Sixth Canadian Edition

PSYCHOLOGY Frontiers and Applications



PASSER | SMITH | ATKINSON | MITCHELL



PSYCHOLOGY FRONTIERS AND APPLICATIONS

SIXTH CANADIAN EDITION

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PSYCHOLOGY: FRONTIERS AND APPLICATIONS, SIXTH CANADIAN EDITION

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BRIEF CONTENTS

PREFACE xiv

CHAPTER 1

Psychology: The Science of Behaviour 1

CHAPTER 2

Studying Behaviour Scientifically 36

CHAPTER 11

Motivation and Emotion 395

CHAPTER 12

Development over the Lifespan 447

CHAPTER 13

CHAPTER 3

Biological Foundations of Behaviour 69

CHAPTER 4

Genes, Evolution, and Behaviour 107

CHAPTER 5

Sensation and Perception 141

CHAPTER 6

States of Consciousness 191

CHAPTER 7

Learning and Adaptation: The Role of Experience 236

Behaviour in a Social Context 498

CHAPTER 14 Personality 549

CHAPTER 15

Stress, Coping, and Health 591

CHAPTER 16

Psychological Disorders 631

CHAPTER 17

Treatment of Psychological Disorders 682

APPENDIX: STATISTICS IN

CHAPTER 8

Memory 276

CHAPTER 9

Language and Thinking 314

CHAPTER 10

Intelligence 356

PSYCHOLOGY AP-1

ANSWERS TO THINKING CRITICALLY AN-1

GLOSSARY GL-1

REFERENCES RE-1

NAME INDEX NI-1

SUBJECT INDEX SI-1



PREFACE xiv

CHAPTER 1

PSYCHOLOGY: THE SCIENCE OF BEHAVIOUR

The Nature of Psychology 2

Psychology's Scientific Approach 4 Thinking Critically about Behaviour 6 Psychology's Goals 8 Psychology as a Basic and Applied Science 8 Psychology's Broad Scope: A Simple Framework 8

Research Foundations

Would You Marry Someone You Didn't Love? 20 The Biological Perspective: The Brain, Genes, and Evolution 20

Perspectives on Behaviour 10

Psychology's Intellectual Roots 10
Early Schools: Structuralism and Functionalism 11
The Psychodynamic Perspective: The Forces Within 12
The Behavioural Perspective: The Power of the Environment 13
The Humanistic Perspective: Self-Actualization and Positive Psychology 15
The Cognitive Perspective: The Thinking Human 16
The Sociocultural Perspective: The Embedded Human 18

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Imaging Studies 22

Using Levels of Analysis to Integrate The Perspectives 24

Frontiers

Culture, Language, and Behaviour 26 An Example: Understanding Depression 27 Summary of Major Themes 29

Psychology Today 29

Applications

Academic Performance Enhancement Strategies 32

CHAPTER 2

STUDYING BEHAVIOUR SCIENTIFICALLY 36

Scientific Principles in Psychology 37

Scientific Attitudes 37

Threats to the Validity of Research 58 Confounding of Variables 58 Placebo Effects 59 Experimenter Expectancy Effects 60 Replicating and Generalizing the Findings 61

Research Foundations

Bystander Intervention 38

Gathering Evidence: Steps in the Scientific Process 39

Two Approaches to Understanding Behaviour 40 Defining and Measuring Variables 41

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of the Human Brain at Work 45

Methods of Research 46

Descriptive Research: Recording Events 46 Correlational Research: Measuring Associations between Events 50

Experiments: Examining Cause and Effect 53

Frontiers

Does Esp Exist? 62

Ethical Principles in Human and Animal Research 63

Ethical Standards in Human Research 63 Ethical Standards in Animal Research 65

Critical Thinking in Science and Everyday Life 66

Applications

Evaluating Claims in Research and Everyday Life 66

CHAPTER 3

BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF BEHAVIOUR 69

The Neural Bases of Behaviour 70

Neurons 70 The Electrical Activity of Neurons 71 How Neurons Communicate: Synaptic Transmission 73

Applications

Understanding How Drugs Affect Your Brain 76

The Nervous System 79

The Peripheral Nervous System 79 The Central Nervous System 81

Research Foundations

Wilder Penfield and a Cortical Map 83 The Hierarchical Brain: Structures and **Behavioural Functions** 87

Frontiers

Mirror Neurons and Autism Spectrum Disorder 97

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Music 103

CHAPTER 4

GENES, EVOLUTION, AND BEHAVIOUR 107

Genetic Influences 108 Chromosomes and Genes 108

Focus on Neuroscience

Early Experience, Epigenetics, and Adolescence 111 Behaviour Genetics Techniques 112

Applications

Gene Therapy and Genetic Counselling 113

Genetic Influences on Behaviour 118

Heredity, Environment, and Intelligence 118 Biological Reaction Range, the Environment, Personality, and Intelligence 119

Evolution and Behaviour 124

Evolution of Adaptive Mechanisms 124 Evolution and Human Nature 126 Evolutionary Psychology 128

Frontiers

Heritability, Evolution, and Politics 129

Research Foundations

Gender Differences in the Ideal Mate 133

How Not to Think about Behaviour Genetics and Evolutionary Psychology 138

CHAPTER 5

SENSATION AND PERCEPTION 141

Sensory Processes 143

Stimulus Detection: The Absolute Threshold 144 Signal Detection Theory 144

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Subliminal Perception and Prosopagnosia 145 The Difference Threshold 147 Sensory Adaptation 148 The Sensory Systems 149 Vision 149 Audition 158

Taste and Smell: The Chemical Senses 162 The Skin and Body Senses 164

Frontiers

Sensory Prosthetics: Restoring Lost Function 167

Perception: The Creation of Experience 170

Perception Is Selective: The Role of Attention 171 Perceptions Have Organization and Structure 173 Perception Involves Hypothesis Testing 175

Applications

Mona Lisa's Smile 176 Perception Is Influenced by Expectations: Perceptual Sets 176 Stimuli Are Recognizable under Changing Conditions: Perceptual Constancies 177

Perception of Depth, Distance, and Movement 179

Depth and Distance Perception 179 Perception of Movement 180 Illusions: False Perceptual Hypotheses 181 Experience, Critical Periods, and Perceptual Development 184

CHAPTER 6

STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS 191

The Puzzle of Consciousness 192 Measuring States of Consciousness 193 Levels of Consciousness: Psychodynamic and Cognitive Perspectives 193

Frontiers

Research Foundations

Critical Periods: The Role of Early Experience 185 Cross-Cultural Research on Perception 187 Restored Sensory Capacity 188

Focus on Neuroscience

Dreams and Daydreams 213

Drugs and Altered Consciousness 217 Drugs and the Brain 217 Tolerance and Withdrawal 218

Detecting Awareness 194

The Neural Basis of Consciousness 196

Circadian Rhythms: Our Daily Biological Clocks 197

Keeping Time: Brain and Environment 198 Environmental Disruptions of Circadian Rhythms 200

Sleep and Dreaming 201

Stages of Sleep 201 Getting a Night's Sleep: Brain and Environment 204 How Much Do We Sleep? 204 Sleep Deprivation 205

Applications

A Good Night's Sleep 206 Why Do We Sleep? 207 Sleep Disorders 208 The Nature of Dreams 210

Depressants 220

Research Foundations

Drinking and Driving: Decision Making in Altered States 222 Stimulants 223 Opiates 225 Hallucinogens 226 Marijuana 226 From Genes to Culture: Determinants of Drug Effects 227
Hypnosis 230 The Scientific Study of Hypnosis 230 Hypnotic Behaviours and Experiences 230 Theories of Hypnosis 232

Some Final Thoughts 234

CHAPTER 7

LEARNING AND ADAPTATION: THE ROLE OF EXPERIENCE 236

Adapting to the Environment 237

How Do We Learn? The Search for Mechanisms 237 Habituation and Sensitization 238

Classical Conditioning: Associating One Stimulus with Another 239

Pavlov's Pioneering Research240Basic Principles240Applications of Classical Conditioning243

Applications

Learning, Virtual Reality, and Therapy 246

Operant Conditioning: Learning through
Consequences 247
Thorndike's Law of Effect 248
Skinner's Analysis of Operant Conditioning 248
Antecedent Conditions: Identifying When to Respond 250
Consequences: Determining How to Respond 250
Shaping and Chaining: Taking One Step at a Time 254
Generalization and Discrimination 254
Schedules of Reinforcement 255 Escape and Avoidance Conditioning 258 Applications of Operant Conditioning 259

Biology and Learning 261

Constraints on Classical Conditioning: Learned Taste Aversions 261 Are We Biologically Prepared to Fear Certain Things? 262 Constraints on Operant Conditioning: Animals That "Won't Shape Up" 263 Learning and the Brain 263

Cognition and Learning 264 Insight and Cognitive Maps 264

CHAPTER 8

MEMORY 276

Focus on Neuroscience

Place Cells and Cognitive Maps 266 Cognition in Classical Conditioning 266

Frontiers

Animal Cognition 268 Cognition in Operant Conditioning 269

Observational Learning: When Others Pave The Way 270

Bandura's Social-Cognitive Theory 271

Research Foundations

Using Social-Cognitive Learning Theory to Prevent AIDS: A National Experiment 274

