

Chapter 4 and 5

Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920)

1: what made him the founder of psychology?

Wundt is the founder of psychology because he established the first laboratory and started experimental psychology, and he published articles in psychology as a science. He developed a systematic approach to study conscious experiences known as introspection. Wundt founded the school of thought. Founding is a very important act, deliberate and intentional in science and knowledge. Founding requires previous knowledge and the publication and promotion of the newly organized materials. That is why Wundt is the founder of the school of thought and is known as the father of psychology.

2: What goal did he announce in his book principle of psychology?

In the first edition of his book named the principle of psychology he said that the work that I represent in this book is an attempt to a new domain of science. His goal in this book was to promote psychology as an independent science. That is why he is considered that founder of psychology, though psychology was a very long time before him.

3: Gedankenmesser?

According to Wundt Gedankenmesser is, that observers cannot focus on two objects at the same time. Gedankenmesser is the modified pendulum clock represent auditory and visual stimulus that can also be called thoughts meter.

4: What two important things happened during the Leipzig years?

The first thing was that he established a laboratory at Leipzig in 1875. He also founded the journal philosophical studies that was the new and official publication of the new laboratory and the result of a new science. That in 1906 he named his journal as psychological studies. By this attempt there was a handbook, a laboratory, and a scholarly journal as the most important things that happened to psychology. The laboratory draws a lot of attention towards the work of Wundt and a large number of students start working with him. Later on, laboratories were established in Italy, Russia, and Japan by Wundt's students. More books from Wundt were translated into Russian than any other languages and Russian adulation of Wundt led Moscow psychology.

5: What two parts did psychology get divided into?

Wundt focused more on philosophy than the psychology itself that is how psychology was divided into philosophy and cultural psychology.

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

Wundt believed that psychology should be the study of the conscious experience. He believed that the goal of psychology is to identify components of consciousness and how those components combined to result to a conscious experience.

7: Voluntarism?

Voluntarism is the idea that the mind has capacity to recognize mental contents into higher level thought process. Wundt believed that the mind has the capacity to synthesis the elements into higher level cognitive processes.

8: Mediate and immediate experiences?

Those experiences that provide us with knowledge and information about something itself without considering its elements is called mediate experiences. This kind of experience is the most common kind of experiences that we use for knowing our environment better. When we see a red rose flower. We see that it is a red rose flower only not the component that we are perceiving something that can be labeled “redness”. And the immediate experiences are those that are unbiased by interpretation. For instance, by looking the red rose flower we are not only seeing a red flower but we also experiencing of something that is red. It means that the immediate experiences need personal interpretation of an experience.

9: Introspection according to Wundt?

Introspection according to Wundt means that examining of one’s own mind to inspect and report on personal thoughts or feelings. Wundt describe his psychology as the science of conscious experiences and he believes that psychology must involve observation and then reporting feelings on that experiences that the person himself has experiences.

10: Wundt’s three goals of psychology?

Wundt’s three goals of psychology are:

- 1: Analyzing conscious process into their basic elements
- 2: discovering of how these elements are synthesized or organized
- 3: determine the laws of connection and the organization of the elements.

11: Two elements of psychology?

Two elements of psychology are sensation and feelings.

12: Doctrine of apperception- the law of physic resultants?

Apperception is a process by which mental elements are organized. For Wundt the Apperception is an active process and he believed that our minds act to the elements of an experience as a whole. He says that our minds are not only to act on elemental sensations and feelings that we experience but it acts as a whole.

13: Wundt’s legacy?

By establishing laboratories Wundt start a new domain of science and he conduct researches for this purpose. He published his journal and tried to develop a systematic theory of human mind’s nature. He stablished the modern psychology with the rules of the modern science. The time especially in Germany was ready for Wundt’s movement and that is how his efforts represent a

great achievement. He is one of the most influential psychologists and his work is considered the start of the modern psychology.

Hermann Ebbinghaus (1850-1909)

14:

Hermann Ebbinghaus became the first to investigate learning and memory experimentally.

15: what did Ebbinghaus learn about nonsense syllables?

Ebbinghaus learned about nonsense syllables that meaningless or unassociated materials are nine times harder to learn than the meaningful materials. It means that in his two experiences, he found out that meaningful materials were easier to remember than the nonsense materials.

16: Forgetting curve?

Forgetting curve is a curve that shows how information is lost over time when there is no attempt to recall those words. In this curve reviewing of the material, and the time elapsed between learning and recalling has been studied. Forgetting curve shows that material is forgotten rapidly in the few first hours after learning and more slowly after that.

17: Sentence completion exercise (still used in psychology).

Correct.

Franz Brentano (1838-1917)

18: Contrast with Wundt?

Brentano like Wundt had the goal of making psychology a science. His psychology was based on empiricism and his psychology was empirical while Wundt's psychology was experimental. He believed on the basic method of psychology as observational while Wundt believed that the primary method of psychology should be experimental not observational. Brentano accepted data that comes from observation, from individual's experiences and experiments, it means he did not deny experiments as well.

