

HP W3 essay

Who do you find most interesting, Weber, Helmholtz or Fechner and why did you choose them?

I found the story of Helmholtz very interesting. He focused on the practical benefits of scientific research and that's why his findings were not only well proved but could also be applied to solving real life problems.

Helmholtz investigated the speed of the neural impulse and found that the previous assumption was wrong. Experiments that Helmholtz conducted proved that the speed of the neural impulse could be measured. He recorded the time intervals between stimulation of the nerve and the muscle response and provided first actual measurement of the speed. Helmholtz studies on vision and hearing influenced the new psychology. He contributed to Thomas Young theory of color vision, studied the perception of tones, the nature of harmony and discord and the problem of resonance.

Helmholtz's contribution to psychology was not just the knowledge that he discovered but also the tools that he invented. Thus, doing the research on visual perception Helmholtz invented ophthalmoscope that is still used during eye exams. Besides, wireless telegraphy and radio were the discoveries that Helmholtz played an important role in.