Memory as Information Processing 277 A Three-Component Model 278 **Research Foundations** In Search of the Icon 279 Encoding: Entering Information 283 Effortful and Automatic Processing 283 Levels of Processing: When Deeper Is Better 284 Exposure and Rehearsal 284 Organization and Imagery 285 How Prior Knowledge Shapes Encoding 287 Storage: Retaining Information 289 Memory as a Network 289 Types of Long-Term Memory 290 Retrieval: Accessing Information 292 The Value of Multiple and Self-Generated Cues 292 The Value of Distinctiveness 293 Context, State, and Mood Effects on Memory 294

Forgetting 297 The Course of Forgetting 297 Why Do We Forget? 298 Amnesia 300 Forgetting to Do Things: Prospective Memory 302 Frontiers Methods to Enhance Memory 303 Memory as a Constructive Process 304 Memory Distortion and Schemas 304 The Misinformation Effect and Eyewitness Testimony 306 The "Recovered Memory" Controversy: Repression or Reconstruction? 307 The Biology of Memory 309 Sensory and Working Memory 309 Long-Term Memory 310 **Focus on Neuroscience**

How Are Memories Formed? 311

Applications Improving Memory and Academic Learning 296

CHAPTER 9

LANGUAGE AND THINKING 314

Language 315

Adaptive Functions of Language 315 Properties of Language 316 The Structure of Language 317 Understanding and Producing Language 318 Acquiring a First Language 323 Bilingualism: Learning a Second Language 325 Linguistic Influences on Thinking 328

Focus on Neuroscience

The Bilingual Brain 329

Frontiers

Can Animals Acquire Human Language? 331

Thinking 334

Thought, Brain, and Mind 334 Concepts and Propositions 335Reasoning 335 Problem Solving 338 Knowledge, Expertise, and Wisdom 344

Applications

Guidelines for Creative Problem Solving 345 Mental Imagery 347 Metacognition: Knowing Your Own Cognitive Abilities 350

Research Foundations

"Why Did I Get That Wrong?" Improving Students' Awareness of Whether They Understand Text MateriaL 351

CHAPTER 10

INTELLIGENCE 356

Intelligence in Historical Perspective 358

Focus on Neuroscience

Brain Size and Intelligence 379

Sir Francis Galton: Quantifying Mental Ability 358 Alfred Binet's Mental Tests 358 Binet's Legacy: An Intelligence-Testing Industry Emerges 360

The Nature of Intelligence 361

The Psychometric Approach: The Structure of Intellect 361 Cognitive Process Approaches: The Nature of Intelligent Thinking 365 Broader Conceptions of Intelligence: Beyond Mental Competencies 367

The Measurement of Intelligence 370

Increasing the Informational Yield from Intelligence Tests 371 Theory-Based Intelligence Tests 371 Should We Test for Aptitude or Achievement? 371 Psychometric Standards for Intelligence Tests 372 Assessing Intelligence in Non-Western Cultures 377

Heredity, Environment, and Intelligence 379

Group Differences in Intelligence 382

Applications

Early-Childhood Interventions: A Means of Boosting Intelligence? 382 Ethnic Group Differences 384 Sex Differences in Cognitive Abilities 386

Research Foundations

Effects of Hormonal Fluctuations on Perceptual and Motor Skills 388

Extremes of Intelligence 389 The Intellectually Gifted 389

Frontiers

Musical Training and Auditory Processing 390 The Intellectually Disabled 390 A Concluding Thought 393



MOTIVATION AND EMOTION 395

Perspectives on Motivation 396

Instinct Theory and Evolutionary Psychology 396 Homeostasis and Drive Theory 396 Incentive and Expectancy Theories 397 Psychodynamic and Humanistic Theories 398 Hunger and Weight Regulation 400

The Physiology of Hunger 400

Focus on Neuroscience Brain Activation and Food Cues 404 Psychological Aspects of Hunger 405 Environmental and Cultural Factors 407 Obesity 408

Applications

The Battle to Control Eating and Weight 410

Sexual Motivation 411

Sexual Behaviour: Patterns and Changes 411 The Physiology of Sex 412 The Psychology of Sex 414

x CONTENTS

Cultural and Environmental Influences 414 Sexual Orientation 417

Achievement Motivation 420

The Thrill of Victory, the Agony of Defeat 420 Achievement Goal Theory 420 Achievement Needs and Situational Factors 422 Family and Cultural Influences 422 Motivational Conflict 423

The Nature and Functions of Emotion 424

CHAPTER 12DEVELOPMENT OVER THE LIFESPAN447

The Adaptive Value of Emotion 425 The Nature of Emotion 426

Frontiers

A New Emotion? 436

Theories of Emotion 438 *The James-Lange Somatic Theory The Cannon-Bard TheoryCognitive-Affective Theories*

Research Foundations Cognition-Arousal Relations 442

Prenatal Development 449

Genetics and Sex Determination 449 Environmental Influences 450

Infancy and Childhood 451

The Amazing Newborn 452 Sensory-Perceptual Development 454 Physical, Brain, and Motor Development 455 Cognitive Development 457 Social-Emotional and Personality Development 465

Frontiers

Social Media and Social Development 466

CHAPTER 13

BEHAVIOUR IN A SOCIAL CONTEXT 498

Social Thinking and Perception 499 Attribution: Perceiving the Causes of Behaviour 499 Forming and Maintaining Impressions 503 Attitudes and Attitude Change 504

Applications

Understanding How Divorce and Remarriage Affect Children 473

Moral Development 475

Adolescence and Adulthood 478

Physical Development 479

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of the Teenage Brain 481 Cognitive Development 483 Social-Emotional and Personality Development 487

Research Foundations What Does It Take to Become an Adult? 490

Social Relations 523 Affiliation and Interpersonal Attraction 523 Love 528

Social Influence 509

The Mere Presence of Others 509 Social Norms: The Rules of the Game 510 Conformity and Obedience 511

Research Foundations

The Dilemma of Obedience: When Conscience Confronts Malevolent Authority 514 Crowd Behaviour and Deindividuation 518 Crown Influences on Performance and Decision

Group Influences on Performance and Decision Making 519 Prejudice and Discrimination 529

Applications

Making Close Relationships Work: Lessons from Psychological Research 530

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Stereotyping 532 Prosocial Behaviour: Helping Others 536 Aggression: Harming Others 540

Frontiers

Do Violent Video Games Promote Aggression? 545

CONTENTS xi

CHAPTER 14

PERSONALITY 549

What Is Personality? 550

The Psychodynamic Perspective 550

Freud's Psychoanalytic Theory 551

Frontiers

Attachment Style and Abusive Romantic Relationships 556 Evaluating Psychoanalytic Theory 557

The Humanistic Perspective 558

George Kelly's Personal Construct Theory 559 Carl Rogers's Self Theory 559

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neurobiology of the Self 562

 Social Cognitive Theories 573
 Julian Rotter: Expectancy, Reinforcement Value, and Locus of Control 574
 Albert Bandura: The Social Cognitive Perspective and Self-Efficacy 575

Research Foundations

Albert Bandura, Human Agency, and the Social Cognitive Perspective 576

Applications

Increasing Self-Efficacy through Systematic Goal Setting 578

Walter Mischel: The Consistency Paradox and If . . . Then . . . Behaviour Consistencies 581

Research on the Self 565 Evaluating Humanistic Theories 566

Trait and Biological Perspectives 567 Cattell's Sixteen Personality Factors 567

Eysenck's Extraversion-Stability Model 568 The Five Factor Model 569 Traits and Behaviour Prediction 570 Biological Foundations of Personality Traits 571 The Stability of Personality Traits 571 Evaluating the Trait Approach 573

CHAPTER 15

STRESS, COPING, AND HEALTH 591

The Nature of Stress 592

Stressors 593 The Stress Response 594 Chronic Stress and the GAS 595

Stress and Health 597

Stress and Psychological Well-Being 597 Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) 598 Stress and Illness 599 Evaluating Social Cognitive Theories 581 Personality Assessment 582 Interviews 583 Behavioural Assessment 584 Remote Behaviour Sampling 584 Personality Scales 585 Projective Tests 586 Personality Theory and Personality Assessment 589

Research Foundations

Stress, Physical Contact, and Health: I Wanna Hold Your Hand 610

Frontiers

Mindfulness and the Stresses of Teaching 612 Bottling Up Feelings: The Costs of Constraint 613

Vulnerability and Protective Factors 601 Social Support 602

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Social Support 603 Hardiness 604 Coping Self-Efficacy 605 Optimism 605 Personality Factors 606 Finding Meaning in Stressful Life Events 607 Coping with Stress 608

Effectiveness of Coping Strategies 609

Gender, Culture, and Coping 614
Health Promotion and Illness Prevention 615
How People Change: The Transtheoretical Model 616
Increasing Behaviours That Enhance Health 618
Reducing Behaviours That Impair Health 621
Combatting Substance Abuse 622
Psychological Approaches to Treatment and Prevention 623
Positive Psychology 627
Applications

How to Be Happy 628

CHAPTER 16

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS 631

The Scope and Nature of Psychological Disorders 632 What Is "Abnormal"? 632

Historical Perspectives on Deviant Behaviour 634

Diagnosing Psychological Disorders 636 The DSM-5: Integrating Categorical and Dimensional Approaches 637 Critical Issues in Diagnostic Labelling 638

Research Foundations

On Being Sane in Insane Places 639

Anxiety Disorders 641

Phobic Disorder 642

Prevalence and Course of Mood Disorders 652 Causal Factors in Mood Disorders 653

Applications Understanding and Preventing Suicide 658 Somatic Symptom Disorders 660 Dissociative Disorders 662 What Causes Dissociative Identity Disorder? 662

