
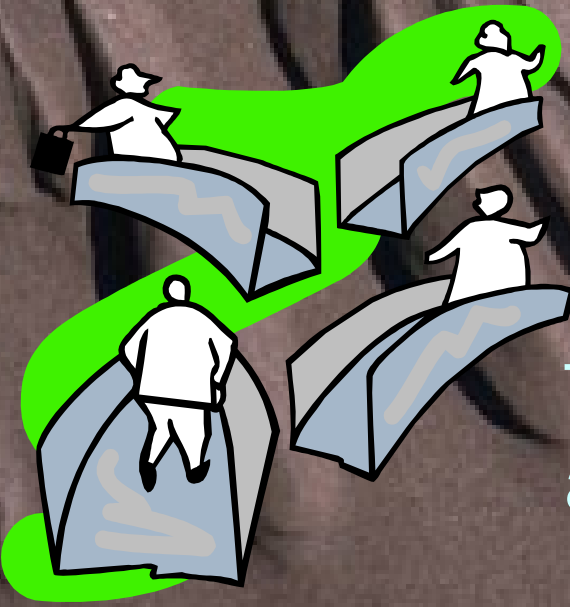


the nature of psychology

A photograph of a winding asphalt road at sunset. The sky is a deep orange, and the road is illuminated by the low sun, creating a bright, hazy glow. A small car is visible in the distance on the road. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

# Six Basic Questions

Are the mind and body one entity or are they separate or distinct?

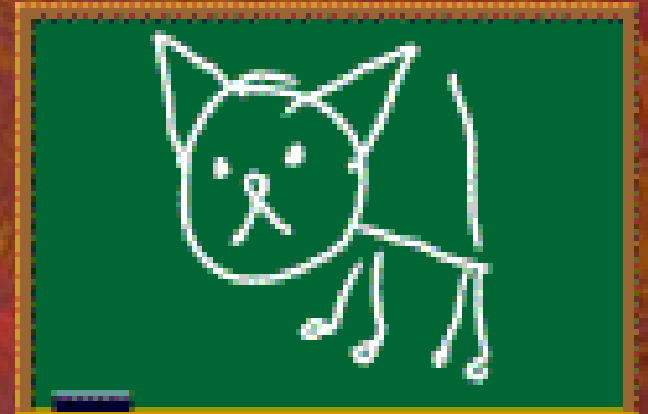


Do actions result from the free exercise of the will or are they determined?

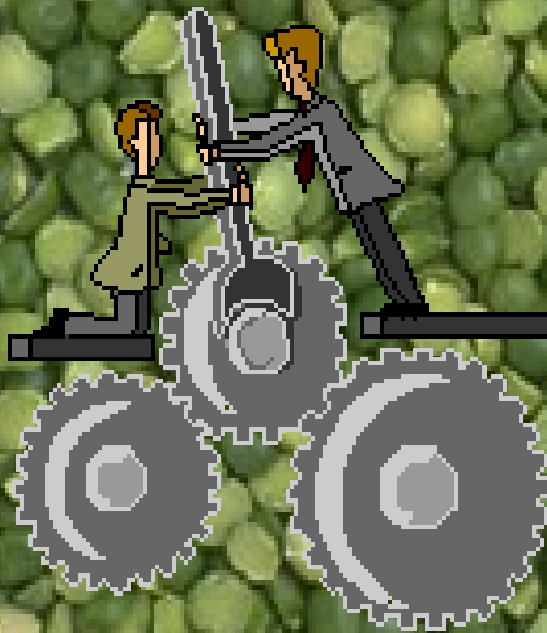


How do people obtain knowledge about the world around them?

What is more important in behavior, heredity or environment?

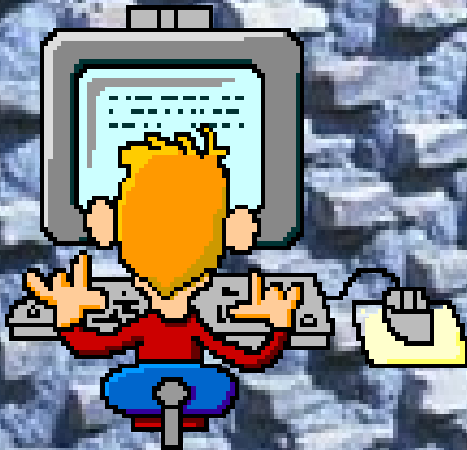


How do people participate in groups without losing their identity?



What aspects of behavior remain stable over time, and why and how do people change over time?

# What is Psychology?



... psyche = “breath”, “life”, “soul”

+

... logos = “study”, “science”



# Some definitions:

... refers to the study of thought and behavior.

... studies the conscious behavior of man as gleaned from his reactions to different life situations. (Hernandez,1968)

...scientific study of behavior and experience



# *Psychology is a science...*

- It meets two criteria:
  - It has an organized body of knowledge
  - Uses the scientific methods

How is psychology distinguished from other disciplines such as sociology, anthropology and biology?

