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Professor Flavin

History of Psychology

History of Psychology: Chapters 9, 10, and 11

1. Why is the story of Hans the Wonder Horse important?

Hans the Wonder Horse was important because he was a horse that was full of intelligence. Hans was well-known in Europe and the United States. Hans knew about being mathematically intelligent by having numerical reasoning skills. Hans was able to add, subtract, use fractions, and use decimals. Hans was also able to format little sentences, remembered them, and could tell the difference between twelve different colors and their shades.

2. How did animal psychology influence the development of Behaviorism?

Animal psychology influenced the development of Behaviorism due to John B Watson's studies on animal behavior and how they contributed to behaviorism. Behaviorism is a direct outgrowth of studies in animal behavior during the first decade of the twentieth century. John B. Watson wanted his study of behaviorism to be direct, simple, and bold. Watson also wanted to use "stimulus" and "response" when it came to observing the behavior of animals. Watson's

studies of animal behavior would soon revolutionize the theory of attempts to observe the existence of the mind of animals.

3. Why was the work of Ivan Pavlov (1849-1936) so important to the development of psychology?

The work of Ivan Pavlov was important to the development of psychology because of his work and contributions to behaviorism among animals such as dogs. His work includes Conditioned Reflexes which made Pavlov focus on the nerves of the heart, digestive glands, and the area of conditioned reflexes. Pavlov used conditioned reflexes among dogs and how their bodies can be observed, measured, and recorded.

4. What did John Watson (1878-1958) believe should be the subject matter of behaviorism?

John Watson believed the subject matter of behaviorism was to focus on the elements of behavior. This would include the body's muscular movements and glandular secretions. Using the science of behavior could help when someone's actions are precise without using various terminology. Due to behaviorism, John Watson believed humans functioned as machines.

5. What were Watson's beliefs about thought processes?

The thought process is when the brain has barely any neural impulse traveling to the motor causing no responses to occur in the muscle glands. Watson's belief about the thought processes was for him to try to reduce the thinking to motor behavior. He would argue about the

way a person would function. He would reason that behavior thinking must include speech reactions and movements. Watson also suggested certain points of implicit behavior include the tongue and larynx.

6. What were the elements of Tolman's purposive behaviorism?

The elements of Tolman's purposive behaviorism are purpose and behavior. Tolman explains behaviorism in his book Purposive Behavior in Animals and Men. Tolman's view on purposive behaviorism was to learn about purpose and behavior among humans and animals.

7. How was Skinner's (1904-1990) behaviorism similar to Watson's behaviorism?

Skinner's behaviorism was similar to Watson's behaviorism because they both focused on the behavior and the consequences that came along with it. Although behaviorism began with Watson, B.F Skinner portrayed Watson's research well. Skinner was committed to learning about the responses to behaviors. He used observation among relationships and how an individual would respond.

8. How did Skinner's behaviorism differ from Pavlovian conditioning?

Skinner's behaviorism focused on Skinner's operant conditioning which differed from a person's behavior the was investigated by Pavlov. While Pavlov's conditioning focused on the stimulus responding using reinforcement.

9. What did Bandura's (1925-) social cognitive theory focus on?

      Bandura's social cognitive theory is a less form of behaviorism than Skinner's theory. Social Cognitive reflects on time and the way it has made an impact on psychology. Bandura's social cognitive theory's focus was to observe the human behavior of humans and how they interact. Bandura did not use observation but used the importance of rewards and reinforcements.

10. What does it mean to have high self-efficacy and what does it mean to have low self-efficacy? How does that affect how we interact with others and live our lives?

      Self-Efficacy is a person's self-esteem and competence when dealing with life problems. High Self-Efficacy will have a positive impact on an individual and their life. People with high self-efficacy have better health and feel less stress. Low Self-Efficacy has a negative impact on an individual and their life. A person will feel helpless and will have a less likely chance of having comfort. Having either low or high self-efficacy can affect the way we interact with people because it can lead down a path where good decision-making can make us live life with no stress and worries or we can go down a path where bad decision-making in our lives can cause our lives to be bad and filled with stress.