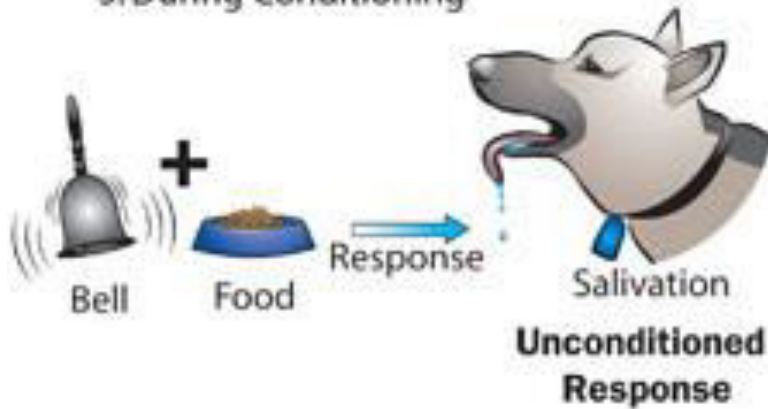
1. Before Conditioning



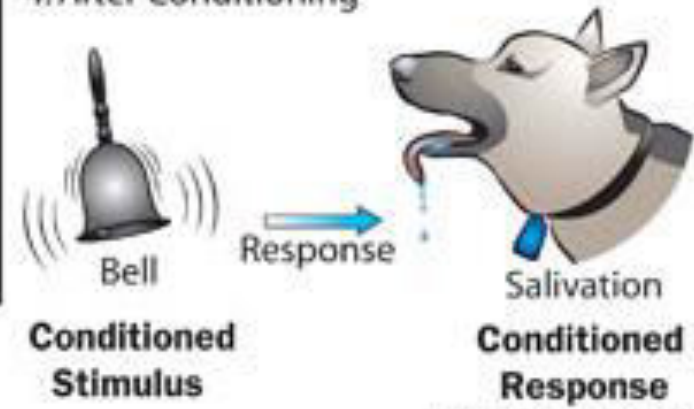
2. Before Conditioning



3. During Conditioning



4. After Conditioning



Little Albert Experiment

*Watson tried to apply this approach
in the field of human behaviour.*



*Before: "Oh, look! What
a sweet fuzzy doggie."*

After: "Aaah! Get this horrible,
fuzzy bunny away from me!"