**Anthropology**



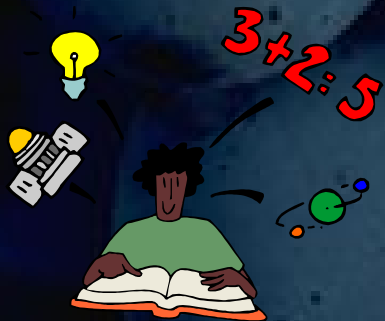
**Sociology**



**Biology**



**Individual Behavior**



# The Roots of Psychology

Scientific method

The nature of man

Freedom

How man acquires  
knowledge

Progress in  
understanding  
the nervous system



**application of the methods of  
science to the  
study of human behavior**



# THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

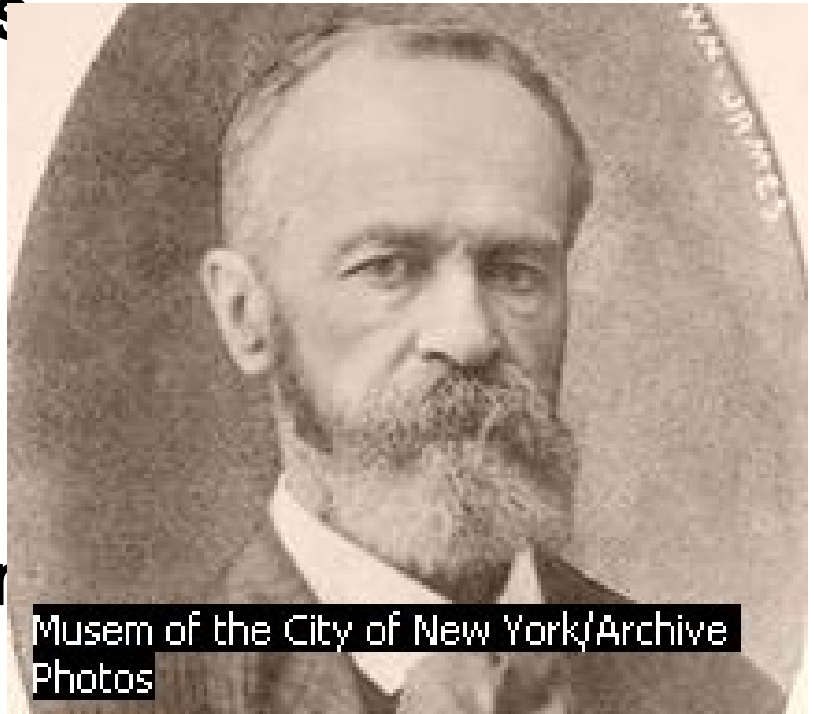
- The science of psychology developed from many diverse sources, but its origins as a science may be traced to ancient Greece.
- Modern psychology started in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- The early psychologists thought that the scientific method used by the natural scientists can be used to study human behavior

# EARLY VIEWS OF PSYCHOLOGY



# STRUCTURALISM

- Analysis of conscious experience into its basic parts
  - Physical sensations
  - Affections or feelings
  - Images
- Developed by Wilhelm Wundt
- Method: Introspection



# FUNCTIONALISM



- **conscious experience helps in the adaptation to the complex world**
- **William James**
- **Method: observation + introspection**

# BEHAVIORISM

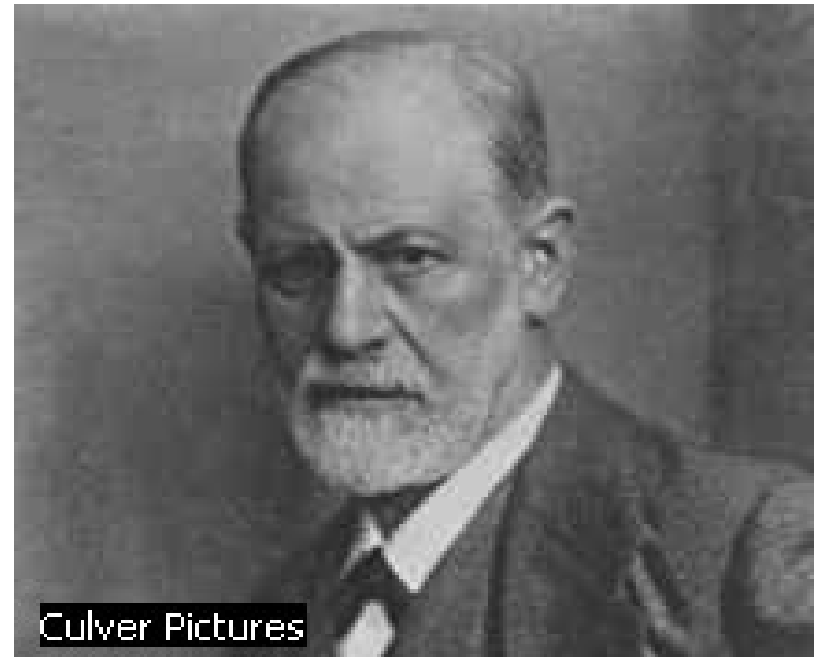


- Study of observable behavior
- John B. Watson
- Method: Observation



# PSYCHOANALYSIS

- A method of psychotherapy
- The influence of the unconscious mind
- Free association



# GESTALT PSYCHOLOGY

- Max Wertheimer
- Understanding of behavior depends on the perception of the configuration, organization or patterns of experience.
- Believed that the whole is different from the sum of the parts because the whole has a meaning derived from the relationship of the parts to each other.

