THIRD EDITION Psychology GLEITMAN

Psychology

Third Edition

HENRY GLEITMAN

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Preface

This is the third edition of my book *Psychology*. One reason for this revision is the obvious fact that like any other discipline, psychology advances and develops. Until a few decades ago, many psychologists tended to be somewhat defensive about the status of the field and were probably a bit too loud in proclaiming that "Psychology is a science!" Today there is no need for such defensive proclamations, for by now that assertion has become a simple statement of fact. In the decades that have passed psychology has assuredly become a "real" and vigorously progressive science.

As a field advances, so must the books that try to describe it. These advances, together with suggestions by students and colleagues who have used the text, prompted a number of changes that I describe below.

THE OVERALL AIM: COHESION IN A DIVERSE FIELD

Before describing these changes, let me briefly review what has not changed: my original aims. In writing *Psychology*, I sought to present the field in all its diversity while yet conveying the sense in which it is a coherent intellectual enterprise. In pursuit of this goal, I did the following:

- 1. To present the different sub-areas of psychology, I organized the book around five main questions: How do humans (and where relevant, animals) act, how do they know, how do they interact, how do they develop, and how do they differ from each other?
- 2. To provide some intellectual cohesion, I considered each topic against the backdrop of one or two major ideas that could serve as an organizing and unifying framework. Thus the chapter on the biological bases of behavior opens with

Descartes's conception of the organism as a machine, and the next chapter treats various aspects of motivated behavior as manifestations of negative feedback. To relate the material across chapters, I used several overarching themes. For example, the various chapters that deal with cognition (Sensory Processes, Perception, Memory, Thinking, and Language) all involve variations on the two controversies of nature versus nurture and psychological atomism versus organization.

3. In many cases, the attempt at integration required taking a step backward to look at psychology's intellectual history, for a number of the field's endeavors are hard to explain unless one points to the paths that led up to them. Why did Thorndike study cats in puzzle boxes? Why did his conclusions have such an important effect on American psychology? Why were they challenged by Köhler and Tolman? It still pays to take a serious look at the work of such pioneers before turning to the present. Much as a river's water is clearer when it is taken from its source, so issues that have become more and more complex as detail has piled upon detail become more plain and evident when traced back to their origin.

GENERAL ORGANIZATION

The most obvious difference between this and the previous editions is the expansion of the coverage of the topics of social psychology and personality, which are now treated in two chapters each. Further changes represent updatings (in some cases, major updatings) of the subject matter that are best described within an outline of the overall structure of the book. After an introductory chapter, the book is divided into five parts that reflect the perspectives from which most psychological phenomena can be regarded: Action, Cognition, Social Behavior, Development, and Individual Differences. In brief outline, they cover the following topics:

Part I: Action

This part focuses on overt behavior and its physiological basis. It begins by considering the biological underpinnings of human and animal action, leading to a discussion of the nervous system and its operation (Chapter 2) and some phenomena of motivation (Chapter 3). It then asks how organisms can modify their behavior to adapt to new circumstances, a topic which leads to a discussion of classical and instrumental conditioning and modern behavior theory (Chapter 4).

In Chapter 2 (Biological Bases of Behavior) there is an increased emphasis on neurotransmitter processes at the synapse and on modern work on recovery of nervous function. Chapter 3 (Motivation) now includes sections on feeding disorders, drug addiction, and a discussion of the biological basis of reward. Chapter 4 (Learning) stresses recent developments in animal learning, including work on contingency and modern cognitive approaches to classical and instrumental conditioning.

Part II: Cognition

This part deals with knowledge and how it is gained and used. It begins by asking how the senses provide us with information about the world outside (Chapter 5), and how this information is organized and interpreted to lead to the perception of objects and events (Chapter 6). Further questions concern the way this knowledge is stored in memory and retrieved when needed (Chapter 7), the way it is organized through thinking (Chapter 8), and the way knowledge is communicated to others through the medium of language (Chapter 9).

Many of the changes in this part reflect a greater concern with recent information-processing approaches. In Chapter 5 (Sensory Processes) the organization has been simplified by incorporating an appendix on some aspects of signal detection within the chapter. In Chapter 6 (Perception), the organization has been changed to give more prominence to some modern approaches to pattern recognition. Chapter 7 (Memory) highlights the changes in outlook from the stage theories of the sixties to the modern emphasis on encoding and retrieval and such current concerns as the role of schemas in memory and the difference between explicit and implicit memory. Chapter 8 (Thinking) includes new material on artificial intelligence, on reasoning, and on the role of framing in decision making. Chapter 9 (Language and Language Development), written by Lila Gleitman and myself, merged what were formerly two chapters into one that deals with language structure and processing as well as with language acquisition.

Part III: Social Behavior

This part concerns our interactions with others. It begins with a discussion of built-in social tendencies in humans and animals, a topic to which ethology and evolutionary theory have made major contributions (Chapter 10). It proceeds by taking up the first influential attempt to understand how childhood affects human socialization by considering Freud and psychoanalytic concepts (Chapter 11), thus paving the way for the discussion of modern approaches to social development taken up later in the section on development. It then turns to modern social psychology, considering how people try to understand the social situation in which they find themselves, how they interpret their own internal states and emotions, and how they interact with others (Chapters 12 and 13).

There have been several changes in this section. Chapter 10 (The Biological Bases of Social Behavior) includes an expanded section on primate social behavior, as well as an expanded discussion of the relevance of sociobiological theories to human concerns. Like its counterpart in the previous edition, Chapter 11 (The Individual and Society: The Contributions of Sigmund Freud) discusses the contributions of psychoanalytic and related views to our conceptions of socialization. Two chapters are now devoted to issues in modern social psychology. Chapter 12 (Social Cognition and Emotion) focuses on the way individuals interpret social events, and includes discussions of attitudes and attitude change, attribution, impressions of others, and the interpretation of one's own internal states. Chapter 13 (Social Interaction) deals with the way individuals deal with others, and includes discussions of social exchange, attraction and love, conformity, obedience, and crowd behavior.