Questions that have aroused curiosity from time immemorial

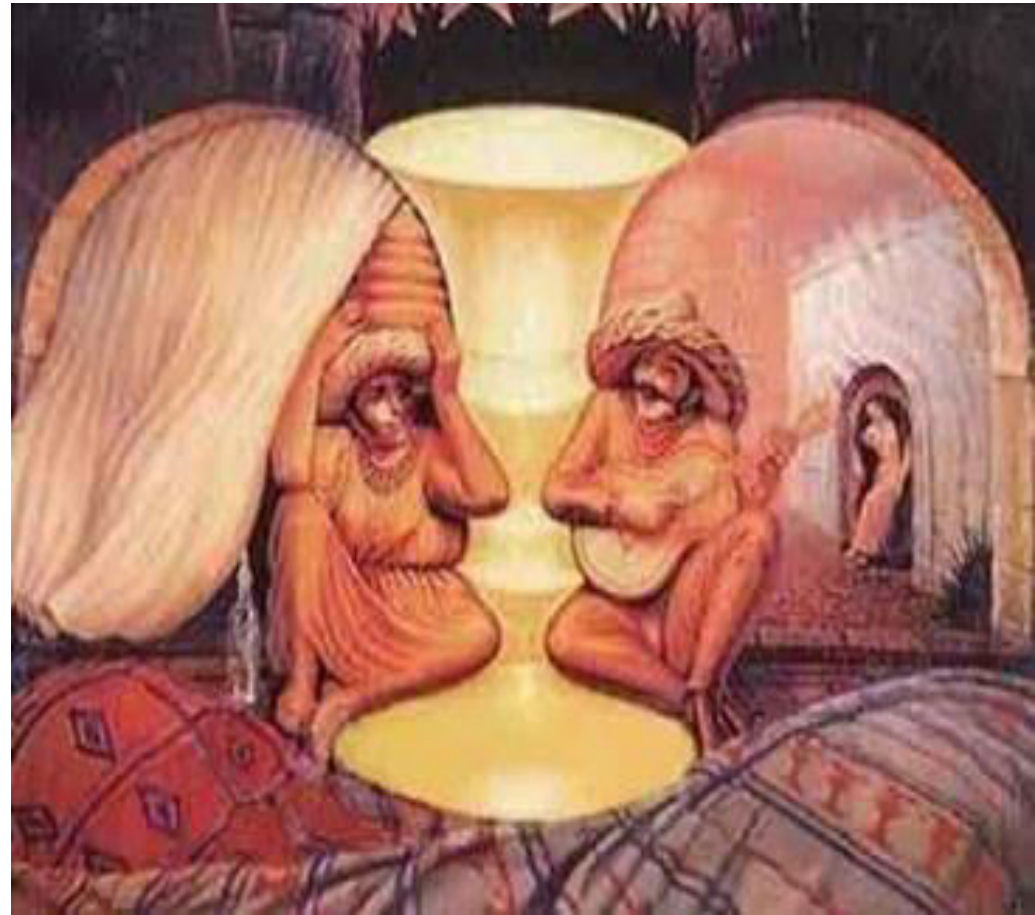
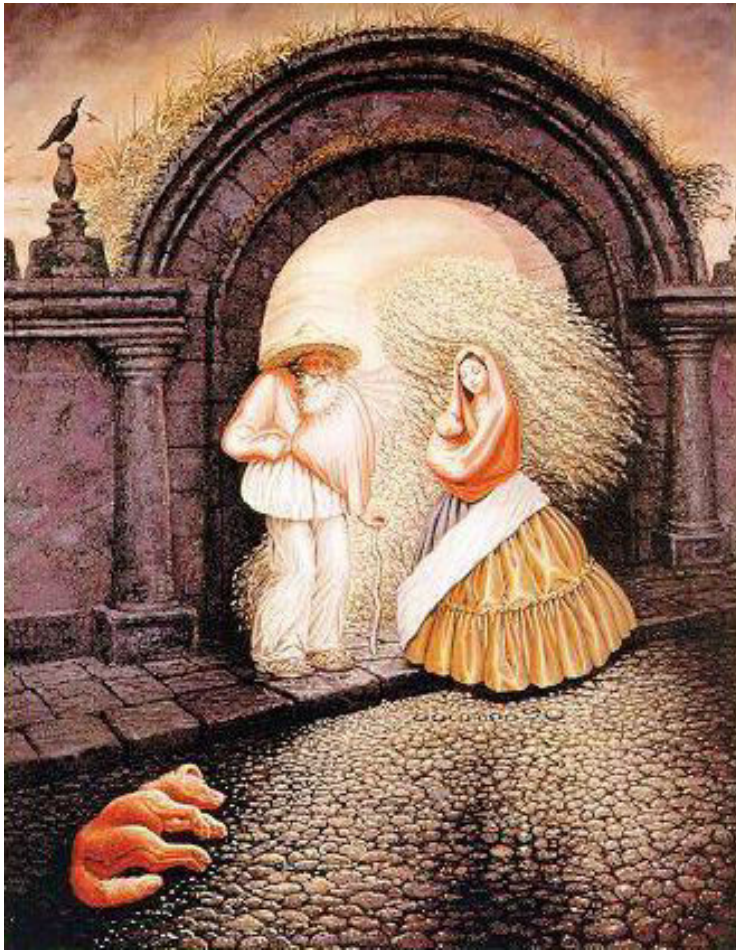
- He concluded that behaviour is merely the result of response to some environmental stimulus.
 - HOW WE BEHAVE?
 - WHY WE BEHAVE?
- So behavior can be successfully demonstrated and explained through habit formation or conditioning.

Thus, conditioning through environmental influence and not the hereditary endowments or innate differences are responsible for shaping the behaviour of a child.

Gestalt Psychology

- In Germany it gave birth to a new school named as Gestalt psychology quite distinct from behaviourism.
- The Word Gestalt is a German noun. The nearest English translation of Gestalt is “Configuration” or more simply “an organized whole” in contrast to a collection of parts.
- Led by Max Wertheimer
 - focused not on how we feel, but on how we experience the world.
- Gestalt psychology was the opposite of structuralism. Instead of looking at the individual parts, it wanted to examine the whole.
 - The whole of an experience can be more than the sum of its parts.
- Gestalt psychology looked at how the brain works by studying perception and perceptual thinking.
 - *Ex. Recognizing a person's face.*

Gestalt Psychology



Gestalt Psychology



“The whole is greater than the sum of the parts”

This phrase is often used when explaining Gestalt principles.