Frontiers

Dissociative Identity Disorder: A Clinical and Scientific Puzzle 663

Schizophrenia 665

Generalized Anxiety Disorder 643 Panic Disorder 643 Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) 644 Causal Factors in Anxiety Disorders and OCD 644

Focus on Neuroscience

The Neuroscience of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder 645 Eating Disorders 648

Mood (Affective) Disorders 650

Depression 651 Bipolar Disorder 652

Characteristics of Schizophrenia 665 Subtypes of Schizophrenia 666 Causal Factors in Schizophrenia 667 Personality Disorders 671 Antisocial Personality Disorder 672 Borderline Personality Disorder 675 Disorders of Childhood and Old Age 677 Childhood Disorders 677 Dementia in Old Age 679 A Closing Thought 680

CHAPTER 17

TREATMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS 682

692

The Helping Relationship 683

Psychodynamic Therapies 684

Psychoanalysis 684 Brief Psychodynamic Therapies 686 Humanistic Psychotherapies 688 Client-Centred Therapy 688 Gestalt Therapy 690 **Cognitive Therapies** 691 Ellis's Rational-Emotive Therapy (RET) Beck's Cognitive Therapy 693 Behaviour Therapies 694 Classical Conditioning Treatments 694 **Focus on Neuroscience** The Neuroscience of Treating Unipolar Depression 695

Frontiers 697

Virtual Reality as a Therapeutic Technique 697 **Operant Conditioning Treatments** 699 Modelling and Social Skills Training 701

"Third-Wave" Cognitive-Behavioural Therapies 702 Mindfulness-Based Treatments 702 Cultural and Gender Issues in Psychotherapy 705 Cultural Factors in Treatment Utilization 705 Gender Issues in Therapy 706 **Evaluating Psychotherapies** 707 Psychotherapy Research Methods 708 Factors Affecting the Outcome of Therapy 711 **Research Foundations**

Drug versus Psychological Treatments for Depression: A Randomized Clinical Trial 713

Biological Approaches to Treatment 715
Drug Therapies 715
Electroconvulsive Therapy 718
Psychosurgery 719
Mind, Body, and Therapeutic Interventions 719
Psychological Disorders and Society 721
Deinstitutionalization 722
Preventive Mental Health 723
A Final Word 725

Applications When and Where to Seek Therapy 725 APPENDIX: STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY AP-1

ANSWERS TO THINKING CRITICALLY AN-1

GLOSSARY GL-1

REFERENCES RE-1

NAME INDEX NI-1

SUBJECT INDEX SI-1

PREFACE

There is nothing more fascinating than the study of the mind and behaviour. But we didn't recognize this when we entered university. In fact, the study of psychology wasn't even on our radar screens. Some of us had planned careers in the "hard" sciences (M.P., M.A.) and others were focused on the "softer" side (R.S.). One of us (J.M.) was pretty sure he would pursue psychology, although philosophy was an attractive alternative. Then something unexpected occurred. Each of us took an introductory psychology course, and suddenly our life paths changed. Because of instructors who brought psychology to life, we were hooked, and that initial enthusiasm has never left us. Now, through this textbook, we have the pleasure and privilege of sharing our enthusiasm with today's instructors and a new generation of students. We've endeavoured to create a thoughtfully integrated book and multimedia package that strikes just the right balance between student friendliness and scientific integrity—a teaching tool that introduces students to psychology as a science, while highlighting its relevance to their lives and society. We want students to experience, as we did, the intellectual excitement of studying the mind and behaviour. We also seek to help students sharpen their critical thinking skills, dispelling some commonly held myths. We have used clear prose, careful explanations, engaging examples, and supporting artwork to make the book and multimedia accessible to a wide range of students. All of this is done within a conceptual framework that emphasizes relations between biological, psychological, and environmental levels of analysis.

these pedagogical tools; consequently, we have retained these popular features from previous editions.

One of the fastest-evolving areas in psychology is neuroscience, particularly in the use of neuroimaging. By some estimates, published studies involving some aspect of neuroimaging have increased by 3000 percent over the past decade! We are now able to examine the neural substrates for most topics in psychology, including attitude change, fabricated memory, and psychological disorders, in addition to the more traditional topics of brain function and sensory processing. In an effort to embrace this fastmoving area of research, we continue to include a *Focus on Neuroscience* boxed feature in each chapter, which examines how neuroimaging provides a much more detailed understanding of how the mind and brain work.

We are excited about the unique way in which our text is integrated with its pedagogy. This integration results in Let's take a look at the features of our sixth Canadian edition.

OVERVIEW OF FEATURES

• **Problem-Based Learning:** Each chapter is structured around a set of tools to help students interact with the material at a level that exceeds reading alone. These tools include the chapter-opening vignette,



which presents a real-world case related to the chapter topic; a margin icon throughout the chapter, which indicates when the discussion relates back to the case introduced in the vignette; and the *Gaining Direction* feature at the end of the chapter, which revisits the vignette and suggests some answers to the questions it poses. Together, these tools encourage students to apply the concepts they are learning to real-world situations.

a learning package that "uses science to teach science." Specifically, we are impressed with research (e.g., Moreland et al., 1997; Pauk & Fiore, 2000) showing that recall of textual material is significantly enhanced by specific focus questions and learning objectives that serve as retrieval cues and help students identify important information and assess their mastery of the material. In addition, the opening vignettes are presented as Problem-Based Learning (PBL) case studies. PBL generates a deeper understanding of material and provides the student with critical problem-solving skills (see Aspy et al., 1993; Vernon & Blake, 1993). It is for precisely this reason that PBL is used in the curriculum of so many medical schools. Over the years, our students have profited from

- Focus on Scientific Psychology: Throughout the book, psychology is portrayed as a contemporary science without becoming excessively formal or terminological. The text focuses both on principles derived from research and on the methods by which good research is conducted.
- Focus on Relations between Basic Science and Applications: Whether in the context of students' personal lives or larger societal issues, many questions studied from a basic science perspective are inspired by real-world questions and issues, and basic research findings often guide solutions to social and individual problems. In this way, students can be guided by their knowledge in other aspects of their lives.

Levels of Analysis emphasize how psychologists examine the interplay of biological, psychological, and environmental factors in their quest to understand behaviour. Topics explored include "Behaviour Genetics" (Chapter 4), "Aggression" (Chapter 13), and "Stress and Resilience" (Chapter 15).

Levels of Analysis

Behaviour Genetics

Although the focus here has been on genetics and behaviour, all three scientific levels of analysis-biological, psychological, and environmental-are involved in the context of discovery.

BIOLOGICAL

 Human genome research is unlocking the secrets of our genetic structure and has already dispelled long-held beliefs, such as that concerning the number of genes in the genome. · Genes influence the development, structure, and function off the brain by controlling the production of proteins.

ENVIRONMENTAL

 Evolutionary researchers focus on the environmental factors that have fostered behavioural adaptations through natural selection processes.

 Twin studies (especially of twins raised apart) provide insights into genetic factors as well as shared and unshared environmental factors.

Research on the manner in which genetic factors influence the learning environments that people select or create through their own behaviour sheds light on gene-environment interactions. Cultural learning can affect the expression of

- gene-influenced behaviours.
- Studies on how genes are switched on and off

• Focus on Neuroscience features highlight how rapidly developing cutting-edge technology is paving the way for groundbreaking imaging studies that give new insights into the workings of the human brain and its relationship to behaviour.

Focus on Neuroscience

EARLY EXPERIENCE, EPIGENETICS, AND ADOLESCENCE

Does early experience have a lasting impact? Does the impact of early experience differ from the impact of similar experiences later stages in life? Most people would say that yes, there is something special about early experience and the impact it has on later behaviour.

There are indeed good demonstrations of this belief. For example, in his classic studies on maternal behaviour and resistance to stress, Michael Meaney and his colleagues at McGill University found that variations in maternal care of rat pups during their first two weeks of life produced lasting changes in the behaviour of those animals. This early experience led to differences in the maternal

all changes without linking those changes to any specific gene. They also measured changes to a specific gene. The gene they targeted is one that controls the production of a protein (brain-derived neurotrophic factor) that is important for brain development and for synaptic plasticity. These researchers specifically examined epigenetic changes in the amygdala and the hippocampus. As you will recall from Chapter 3, the amygdala is importantly involved in emotion, especially in fear- and anxiety-related behaviours, and the hippocampus is critically important for memory.

Doherty et al. (2016) used an animal model of caregiver mistreatment. For their first week of life, one group of rat pups were with a mother that was in a novel environment with little bedding material. A novel environment is stressful so these pups were with a stressed mother and had

Frontiers features highlight current and future direc-•

provide insights into how genetic processes determine the development of biological structures, such as the brain. Such knowledge may be the basis for revolutionary new medical treatments.

Suppose the entire world was consumed by a deadly plague that killed most humans. How would the human genotype be expected to change as a result of this event? By what process would this change occur?

