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History of Psychology
Week 6

Review Sheets as Test 4 & 5

History of Psychology - Chapter 4 Review

Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920)

What made him the founder of psychology?

Wundt became the founder of psychology when he was able to identify sensation and perception as consciousness.

What goal did he announce in his book *Principles of Physiological Psychology*?

The goal that Wundt announced in his book *Principles of Physiological Psychology* was to bring awareness on cultural psychology, which was an uprising topic in American psychology.

Gedankenmesser

The Gedankenmesser is known as the "thought meter" which was invented by Wundt. It is a pendulum clock that was modified and able to perceive two stimuli: the auditory and visual stimulus.

What two important things happened during the Leipzig years?

The first important thing that happened during the Leipzig years was Wundt becoming a professor at the University of Leipzig and he was able to establish a laboratory in 1881. The second thing that happened during the Leipzig years was that Wundt had a large number of students who began opening their own laboratories, which increased the impact he had on the field of psychology.

What two parts did psychology get divided into?

The two parts that psychology was divided into are philosophy and psychology.

What did Wundt believe that psychology should be the study of?

Wundt believed that psychology should be the study of academic science such as sensation and conscious experience.

Voluntarism

Voluntarism according to Wundt is the mind having the capacity to self organize mental contents into high level thought processes.

Mediate and immediate experience

Mediate experience is able to provide information on something rather than the elements of the experience. Immediate experience is unbiased by interpretation.

Introspection according to Wundt

According to Wundt, introspection is examining one's mind in order to inspect and report personal thoughts or feelings.

Wundt's three goals of psychology

1. Thoughts

2. Images

3. Feelings

Two elements of psychology

1. Sensations

2. Feelings

Doctrine of apperception – the law of psychic resultants

The doctrine of apperception is organizing mental elements to be processed into a creative synthesis, known as psychic resultants, which creates new properties from building or combining elements.

Wundt's legacy

Wundt's legacy has allowed for a new spectrum of science which he designed in a laboratory. He was able to prove that psychology is a modern science. His achievements advanced the field of psychology and allowed for the beginnings of experimental psychology.

Hermann Ebbinghaus (1850-1909)

The first to investigate learning and memory experimentally.

What did Ebbinghaus learn about nonsense syllables?

Ebbinghaus learned that nonsense syllables are syllables that are presented in meaningless studies in order to study how the memory processes.

Forgetting curve

The forgetting curve is able to identify that the material that is learned begins to become forgotten quickly in the first few hours of learning it, and then it continues more slowly afterwards.

Sentence completion exercise (still used in psychology today)

Ebbinghaus used sentence completion exercises which were used in order to test the mental ability of the mind.

Franz Brentano (1838-1917)

Contrast with Wundt

Franz Brentano differs from Wundt because he focused on mental activities rather than mental contents like Wundt did.

What did Brentano argue should be the proper subject matter of psychology?

Brentano argued that the proper subject matter of psychology should be from observation and not experimentation.

In what two ways did Brentano believe you could study mental acts?

Brentano believed that you could study mental acts by memory and imagination through mental processes.

Carl Stumpf (1848-1936)

Stumpf was a major rival of Wundt's – what did he argue should be the primary date of psychology?

Stumpf argued that the primary date of psychology should be phenomena.

What is phenomenology according to Stumpf?

According to Stumpf phenomenology is an introspective method that is able to examine experiences as it is occurring and having an unbiased description of the immediate experience.

Oswald Kulpe (1862-1915)

How did Kulpe define psychology?

Kulpe defines psychology as the science of facts of experience which are dependent on the experiencing person.

What was Kulpe's systematic experimental introspection?

Kulpe's systematic experimental introspection is an introspective method that uses retrospective reports of the subjects cognitive processes after an experimental task is completed.

What did Kulpe mean by imageless thought?

According to Kulpe, imageless thought is an idea that meaning in thought can occur without any sensory or imaginal component.

History of Psychology - Chapter 5 Review

Edward Bradford Titchener (1867-1927) and Structuralism

Although he claimed to represent Wundt's ideas and theories in America, he did not actually do this - how exactly did he change Wundt's theories?

Titchener changed Wundt's theories by creating his own books known as novels which helped the growth of laboratory work in psychology, influencing many experimental psychologists.

What did Titchener view the central task of psychology to be?

Titchener viewed the central task of psychology to be mental elements or contents of consciousness.

1901-1905: During these years he wrote _____, why is this noteworthy?

He wrote Manuals, which are considered to be noteworthy because it was his own book instead of translations for Wundt, which included the growth of laboratory work in psychology.

Titchener's view of women

Titchener viewed women as being too pure to smoke, so he did not allow any women to enter his meetings, which caused a lot of uproar. However, he did respect women and even awarded doctoral degrees to 56 women, he also opened the door to many opportunities for women as well.

What did he believe the subject matter of psychology should be?

Titchener believed that the subject matter of psychology should be conscious experience that is dependent on the person who is experiencing it.

What was meant by stimulus error?

Stimulus error is meant as a confusing mental process under study, where the stimulus or the object is being observed.

For Titchener what was meant by introspection?

According to Titchener, introspection is self observation that is relied on by observers that were trained to describe the elements of their conscious state.

Titchener's three essential problems of psychology

- 1.Reduce conscious processes to their simplest components
- 2.Determine laws by which these elements of consciousness were associated
- 3.Connect the elements with their physiological conditions.

Titchener's three elementary states of consciousness

1. Sensations
- 2.Images
- 3.Affective States

Titchener presented a list of what he believed to be 44,500 elements of sensation – all of which he believed could be categorized according to four characteristics basic to all sensations.

- 1.Quality is the characteristic that distinguishes each element from every other element
- 2.Intensity refers to a sensation's strength, weakness, loudness, or brightness
- 3.Duration is the course of a sensation over time
- 4.Clarity refers to the role of attention in conscious experience

Criticisms of Structuralism

Titchener's criticisms of structuralism are standing firm while everyone around moved beyond a specific idea, because after his death the era of structuralism collapsed.

Contributions of Structuralism

Titchener's contributions to structuralism are that he was able to establish a foundation for a new approach to psychology.