

Autumn Nash

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Titchener emphasized on the theory of structuralism and contributed that this was a pure science. He believed that psychology's main purpose was to discover the facts and elements, or the structures, of the mind. In this he made a large impact on cognitive psychology when he studied each part of the mind and how conscious experiences are dependent on each individual (Schultz, D & S, 88). He added to the elements of consciousness and added to the study methods of introspection. Introspection was a method where observers would study each aspect of one's conscious state rather than giving insight on their response to a stimulus (Schultz, D & S, 94). This taught that everyone has a different description of an experience based on whatever stimulus- like how the description of an apple by one person could sound like a dodgeball to another person. The criticisms of his work include mainly critiques on introspection. Critics believed that introspection made previous assessments lack credibility as he added the observation aspect. They questioned what the trained observers were to do when observing which made their observations unreliable.