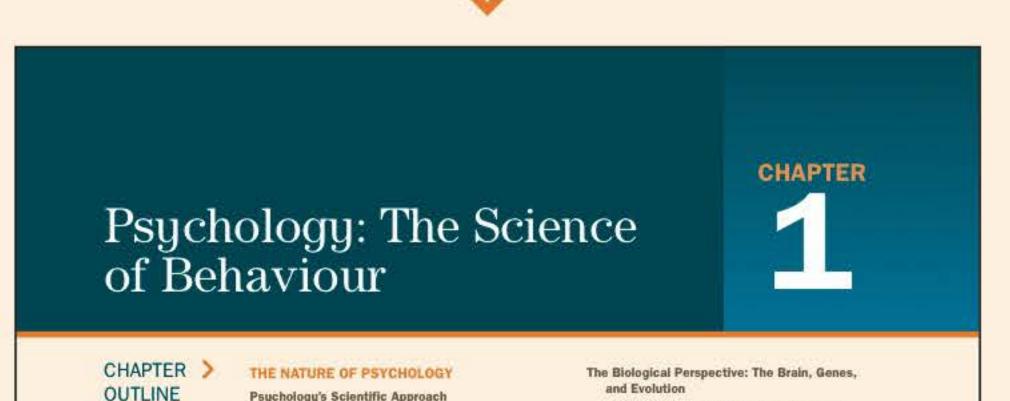
PSYCHOLOGICAL

 The psychological products of geneenvironment interactions cannot be studied without an understanding of the behaviours and psychological processes of interest. This requires psychological research and the development of methods for measuring the psychological characteristics of interest.

Adoption and twin studies allow researchers to estimate the relative contributions of genes and environment on specific psychological variables. These contributions have been shown to differ widely, depending on the behaviour of interest,

 Other research focuses on the specific ways in which environmental and genetic factors exert their individual and combined effects on behaviour.

• To familiarize students with the text's pedagogical features, Chapter 1 includes a Reader's Guideannotations written by the authors to draw attention to specific features and explain why they have been incorporated in the text.



tions in psychological theory and research, illustrating the dynamic nature of psychological science and the ways in which it can promote human development. New to the sixth Canadian edition are topics such as "Mirror Neurons and Autism Spectrum Disorder" (Chapter 3) and "Social Media and Social Development" (Chapter 12).

Frontiers

ANIMAL COGNITION

As we have seen, behaviourism focused on the study of associative learning with little or no attention paid to internal mental activity. Psychologists, however, moved away from this perspective and the cognitive revolution in psychology combined with perspectives from evolutionary psychology and ethology led to questions about the men tal capabilities of animals. The cognitive perspective in the study of learning dates back to work by researchers such as Köhler and Tolman, but it is more recent that the study of a wide range of cognitive capabilities in animals has received sustained attention. Are animals other than humans capable of numerosity (counting), of forming concepts for use in problem solving, or of accurately estimating the passage of time? Pavlov was studying classical conditioning at the beginning of the 20th century, and by the end of the 20th century research in animal cognition had increased sufficiently that the scientific journal Animal Cognition was introduced in 1998.



Public Domain

FIGURE 7.25 Wilheim von Osten and Clever Hans performing for a crowd of amazed spectators. Hans used onlookers' reactions to guide his responses.

Research Foundations features describe and critically • evaluate a classic, high-interest study. Presented in a simplified journal format (introduction, method, results,

OUTLINE	Psychology's Scientific Approach Thinking Critically about Behaviour	E
The chapter	Psychology's Goals	D
outline is your	Psychology as a Basic and Applied Science	US
roadmap to each chapter. Skim the	Psychology's Broad Scope: A Simple Framework	TH
outline before	PERSPECTIVES ON BEHAVIOUR	Ē
reading the chapter to get an	Psychology's Intellectual Roots	An
overview of the	Early Schools: Structuralism and Functionalism	Su
chapter's topic.	The Psychodynamic Perspective: The Forces Within	PS
The compass icon appears next to the opening	The Behavioural Perspective: The Power of the Environment The Humanistic Perspective: Self-Actualization and Positive Psychology	AS
story. Throughout	The Cognitive Perspective: The Thinking Human	
the chapter, the	The Sociocultural Perspective: The Embedded Human	1
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Focus on Neuroscience: The Neuroscience of Imaging Studies

SING LEVELS OF ANALYSIS TO INTEGRATE HE PERSPECTIVES

Frontiers: Culture, Language, and Behaviour n Example: Understanding Depression immary of Major Themes

SYCHOLOGY TODAY

Applications: Academic Performance Enhancement Strategies

Try to answer all these questions after you have read the opening story. When you see the compass icon throughout the chapter, consider which issue it might address, what information is provided, and what else you need to know.

Perhaps the most fascinating and mysterious universe of all is the one within us.

On March 24, 2015, Germanwings Flight 9525 crashed into the French Alps, killing all 150 people aboard. The Airbus A320 did not have any maintenance or mechanical problems. The investigation into the accident later revealed that the copilot, Andreas Lubitz, deliberately flew the plane into the mountains at 700 kilometres per hour. Lubitz was suffering from several psychological disorders and had recently been treated for suicidal tendencies. In the summer of 2006, Derek



to know? Where can we find the information to answer the questions?

What are the

issues here?

What do we need

Amato, a 39-year-old sales trainer, was fooling around at a friend's pool. His friend threw a football, Derek jumped for it, but missed and slammed his head into the side of the pool. He was diagnosed with a severe concussion and had intense headaches, memory loss, and a 35 percent hearing loss in one ear. Four days later, he was at

discussion), the studies represent a diversity of research methods to help students learn the process of critical thinking. **Research Design** diagrams illustrate the research question, type of study, and variables for the study described in the *Research Foundations* feature.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BECOME AN ADULT?

Introduction

If we asked you "Have you reached adulthood?" how would you answer? And, in your view, just what does it take to be considered an adult? Jeffrey Arnett examined how North Americans in various age groups viewed the transition to adulthood. Whereas previous research focused on the viewpoints of adolescents and people in their 20s, this study also examined the viewpoints of older adults.

Research

Foundations

Method

Men and women from a mid-sized community were recruited

General Category	Sample of Specific Characteristics
Individualism	Be responsible for one's actions; determine own values/beliefs; attain financial freedom.
Family capacities	Be capable of caring for and financially supporting a family.
Norm compliance	Refrain from crime, irresponsible sex, drunk driving, illegal drug use.
Biological transitions	Be capable of fathering/bearing children.
Legal/Chronological transitions	Obtain driver's licence; reach age 18; reach age 19.

xvi PREFACE

• Applications features demonstrate how principles from basic psychological research can be applied to everyday life. Many of these features focus on important skills that can enhance students' learning and performance. Topics include "The Battle to Control Eating and Weight" (Chapter 11) and "How to Be Happy" (Chapter 15).

THE BATTLE TO CONTROL EATING

AND WEIGHT

Many people, especially high school and university students, are concerned about their weight. Many adolescent females with average and even below-average body fat diet (Kenardy et al., 2001). Our dissatisfaction with our bodies begins at an alarmingly young age. One study found that almost 30 percent of 10- to 14-year-old girls were trying to lose weight and look thinner (McVey et al., 2004). Our body size and shape, or, more accurately, our perception of our body size and shape forms an important part of our self-image. How we perceive our own body and how closely that matches our ideal is an important issue for many (look back at Figure 11.8). Can what we have learned about hunger help us in our battle to control our girth? Many different factors control hunger, and what we know about their influ-

would "ruin our appetite" Unfortunately, it does not work that way. If you eat a small amount of food before the main meal-that is, eat an appetizer-then you will eat more of the following meal. An appetizer is aptly named as it does indeed increase your appetite. Appetizers work for at least two reasons. One is that an appetizer provides more variety in the meal and food variety increases consumption. The second reason is that if the appetizer stimulates insulin secretion, as it should, the increase in blood insulin levels and subsequent drop in blood glucose levels are powerful hunger cues. If you are visiting a fine restaurant and want to enjoy every possible mouthful, go ahead and have that appetizer. However, if you want to control the amount of food that you consume, do not have an appetizer or small snack close to mealtime; it will only make you feel hungrier and increase the amount of food that you eat.

Eat when you are hungry. Although we tend to attribute

• Each major section ends with **In Review**, a bulleted interim summary that breaks the key content from each chapter into manageable segments.

n Review

- Memory involves three main processes (encoding, storage, and retrieval) and three main components (sensory memory, short-term/working memory, and long-term memory).
- Sensory memory briefly holds incoming sensory information. Some information reaches working memory and long-term memory, where it is mentally represented by phonological, visual, semantic, or motor codes.
- Short-term/working memory actively processes information and supports other cognitive functions. It has auditory, visuospatial, and executive (coordinating) components. Long-term memory stores enormous amounts of information for up to a lifetime. Studies of amnesia patients and research on the serial position effect support the distinction between short- and long-term memory.
- Effortful processing involves intentional encoding and conscious attention. Automatic processing occurs without intention and requires minimal

dual-coding by adding visual imagery, and other mnemonic devices facilitate deeper encoding.

- Schemas are mental frameworks that shape how we encode information. As we become experts in any given field, we develop schemas that allow us to encode information into memory more efficiently.
- Associative network models view long-term memory as a network of associated nodes, with each node representing a concept or unit of information. Neural network models propose that each piece of information in memory is represented not by a single node but by multiple nodes distributed throughout the brain. Each memory is represented by a unique pattern of simultaneously activated nodes.
- Declarative long-term memories involve factual knowledge and include episodic memories (knowledge concerning personal experiences) and semantic memories (facts about the world and language). In contrast, procedural memory is reflected in skills and actions. Explicit mem-
- At the end of each chapter, **Gaining Direction** features suggest some possible answers to the questions posed in the opening vignette. In the spirit of PBL, these answers are not definitive but merely suggest a set of issues to be explored and some sources of information. This feature helps students apply the newly learned material to real-world situations, thus enhancing their understanding of the text content and the use of psychology in real life.

ences and interactions can indeed be put to use. As discussed previously, having an "empty" stomach does contribute to feelings of hunger and having a "full" stomach is one of the satiety signals. But it is not just the

• Thinking Critically activities question a belief or information presented in the text, or pose a situation that requires analysis, and then ask students to construct an answer using their critical-examination skills. Students can then compare their answer to one provided on at the end of the book.