Part IV: Development

This section contains two chapters on development. Chapter 14 (*Physical and Cognitive Development*) now merges what were formerly two chapters into one with a greater focus on recent, post-Piagetian approaches to mental growth, and includes a section on cultural differences in cognitive development. Chapter 15 (*Social Development*) updates its counterpart in the previous edition with expanded discussions of such topics as moral development, empathy, sex and gender. As previously noted, the subject matter of a former chapter on language development is now incorporated into one single chapter on language (Chapter 9).

Part IV: Individual Differences

This part begins with a chapter on mental testing in general and intelligence testing in particular (Chapter 16), and then continues with two new chapters on personality assessment and theory (Chapters 17 and 18). It continues by looking at several varieties of psychopathology and asking how they arise (Chapter 19), and concludes by examining various methods of treatment and therapy (Chapter 20).

Chapter 17 (Intelligence) is updated in various ways, including more recent attempts to understand intelligence in information-processing terms. Two new chapters take up personality differences. Chapter 18 (Personality I) considers methods of personality assessment and discusses trait theory as one of four theoretical approaches to personality, with particular attention to the trait-situation controversy and to recent attempts to look for biological and genetic bases of personality differences. Chapter 19 (Personality II) takes up three other theoretical approaches to personality—the psychodynamic, behavioral, and humanistic. Both Chapter 19 (Psychopathology) and Chapter 20 (Treatment of Psychopathology) have been updated to include modern developments, such as the two-syndrome hypothesis of schizophrenia, new work on panic disorder, and new approaches to the evaluation of treatment outcome.

THE READER AND THE BOOK

It is sometimes said that students in the introductory course want to learn about things that are relevant to themselves and to their own lives. But why should this be a problem? When you come right down to it, there is something odd about the idea that psychology is *not* relevant to anyone's particular life history—specialist and nonspecialist alike. Psychology deals with the nature of human experience and behavior, about the hows and whys of what we do, think, and feel. Everyone has perceived, learned, remembered and forgotten, has been angry and afraid and been in love, has given in to group pressure and been independent. In short, everyone has experienced most of the phenomena that psychology tries to explain. This being so, psychology cannot fail to be relevant.

It surely is relevant, but its relevance has to be pointed out. I've tried to do so by a liberal use of examples from ordinary experience and a frequent resort to

metaphors of one kind or another, in the hope that in so doing I would show the direct relation of many psychological phenomena to the reader's own life.

In these attempts, the most important guide has been my own experience as a classroom teacher. There is little doubt that one of the best ways of learning something is to teach it, for in trying to explain to others, you first have to clarify it to yourself. This holds for the subject matter of every course I have ever taught, but most especially for the introductory course. Students in an advanced course will come at you with tough and searching questions; they want to know about the evidence that bears on a theory of, say, color vision or language acquisition. and about how that evidence was obtained. But students in an introductory course ask the toughest questions of all. They ask why anyone would ever want to know about color vision (or language acquisition or whatever) in the first place. And they also ask what any one topic has to do with any other. They ask such questions because they—unlike the advanced students—have not as yet accepted the premises of the field. They wonder whether the emperor is really wearing clothes. As a result, they made me ask myself afresh what the field of psychology is all about-what the emperor's clothes are really like when you look at them more closely.

This book as well as its predecessor grew out of my attempts to answer such questions over the years in which I taught the introductory course, to answer them not only to satisfy the students but also to satisfy myself.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

To help serve the needs of students, instructors, and teaching assistants, several supplementary materials are available with this text.

1. For the student:

There is a complete *Study Guide* for students, prepared by two or my colleagues and collaborators, John Jonides of the University of Michigan and Paul Rozin of the University of Pennsylvania. This *Study Guide*, a revised version of the guide the same authors wrote for the first and second editions of *Psychology*, should prove very useful to students who want some help and guidance in mastering the material in the text. Moreover, for every chapter, it provides experiments and observational studies that students can carry out on their own to get some first-hand experience with psychology's subject matter.

2. For the instructor:

There is an *Instructor's Manual*, prepared by Christine Massey of Swarthmore College, Hilary Schmidt of New Jersey Medical School and the Monell Institute, Alan Silberberg of American University, and myself, which offers specific suggestions for every textbook chapter, including discussion topics, demonstrations, and a bibliography. The manual also includes an annotated film and media guide prepared by James B. Maas of Cornell University.

John Jonides of the University of Michigan and Paul Cornwell of Pennsylvania State University, with the help of Tibor Palfai of Syracuse University, have pre-

pared a *Test Item File*, which includes questions for all chapters and the statistical appendix. A proportion of these questions have been statistically analyzed at Syracuse and Pennsylvania State Universities; the resulting data are included in the printed *Test Item File*. Of course, this *Test Item File* is available on diskette in MS-DOS, Apple II, and Macintosh formats.

I have prepared a set of *Classroom Demonstrations* with the collaboration of Paul Rozin and Lila Gleitman, both of the University of Pennsylvania. Included are materials necessary to perform about thirty in-class experiments covering a range of phenomena, from the speed of the nervous impulse, through the Stroop effect, to a demonstration of sex stereotypes. Slides, transparencies, student worksheets, data summaries, and detailed instructions for the instructor are included. These demonstrations are adapted from those that I and my collaborators have used in our own teaching.

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