



Introduction to Educational Psychology

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Educational Psychology

- Educational psychology is a **scientific discipline** that is concerned with understanding and improving how students acquire a variety of capabilities through instruction in classroom settings.



Scope of Educational Psychology

- The Learner
- The Learning Experiences
- Learning Process
- Learning Situation or Environment
- The Teacher
- Human Behavior
- Growth and Development
- Heredity and Environment

Scope of Educational Psychology (cont.)

- Nature and Development of the Personality
- Individual Difference
- Intelligence and its Measurement
- Guidance and Counselling

Learning Theory

Q: How do people learn?

A: Nobody really knows.

But there are 6 main theories:

Behaviorism

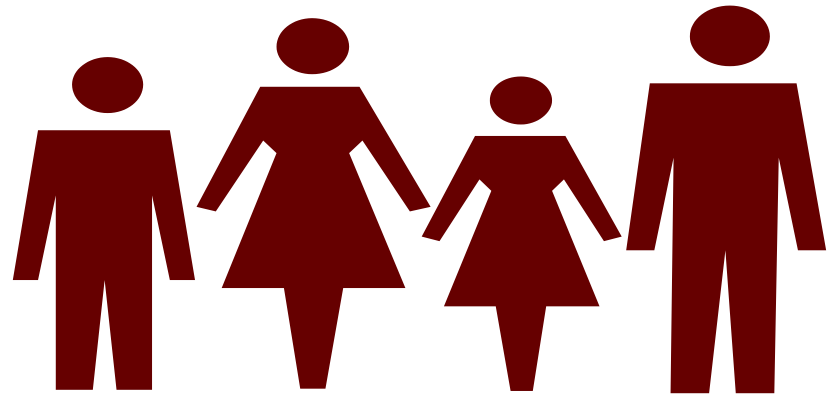
Cognitivism

Social Learning Theory

Social Constructivism

Multiple Intelligences

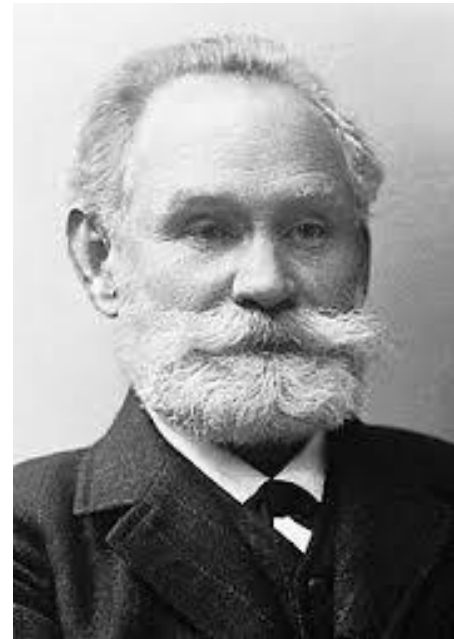
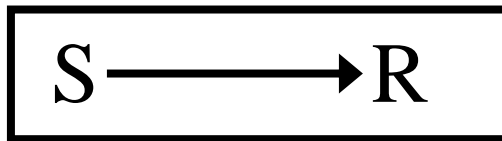
Brain-Based Learning



Behaviorism

Classical Conditioning – Pavlov

- A stimulus is presented in order to get a response:



Behaviorism

Operant Conditioning - Skinner

- The response is made first, then reinforcement follows.



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Cognitivism

Definition

1. A retreat from behaviorism
2. An understanding of the organization of thinking
3. Learning is not always indicated by behavior

Cognitivism (cont.)

Summary

- Cognitive processes influence learning
- As children grow, they become capable of increasingly more sophisticated thought
- People organize the things that they learn

Cognitivism

Jean Piaget



- Focused on logical reasoning and the structure of knowledge
- People are intrinsically motivated to make sense of the world (i.e. learn)
- There are different “stages” of learning

Cognitivism (cont.)

Lev Vygotsky



- Russian psychologist and philosopher
- Learning = social and collaborative activity
- Thought and language develop independently of each other (until 2 years old)

Cognitivism (cont.)

Edward Tolman



- Learning can occur without a reward (reinforcement)
- Learning occurs because of organization
- Most behavior is intentional (not reactive)