~

Thinking critically

DO STRESSFUL LIFE EVENTS CAUSE PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS?

A consistent statistical relation has been shown between stressful life events and psychological distress; the greater the number of stressful events people have experienced, the more distress they are likely to report. Based on these results, are you willing to accept the conclusion that life stress causes distress, or can you think of other possible reasons for this relation?

Think about it, and then see the Answers section at

V

Gaining Direction				
What are the issues?	How can someone with no talent for art become a superb artist when asleep? Is Lee Hadwin truly gifted or is this some kind of elaborate hoax? Obviously, when Lee is sleeping he is in a different	state of consciousness and we might want to explore what consciousness is and how it might change. In puzzling through these issues, we need to assess just what goes on during asleep.		
What do we need to know?	What is consciousness? What happens during sleep? How do we explain sleepwalking? How might we distinguish between unconscious activity and a hoax?	What are dreams and when do they occur? Can individuals perform unconscious actions that they cannot do in waking life?		
Where can we find the information to answer these questions?	As you review the chapter, there are several critical pieces of information to assess. First, look at the material on the stages of sleep. What happens when you fall to sleep? Carefully exam- ine the different stages, and determine what is going on in the brain at each stage. Second,	consider the material on sleep disorders. When does sleepwalking normally occur? Can you dream in this stage? If Lee is not acting out a dream, what is he doing? Finally, you might want to look for similar cases of unusual activ- ity during sleep. Are similar factors involved?		

the end of the book.

• **Directed Questions** appear in the margins of the text adjacent to important material. Students are to read the question before reading the material, and then answer the question after reading the material. The Directed Questions enhance concept mastery, serve as retrieval clues during study, and act as a performance feedback measure.

4. What are perspectives on behaviour? Cite four ways in which they can influence psychological science.

- Additional Pedagogical Features: A textbook should inspire students and help them master the material at hand. To accomplish these goals, our book incorporates chapter outlines, boldfaced key terms, and a full end-of-text glossary.
- **Canadian Content:** Times have changed and work that once was considered classic is now performed in labs all across North America. Thus, we have included a large number of studies by both Canadian and U.S. authors. Bringing psychology to life for students, the text includes examples that are relatable for students, statistics that reflect the Canadian and North American context, and stories and vignettes that occur in Canadian locations.

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M.A. & J.M.

CHAPTER

Psychology: The Science of Behaviour

CHAPTER >

The chapter outline is your roadmap to each chapter. Skim the outline before reading the chapter to get an overview of the chapter's topic.

THE NATURE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology's Scientific Approach Thinking Critically about Behaviour Psychology's Goals Psychology as a Basic and Applied Science Psychology's Broad Scope: A Simple Framework

PERSPECTIVES ON BEHAVIOUR

The Biological Perspective: The Brain, Genes, and Evolution

Focus on Neuroscience: The Neuroscience of Imaging Studies

USING LEVELS OF ANALYSIS TO INTEGRATE THE PERSPECTIVES

Frontiers: Culture, Language, and Behaviour An Example: Understanding Depression Summary of Major Themes

The compass icon appears next to the opening story. Throughout the chapter, the icon will mark sections of text that may be relevant to this story. Psychology's Intellectual Roots Early Schools: Structuralism and Functionalism The Psychodynamic Perspective: The Forces Within The Behavioural Perspective: The Power of the Environment

The Humanistic Perspective: Self-Actualization and Positive Psychology

The Cognitive Perspective: The Thinking Human

The Sociocultural Perspective: The Embedded Human

Research Foundations: Would You Marry Someone You Didn't Love?

PSYCHOLOGY TODAY

Applications: Academic Performance Enhancement Strategies

Try to answer all these questions after you have read the opening story. When you see the compass icon throughout the chapter, consider which issue it might address, what information is provided, and what else you need to know.

Perhaps the most fascinating and mysterious universe of all is the one within us. -Carl Sagan



On March 24, 2015, Germanwings Flight 9525



What are the

crashed into the French Alps, killing all 150 people aboard. The Airbus A320 did not have any maintenance or mechanical problems. The investigation into the accident later revealed that the copilot, Andreas Lubitz, deliberately flew the plane into the mountains at 700 kilometres per hour. Lubitz was suffering from several psychological disorders and had recently been treated for suicidal tendencies.

In the summer of 2006, Derek Amato, a 39-year-old sales trainer,

© Derek Amato

was fooling around at a friend's pool. His friend threw a football, Derek jumped for it, but missed and slammed his head into the side of the pool. He was diagnosed with a severe concussion and had intense headaches, memory loss, and a 35 percent hearing loss in one ear. Four days later, he was at issues here?

What do we need to know?

Where can we find the information to answer the questions? his friend's place drifting in and out of consciousness. His friend had a small music studio and as Derek was sitting there he picked up a keyboard and started to play. Although he had no musical training at all, he played like a professional. His friend was stunned. Derek continued to play and compose music. He has written over 2500 pieces, composed scores for documentaries, and published a book. He's working on his third album and is preparing to go on tour.

Canadian biologist Anne Adams was suffering from a severe case of frontotemporal lobe dementia. She lost her ability to speak, but surprisingly, became an artistic genius. Her seminal work, *Unravelling Bolero*, is considered a forceful example of mathematics and art.

et's begin our exploration of psychology with a quick exercise. Please read the paragraph below, unscrambling the words as you proceed.

But as we'll see, psychologists study a tremendous diversity of topics—including language and how we recognize words (Mousikou et al., 2010).

The jumbled paragraph raises other key psychological issues, such as how we acquire knowledge and form beliefs about our world, which we'll discuss in the conclusion of this chapter. Among the countless beliefs we hold and the claims we hear about human nature and behaviour, how do we separate fact from fiction and myth from reality? The science of psychology leads us to engage these questions.

Terms in boldface indicate new or important or important concepts. These terms are defined in the Glossary.

 Define psychology and indicate what kinds of behaviours it studies.

> Directed questions appear throughout each chapter. Read the question before you read the material in the text. After reading the material, try to answer the question.

Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde uinervtisy, it deosn't mttaer waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteres are at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a tatol mses, and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is becuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by istlef but the wrod as a wlohe.

Type "jumbled words," "jumbled paragraph," or "scrambled letters" into a web browser. Dig around in the search results, and you'll find multiple sites and blogs about this paragraph. In 2003, it was all the rage. The paragraph spread across the Internet and reached countless email inboxes as people—amazed by how easily they could read it—passed it along. When we showed the paragraph to our students, most breezed through it, although some struggled (if you had trouble, that's okay; see the unscrambled version at the end of this chapter). Show the paragraph to some people you know and see how they do.

Do you accept the claim that if the first and last letters of a word remain intact "the rset can be a tatol mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm"? From the paragraph's immense popularity, we speculate that many people do accept this statement. After all, the evidence is concrete; it's right before our eyes. Well, whether or not you accept it, take this challenge: Can you think of reasons why this particular jumbled paragraph is easy to read? Even better, can you create a short jumbled paragraph—keeping the first and last letters of words intact—that people find difficult to read? We'll return to this challenge later in the chapter. So what does a jumbled paragraph have to do with psychology? If you personally view psychology as synonymous with *therapy*, *shrinks*, or *couches*, then your answer might be "not much."

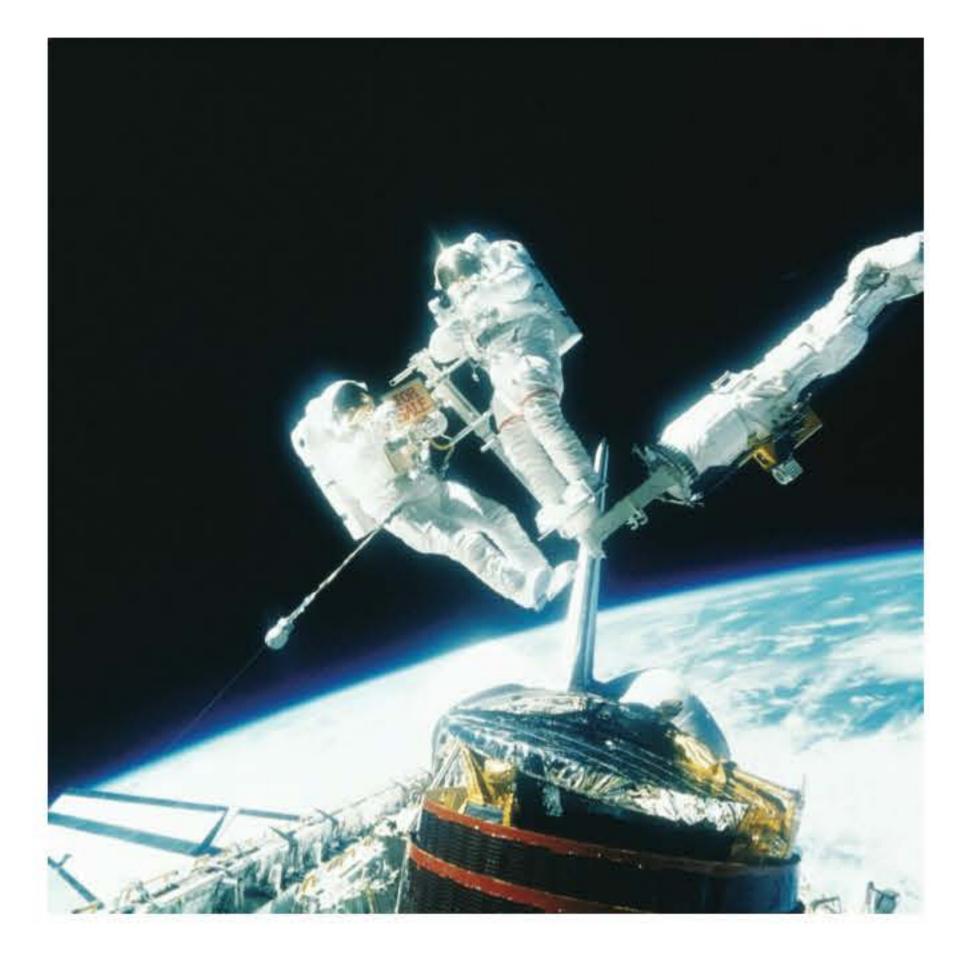
THE NATURE OF PSYCHOLOGY



Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. The term *behaviour* refers to actions and responses that we can directly observe, whereas the term *mind* refers to internal states and processes, such as thoughts and feelings, that cannot be seen directly and that must be inferred from observable, measurable responses. For example, we cannot directly see a person's feeling of love or admiration for someone else, but we can infer how the person feels based on observable verbal statements (e.g., "I love you"; "I

really admire you").