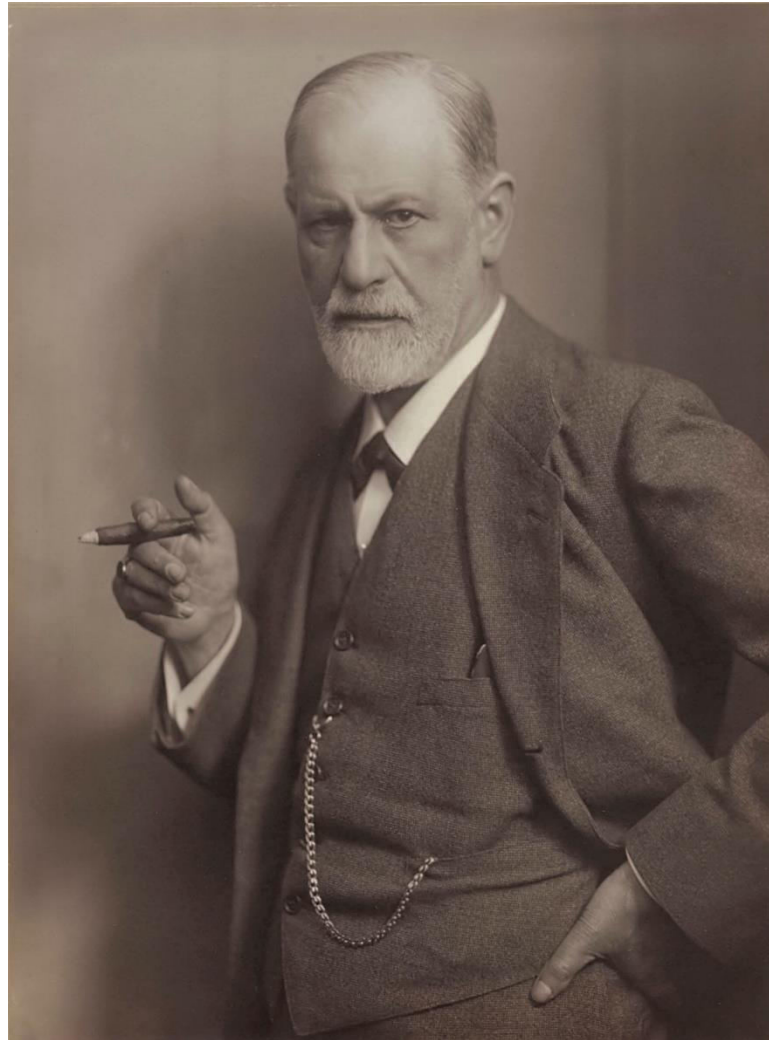
This may seem like one picture, but it can be perceived as 3 different faces.

Can you find them?