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

He argued that the subject matter of psychology is mental activity. For instance, he believed that mental action of seeing is more important than the mental content of what a person sees.

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

Two ways that Brentano believed that a person can study mental acts are: first, thought memory second, through imagination.

Carl Stumpf (1884-1936)

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

Stumpf argued that the primary data of psychology are phenomena.

22: What is phenomenology according to Stumpf?

According to Stumpf phenomenology is the kind of introspection. He believed it is referred to the examination of the unbiased experience that is just experiences. He agrees with Wundt about the elements of experience. He believed that for examining an experience it should be divided into its elements and to make the experience artificial and abstract and no longer natural.

Oswald Kulpe (1862-1915)

23: How did Kulpe define psychology?

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

24: What was Kulpe's systematic experimental introspection?

Experimental introspection was performing a complex task and then the subjects provide a retrospective report about the cognitive processes that they experience during that complex task. Or it can be said that subjects were taking under control of some mental process such as thinking or judging for how they think and how they will judge.

25: What did Kulpe mean by imageless thought?

Kulpe means by imageless thoughts that thought can happen without any sensory or imaginal content. It means that it is not necessary that thoughts involve specific images.

Edward Bradford Titchener (1867-1927)

26:

Wundt's idea was based on the elements or contents of consciousness and believed that mind has the power to organize mental elements voluntarily. But Titchener focused on elements themselves instead of mental elements or contents and their link to the process of association.

27:

He believed that the central task of psychology was to discover the nature of the elementary conscious experience and analyzing that those conscious experiences into its component parts and according to them the structure should be decided.

28:

During 1901-1905 he wrote a manual of laboratory that included his own book named *An Outline of Psychology*, *Primer of Psychology* and *Experimental Psychology*. These manuals that he wrote came out as the individual volumes of that work, stimulated the growth of laboratory work in psychology in the United States. Then this book influenced a whole generation of experimental

psychologists. Titchener's book was translated in many other languages such as Russian, Italian, German, Spanish, and French.

29:

He accepts women in graduated psychology degrees but never accept women to participate in the experimental meetings. With a group of psychologists in 1904 that they considered themselves Titchener experimentalists denied allowing women to participate in their meetings. Titchener experimentalists believed that women are too pure to smoke, and their meetings were oral reports in a room filled with the smoke and no woman presented.

30:

He believed that the subject matter of psychology is conscious experience, and that experience is depending to the person who is experiencing.

31:

When the mind of the observer is confused by the object he observes, in a conscious experience is called stimulus error. For instance when an observer reports an apple as only an ample instead of its color, brightness, shape that they are experiencing this is called stimulus error. It means the objects are being observed different than what we observe daily.

32:

For Titchener introspection means, reports of subjects that are detailed, and qualitative. He focuses more on analysis of a complex conscious experience into its component parts.

33: three essential problems of psychology?

- 1: Reducing of the conscious process to their simplest components
- 2: Determining of laws by which these elements of consciousness were associated.
- 3: connecting the elements with their physiological conditions.

34: three elementary states of consciousness?

1: sensation 2: images 3: affective states.

35:

- 1: Characteristics that distinguish one element from the other element such as "warm" or "green."
- 2: The intensity of a sensation's strength, weakness, being loud, or being bright.
- 3: Duration of the sensation over time.
- 4: Clearness to the role of attention in a conscious experience. For instance, our attention would be clearer to the experience that the focus of our attention is towards to than the experiences that our attention is not towards to.

36:

Beside the contributions that structuralism had, there also was some criticism about Titchener's structuralism. One of the criticisms, that Titchener was standing only on one method. Titchener was using intellectual method for decades while others intellectual climates were changing. Psychologists believed that Titchener's method of structuralism was futile and had antiquated principles and methods. But Titchener believed that he was establishing a new approach to psychology. There also was some criticism against introspection method that were based on observation practices. Introspection method was focusing on elements of consciousness while other methods were focusing on external stimuli. There were ideas that this method had existed before Titchener and was written by a German philosopher Immanuel Kant.

37:

There are some credits that historians give to the contribution of Titchener. The first and important was the subjects and aims, introspective and the contribution of structuralism. Titchener's subject matter was very clear. His subject matter was conscious experiences. His research was based on observation, experimentation, and measurement that all were in the highest scientific values. It was not only the subject matter and their aims that was very important, but their method of introspection was also very important. In this method the reports were given verbally that all were based on experiences that were continually used in different eras of psychology. There are two kinds of reports: self-reports and clinical reports. Self-report is a kind of report that people who have been exposed to experiences, an unusual environment, give the report and clinical reports are the responses from the personality tests and attitude scales. Introspective reports are those that consider cognitive process in a high level. The kinds of reports that were all about personal experiences are the most legitimate forms of data collecting that Titchener was doing and are still being used nowadays. The most significant contribution of structuralism was its services as a target of criticism. Structuralism was standing orthodoxy against new development in psychology. Titchener's structuralism as an idea to oppose, psychology moved beyond boundaries of his system.