When people hear the word *psychologist*, the first image that comes to their minds is often that of a therapist. This reaction is understandable, as a large number of psychologists work in a subfield called **clinical psychology:** the study and treatment of mental disorders. Many clinical psychologists diagnose and treat people with psychological problems in clinics, hospitals, and private practice. In addition, some are scientists who conduct research on the causes of mental disorders and the effectiveness of various treatments. Yet many psychologists have no connection with therapy and instead conduct research in other subfields (Figure 1.1). For example, **cognitive psychology** specializes in



the study of mental processes, especially from a model that views the mind as an information processor. Cognitive psychologists examine such topics as consciousness, attention, memory, decision making, and problem solving. An area within cognitive psychology, called *psycholinguistics*, focuses on the psychology of language. The jumbled-word exercise relates directly to psycholinguistics.

To illustrate psychology's diversity, here a few other subfields:

• **Biopsychology/neuroscience** focuses on the biological underpinnings of behaviour. Biopsychologists examine how brain processes, genes, and hormones influence our actions, thoughts, and feelings. Some biopsychologists seek to explain how evolution has





shaped our psychological capabilities (e.g., our capacity for advanced thinking and language) and behavioural tendencies (e.g., to act aggressively or altruistically).

- Developmental psychology examines human physical, psychological, and social development across the lifespan. For example, some developmental psychologists explore the emotional world of infants, while others study how different parenting styles psychologically affect children or how our mental abilities change during adolescence and adulthood.
- Experimental psychology focuses on such basic processes as learning, sensory systems (e.g., vision, hearing), perception, and motivational states (e.g., sexual motivation, hunger, thirst). Most research in this subfield involves laboratory experiments, often with nonhuman animals. Although this subfield is called *experimental* psychology, be aware that researchers in many psychological subfields conduct experiments.

(top) © StockTrek/Getty Images; (middle) © Gabe Palmer/Corbis; (bottom) © Royalty-Free/Corbis

FIGURE 1.1 Psychologists study diverse topics. Subfields that may not immediately occur to you include aviation and space psychology, educational psychology, and the law.

- Industrial-organizational (I/O) psychology examines people's behaviour in the workplace. I/O psychologists study leadership, teamwork, and factors that influence employees' job satisfaction, work motivation, and performance. They develop tests to help employers identify the best job applicants and design systems that companies use to evaluate employee performance.
- **Personality psychology** focuses on the study of human personality. Personality psychologists seek to identify core personality traits and how different traits relate to one another and influence behaviour. They also develop tests to measure personality.

4 CHAPTER ONE



Computer Science Scientific study of information processing and manipulations of data Biology Scientific study of life processes and biological structures

Psychology Scientific study of behaviour and mental processes Anthropology Scientific study of cultural origins, evolution, and variations

> Economics Scientific study of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services

We'll encounter other branches of psychology throughout the chapter, but we hope you already get the picture. Psychologists do study the causes of mental disorders, provide therapy, and evaluate therapy effectiveness, but their interests and research span the entire realm of behaviour. Indeed, the scope of modern psychology stretches from the borders of medicine and the biological sciences to those of the social sciences (Figure 1.2).

Psychology's Scientific Approach

Across psychology's diverse subfields, researchers share a common underlying scientific approach to studying behaviour. Science is a process that involves systematically gathering and evaluating empirical evidence to answer questions and test beliefs about the natural world. *Empirical evidence* is evidence gained through experience and observation, and this includes evidence from manipulating or "tinkering around" with things and then observing what happens (this is the essence of experimentation). For example, if we want to know how people's intellectual abilities change as they age, we don't rely on intuition, pure reasoning, or folk wisdom to obtain an answer. Rather, we collect empirical data by exposing people to intellectual tasks and observing how they perform. Moreover, in science these observations need to be systematic (i.e., performed according to a system of rules or conditions) so that they will be as objective and precise as possible (Shaugnessy et al., 2010).



Engineering Application of scientific principles to designing machines, structures, and systems

Material in tables and figures can be just as important as the text. Be sure you read these sections.

FIGURE 1.2 Psychology as a scientific hub. Psychology links with and overlaps many sciences.

Social psychology examines people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviour pertaining to the social world: the world of other people. Social psychologists study how people influence one another, behave in groups, and form impressions and attitudes. They study social relationships involving attraction and love, prejudice and discrimination, helping, and aggression.

Note that topics studied in different subfields often overlap. Consider decision making, which is examined in all of the areas above. For exam-

Understanding Behaviour: Some Pitfalls of Everyday Approaches

Science is only one of many ways that we learn about human behaviour. Family and friends,

ple, a cognitive psychologist might study how wording the same information in different ways affects people's decisions; a social psychologist might study decision making in groups; and a developmental psychologist could examine how children's decision-making strategies change with age (Josyln et al., 2009; Toma & Butera, 2009). Moreover, many psychologists have interests that bridge different subfields. Thus, a clinical psychologist might be interested in the biological bases of how adolescents with anxiety disorders make decisions. She could have adolescents who do and who don't have an anxiety disorder perform decision-making tasks, and use brain-imaging techniques to compare the neural activity of the two groups (Krain et al., 2008).

great works of literature, secular and religious teachings, and the Internet and popular media all provide us with messages about human nature. Mix in our own intuitions (i.e., the knowledge that each of us acquires from years of personal experience interacting with people) and so-called "conventional" or "folk" wisdom, and we have potent ingredients for generating our personal beliefs about what makes people tick.

Unfortunately, in everyday life there are many ways in which these sources can end up promoting misconceptions. Other people—via conversations, books, the Internet, and other popular media—may provide us with information and insights that they believe to be accurate but really are not. Even personal experiences can lead us to form inaccurate beliefs. Although our experiences and everyday observations provide us with empirical information, unlike scientific observations, everyday observation usually is casual rather than systematic. Our own experiences also may be atypical and not representative of what most people experience.

As we'll explore in Chapter 9, misconceptions can also result from our own faulty thinking. For example, consider the following:

• We often take *mental shortcuts* when forming judgments—shortcuts that sometimes serve us poorly (White, 2009). Judging someone's personality based solely on stereotypes about his or her physical appearance would be an example of a mental shortcut (e.g., Kleider et al., 2012). in which they intentionally manipulate one factor, try to keep other factors constant, and see how the manipulated factor influences behaviour.

Science also is a public affair, as psychologists do publish their findings. Publication enables scientists to scrutinize and challenge each other's findings if they wish. This collective approach reduces the risk of confirmation bias. As new studies are conducted, the original findings are put to the test and may be contradicted, forcing scientists to modify their beliefs and conduct further research to sort out contradictory results.

To be sure, science has limitations and its own pitfalls. It is ideally suited to examining testable questions about the natural world. Psychologists can study such questions as "Do happy people differ from unhappy people in their degree of religiousness or spirituality?" and "What do people believe gives their life meaning?" But science cannot answer such questions as "Does God exist?" and "What is the meaning of life?" The former is a question of faith that is beyond scientific measurement; the latter is a question answered by personal values. As for pitfalls, poorly designed or poorly executed studies can produce misleading data that result in invalid conclusions. Even when studies are designed well and conducted properly, "false starts" can occur in which other researchers later are unable to duplicate the original researchers' findings. Additionally, over time, new research often modifies or completely overturns existing scientific beliefs. But it's important to realize that these aren't weaknesses of the scientific approach. Rather, they reveal one of its great strengths: In principle, science ultimately is a self-correcting process. At any point in history, scientific knowledge represents a best estimate of how the world operates. As better or more complete information is gathered, that best estimate may continue to be supported or it may need to be changed. Understandably, to many people such change can be frustrating or confusing, as illustrated by the public uproar in 2009, when an expert medical panel issued new breast-cancer screening guidelines (Kolata, 2009). The panel stated that most women should start having regular mammogram tests at age 50, not at age 40 as recommended by prior, long-standing guidelines. Similarly, researchers in the Czech Republic reported that eating only two larger meals per day rather than multiple small meals actually leads to greater weight loss (Kahleova et al., 2012). To scientists, however, such changes represent an evolution of knowledge called *scientific progress*.