Gestalt Psychology

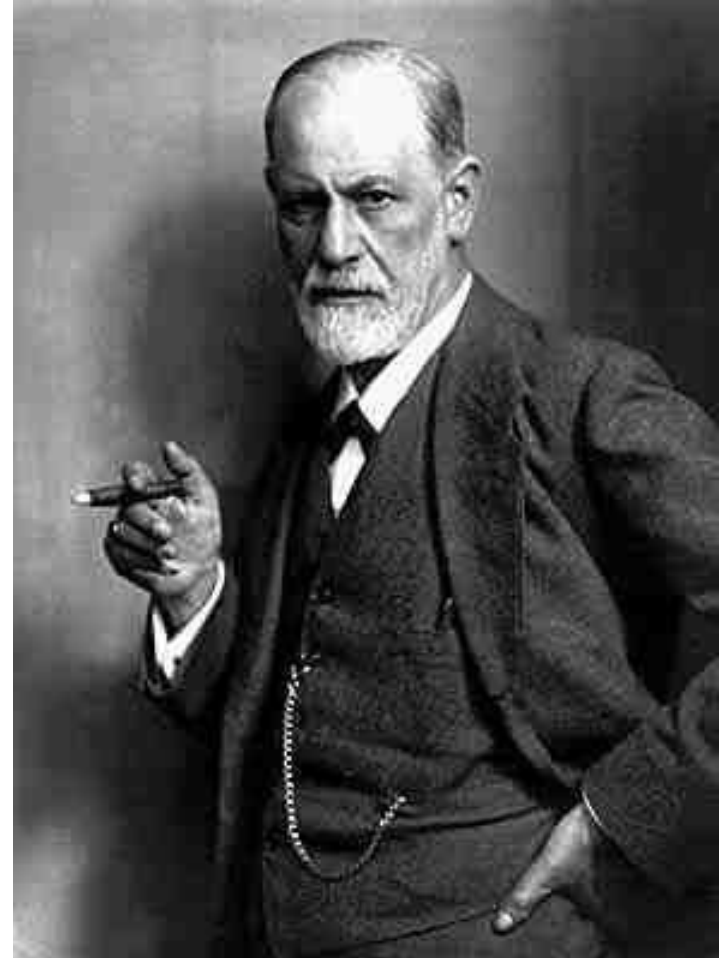


PSYCHO ANALYSIS



Psychoanalysis

- Psychoanalysis is the brainchild of Sigmund Freud and his followers.
- Psychoanalysis said that mental disorders resulted from conflicts of the unconscious mind.
- Freud thought that behavior came from unconscious drives, conflicts and experience that we may not even have a memory of.

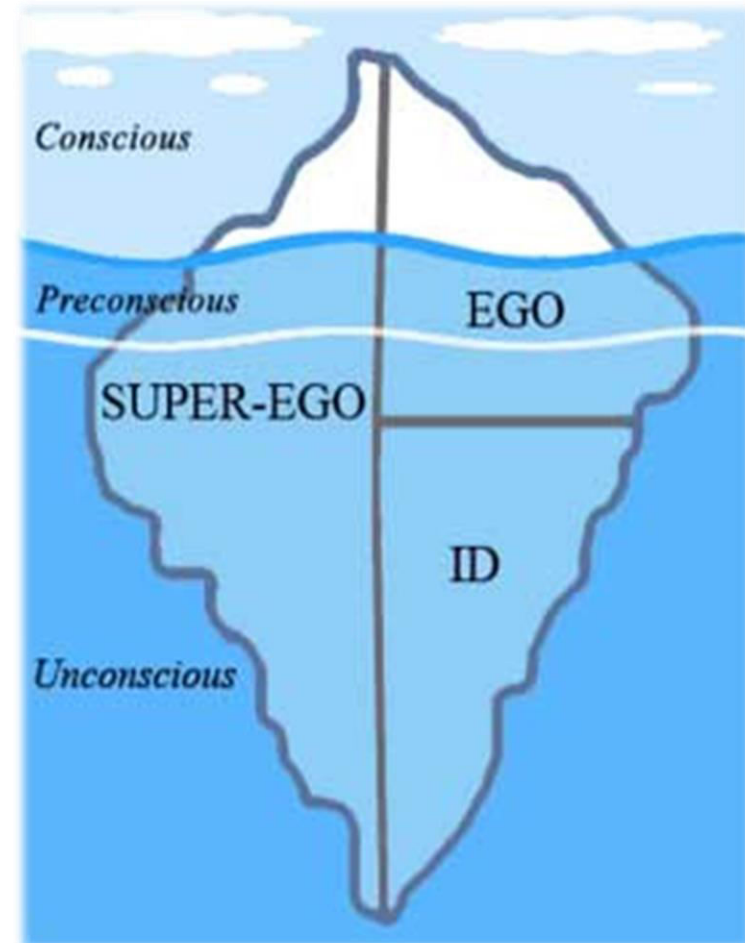


Sigmund Freud 1856-1939

Psychoanalysis

Personality is composed of three elements:

- **ID** - includes the instinctive and primitive behaviors, id is driven by the pleasure principle
- **EGO** - is responsible for dealing with reality, and is driven by the reality principle, which strives to satisfy the id's desires in realistic and socially appropriate ways
- **SUPEREGO** - holds all of our internalized moral standards that we acquire from both parents and society - our sense of right and wrong



PSYCHO ANALYSIS

Freud's theory is complex because:

- He kept modifying it as he went along
- He never presented a comprehensive summary of his final views
- His theory is more comprehensive than must since it has a number of aspects. For example, he gives us:
 - A theory of motivation
 - A theory of thinking (which includes dreaming, etc.)
 - A theory of personality development (psychosexual theory)
 - A theory of mental structures (id, ego, superego)
 - A theory of psychopathology and symptom formation
 - A theory of psychotherapy