- Because many factors in real life may operate simultaneously to influence behaviour, we may *fail to consider alternative explanations* for why a behaviour has occurred and assume that one factor has caused it, when in fact some less obvious factor was the true cause (Elek et al., 2012; Lassiter et al., 2007).
- Once our beliefs are established, we often fail to test them further. In this vein, we tend to display a *confirmation bias* by selectively paying attention to information that is consistent with our beliefs and downplaying or ignoring information that is inconsistent with them (Mendel et al., 2011; Hart et al., 2009).

Using Science to Minimize Everyday Pitfalls

Yes, scientists are human too, and they may fall victim to all these pitfalls and to others that we'll discuss in the next chapter. But by adopting a scientific approach, psychologists can take concrete steps to avoid or at least minimize biases and problems that can lead to inaccurate conclusions. For example, rather than relying on imprecise casual observations, psychologists use various instruments (e.g., video recorders, questionnaires, brain-imaging devices) to objectively and precisely record people's responses. When directly watching people, several researchers can independently observe the same behaviours and compare their findings to ensure that their observations were reliable. To avoid perceiving illusory correlations, psychologists typically use statistics to analyze their data. To minimize drawing erroneous conclusions about what has caused what, psychologists often are able to examine behaviour under highly controlled experimental conditions

TABLE 1.1 Widely Held Beliefs about Behaviour: Fact or Fiction?

Directions: Decide whether each statement is true or false.

- 1. Most people with exceptionally high IQs are well adjusted in other areas of their lives.
- 2. In romantic relationships, opposites usually attract.
- 3. Overall, married adults are less happy than adults who aren't married.
- 4. Graphology (handwriting analysis) is a valid method for measuring people's personality.
- 5. A person who is innocent of a crime has nothing to fear from a lie detector test.
- 6. People who commit suicide usually have signalled to others their intention to do so.
- 7. When you negatively reinforce someone's behaviour, the person becomes more likely to behave that way.
- 8. On some types of mental tasks, people perform as well or better when they are 70 years old than when they are 20 years old.
- 9. Usually, it is safe to awaken someone who is sleepwalking.

10. A schizophrenic is a person who has two or more distinct personalities, hence the term split personality.

Answers: Items 1, 6, 8, and 9 are supported by psychological research. Item 7 is true by definition. The remaining items are false. (If you correctly answered 9 or 10 of these items, you've done significantly better theorem answered 9.



The compass icon indicates that the material here may help us understand the opening story.

Thinking Critically about Behaviour

Because behaviour is so complex, its scientific study poses special challenges. As you become familiar with the kinds of evidence necessary to validate scientific conclusions, you will become a better-informed consumer of the many claims made in the name of psychology. For one thing, this course will teach you that many widely held beliefs about behaviour are inaccurate. Can you distinguish the valid claims from the invalid ones in Table 1.1?

Perhaps more important than the concepts you learn in this course will be the habits of thought that you acquire—habits that involve *critical thinking*. Critical thinking involves taking an active role in understanding the world around you rather than merely receiving information. It's important to reflect on what that information means, how it fits in with your experiences, and its implications for your life and society (Franco, Butler, & Halpern, 2015). Critical thinking also means evaluating the validity of something presented to you as fact (Levy, 2010; Vaughn, 2016). For example, when someone makes a claim or asserts a new "fact," ask yourself the following questions, just as a scientist would:

The Jumbled-Word Challenge

Let's think critically about the jumbled-word paragraph presented earlier. First, *what's the claim?* There are three, actually: (1) that people can read jumbled words without a problem as long as the first and last letters stay in place, (2) that people have no problems because we read words as a whole rather than as individual letters, and (3) that this finding is based on research at Cambridge University.

Second, *who is making the claim?* The jumbled paragraph's author is anonymous, which is *caution flag 1*. We can't evaluate the author's credibility and trustworthiness.

Third, what's the evidence, and how good *is it?* The evidence begins with an unsubstantiated claim that research was conducted at Cambridge. No reference information (researchers' names, publisher location, date) is given, which is *caution flag 2*. Indeed, scientists did no such research at Cambridge, although unpublished research at another university may have been the source (Davis, 2003; Rawlinson, 1999). There's also the dramatic evidence of your own experience: reading the jumbled paragraph easily. But this is only one short paragraph. Also, overall, the transposition (i.e., switched ordering) of letters is minimal, which is *caution flag 3*, leading to the next question. Fourth, are other explanations possible for why the paragraph is easy to read? We'll discuss reading more fully in Chapter 9. For now, consider the following:

- What, exactly, is the claim or assertion?
- Who is making the claim? Is the source credible and trustworthy?
- What's the evidence, and how good is it?
- Are other explanations possible? Can I evaluate them?
- What is the most appropriate conclusion?
- Of the words in the paragraph, 65 percent either aren't jumbled (because they have only one to three letters), or—with four-letter

words—are "jumbled" only in that their second and third letters are switched (because there is only one possible transposition), which makes unscrambling them easy.

- Of words with five or six letters, in all but one case, the transposition is minor because only a single letter is out of sequence (e.g., for *mttaer*, only the *a* is out of order).
- Thus, in total, 83 percent of the words are either unjumbled or have only minor transpositions. This preserves much of the way the words sound when we read them. Further, these words provide contextual information in the sentence that makes it easier to anticipate the meaning of some of the few longer scrambled words.

In everyday life, you're unlikely to conduct a scientific study to test these alternative explanations, but you can gather additional evidence by constructing sentences with longer words and more complex transpositions and having some people try to read them. Try reading the following paragraph (the unjumbled version is revealed at the end of the chapter), and see if it changes your belief about the ease of reading jumbled words. are minimal, but misconceptions can add up and contribute to an increasingly misguided view of how the world operates.

Unfortunately, people uncritically accept many misconceptions that do have concrete harmful consequences. For example, in the hope of making their babies smarter, consumers have shelled out about \$200 million annually for *Baby Einstein* videos that the Walt Disney Company advertised as educational, despite a lack of scientific support for its claim (Zimmerman et al., 2007). Under government and consumer group pressure, Disney eventually dropped the *educational* label and later agreed to partially refund consumers (Lewin, 2009).

Despite a lack of scientific evidence, people spend untold amounts of their hard-earned money to have their personalities analyzed and their futures forecasted by astrologers, graphologists (i.e., handwriting analyzers), tea-leaf readers, and other so-called "fortune tellers"—including rumpologists (sometimes referred to as asstrologers) who "read" people's buttocks to obtain their presumed psychic insights (Wyman & Vyse, 2008). Money aside, it's impossible to estimate how many people may have made major life decisions based on fortune tellers' bogus advice. It's also hard to know how many people have not only wasted money on bogus therapies for ailments, diseases, and mental disorders, but also experienced needless continued distress or further bodily harm by failing to employ scientifically validated treatments. Unfortunately, *pseudoscience*—a field that incorporates astrology, graphology, rumpology, and so on—is dressed up to look like science and it attracts many believers, despite its lack of credible scientific evidence (Figure 1.3). Critical scruting is important for all scientific claims, as

A plciaiiotn dieend the mtnaalueghsr of a clgaloeue, but was coincetvd and dlepoeelvd sreeve macedil cdointonis in posirn, wrhee he deid. Arnodiistitman of agctannloauit dgurs ptttnaioeed the eefctfs of atehonr durg, and rprsoiearty frliaue rleeutsd.

Lastly, what is the most appropriate conclusion? The claim that it's relatively easy to read words as long as the first and last letters are intact appears to be too broad and absolute. Stated as such, it's clearly wrong. Stated in qualified terms of "under some conditions" the claim has support, although one study found that even minor transpositions of interior letters slowed reading speed by 11 percent (Rayner, White, Johnson, & Liversedge, 2006). In some languages, however, such interior transpositions may make words very difficult, if not impossible, to read (Davis, 2003).

Of Astrology and Asstrology: Potential Costs of Uncritical Thinking

Suppose someone swallows the bait of the original jumbled-word paragraph and now erroneously believes that it's always easy to read words with transposed letters. Unless it's a smart-aleck student or worker who plans to turn in "jumbled" school papers or work reports (citing "scientific justification" for doing so), what's the harm in holding this little false belief? Perhaps the immediate personal consequences



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FIGURE 1.3 The popularity of pseudoscience.

illustrated by Bem's recent article claiming support for extrasensory perception (Bem, 2011). Daryl Bem is a highly respected researcher and the article was published in a prestigious journal. However, many other authors (e.g., Francis, 2012; LeBel et al., 2011) claimed that the data simply do not support the conclusions.

Psychology's Goals

As a science, psychology has four central goals:

- 1. To *describe* how people and other animals behave
- 2. To *explain and understand* the causes of these behaviours
- 3. To *predict* how people and animals will behave under certain conditions

often uses principles discovered through basic research to solve practical problems. Research methods will be discussed more fully in Chapter 2, but five research articles have been listed below to help you understand the difference between basic and applied research. These actual titles of articles appeared in psychological journals. Can you identify whether each study represents basic or applied research?

- 1. Two Forms of Spatial Imagery: Neuroimaging Evidence
- 2. The Prevention of Depressive Symptoms in Low-Income, Minority Children: Two-Year Follow-up
- 3. Increasing Seat Belt Use on a College Campus: An Evaluation of Two Prompting Procedures

2. What are the four goals of psychology? How are these goals linked to one another?

> 4. To *influence or control* behaviour through knowledge and control of its causes to enhance human welfare

As you will learn in Chapter 2, the scientific goals of understanding, prediction, and control are linked in the following manner: If we understand the causes of a behaviour and know when the causal factors are present or absent, then we should be able to successfully predict when the behaviour will occur. Moreover, if we can control the causes, then we should be able to control the behaviour. For scientists, successful prediction and control are the best ways for us to know whether we truly understand the causes of behaviour. We should also note, however, that prediction can have important practical uses that do not require a complete understanding of why some behaviour occurs. For example, a psychologist might find that scores on a personality test dependably predict school drop-out rates, without fully understanding the psychological processes involved.

- 4. Facial Structure Is a Reliable Cue of Aggressive Behaviour
- 5. Recognizing Speech under a Processing Load: Dissociating Energetic from Informational Factors

Check your answers at the end of the chapter.

Psychology's Broad Scope: A Simple Framework

Because we are biological creatures, living in a complex social world, psychologists study an amazing array of factors to understand why people behave, think, and feel as they do. At times, this diversity of factors may seem a bit overwhelming, but we would like to provide you with a framework that will greatly simplify matters. We call it **levels of analysis:** Behaviour and its causes can be examined at the *biological level* (e.g., brain processes, genetic influences), the *psychological level* (e.g., our thoughts, feelings, and motives), and the

3. How do the goals of basic research and applied research differ?

..................

Psychology as a Basic and Applied Science

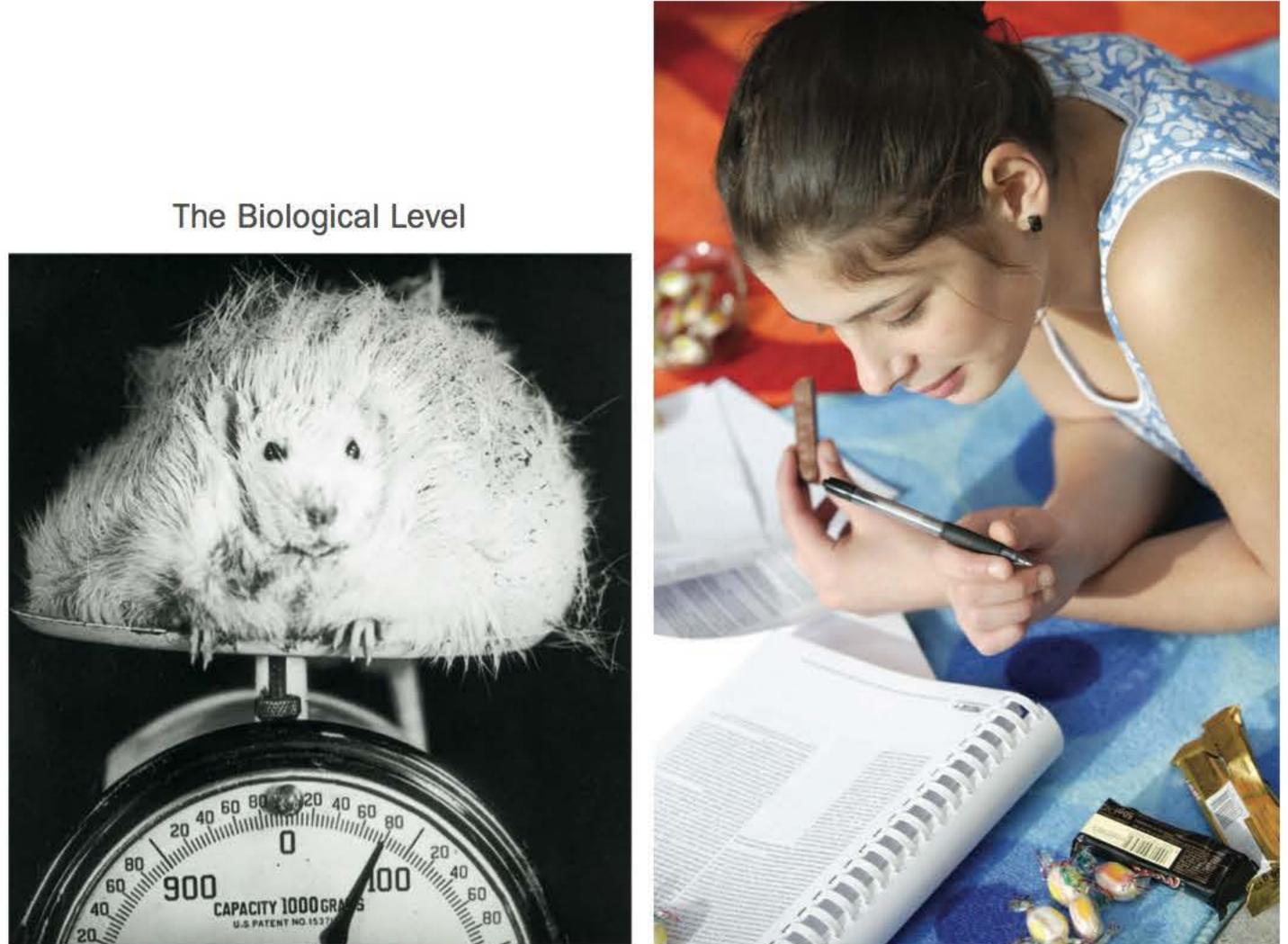
As scientists, psychologists employ a variety of research methods for developing and testing theories about behaviour and its causes. A distinction is sometimes made between **basic research**, the quest for knowledge purely for its own sake, and **applied research**, which is designed to solve specific practical problems. In psychology, the goals of basic research are to describe how people behave and to identify the factors that influence or cause a particular type of behaviour. Such research may be carried out in the laboratory or in real-world settings. Applied research *environmental level* (e.g., past and current physical and social environments to which we are exposed).

Here is a brief example of how the framework can be applied. Consider a behaviour that you engage in every day: eating (Figure 1.4). At the biological level, various chemicals, neural circuits, and structures in your brain respond to bodily signals and help to regulate whether you feel hungry or full. At the psychological level, your moods, food preferences, and motives affect eating. Do you ever eat when you're not hungry—perhaps because you feel stressed or bored? The environmental level of analysis calls attention to specific stimuli (such as the appearance or aroma of different foods) that may trigger eating and to cultural customs that influence our food preferences.

Psychology: The Science of Behaviour 9



The Psychological Level



The Environmental Level



(left) Courtesy of Neal E. Miller; (centre) © Phanie/Photo Researchers, Inc.; (right) © Michael Freeman/Corbis

FIGURE 1.4 Biological level (left). This rat weighs about triple the weight of a normal rat. As we (or rats) eat, hunger decreases as certain brain regions regulate the sensation of becoming full. Those regions in this rat's brain have been damaged, causing it to overeat and become obese. Psychological level (centre). At times, we may eat out of habit, stress, or boredom. With a chocolate bar in hand and other candies lined up, this student is ready for some autopilot munching. Environmental level (right). Does a plateful of insect-topped crackers sound appetizing to you? Cultural norms influence food preferences.

Does the aroma of freshly baked treats ever make your stomach growl? How about the sight of duck feet or a mound of fish gills on a plate? To most Westerners, duck feet and fish gills may not be appetizing, but during a stay in China, we discovered that our hosts considered them delicious.

Mind–Body and Nature–Nurture Interactions

Form a mental picture of a favourite food, and you may trigger a hunger pang. Focus on positive thoughts when facing a challenging situby nature (our biological endowment) or nurture (our environment and learning history)? The pendulum has swung toward one end or the other at different times in history, but today, growing interest in cultural influences and advances in genetics and brain research keep the nature–nurture pendulum in a more balanced position (e.g., Eagly & Wood, 2013; Rutter, 2014; Salvatore & Dick, 2015).

Perhaps most important, modern research increasingly reveals that nature and nurture interact (Masterpasqua, 2009; Moffitt et al., 2006). Just as our biological capacities affect how we behave and experience the world, our experiences influence our biological capacities. For humans and rats alike, continually depriving a newborn of physical contact, or providing a newborn with an enriched environment in which to grow, can influence its brain functioning and biological development (Rosenzweig, 1984). Thus, while it may be tempting to take sides, "Nature or nurture?" usually is the wrong question. As the levels-of-analysis framework implies, nature, nurture, and psychological factors must all be taken into account to gain the fullest understanding of behaviour. Later in the chapter, we'll provide a more detailed example of how looking at behaviour from multiple levels enhances our understanding.

ation, and you may keep your bodily arousal in check. Dwell instead on negative thoughts, and you can rapidly stimulate the release of stress hormones (Borod, 2000). These examples illustrate what traditionally have been called *mind-body interactions*—the relations between mental processes in the brain and the functioning of other bodily systems. Mind-body interactions focus our attention on the fascinating interplay between the psychological and biological levels of analysis. This topic has a long history within psychology, and, as you will see throughout the textbook, it remains one of psychology's most exciting frontiers.

The levels-of-analysis framework also addresses an issue that has been debated since antiquity: Is our behaviour primarily shaped

n Review

- Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. The term behaviour refers to actions and responses that we can directly observe, whereas the term mind refers to internal states and processes, such as thoughts and feelings, that cannot be seen directly and that must be inferred from observable, measurable responses.
- The primary goals of psychological science are to describe, explain, predict, and influence

behaviour and to apply psychological knowledge to enhance human welfare.

 Basic research is the quest for knowledge for its own sake, whereas applied research involves the application of knowledge derived from basic research to solve practical problems.



PERSPECTIVES ON BEHAVIOUR

Psychologists' focus on biological, psychologi-

In science, new perspectives are engines of progress. Advances occur as existing beliefs are challenged, a debate ensues, and scientists seek new evidence to resolve the debate. Sometimes,

4. What are perspectives on behaviour? Cite four ways in which they can influence psychological science.

cal, and environmental factors that influence behaviour is not new; this focus has been an integral part of psychology's history. But just how did psychology's scope become so broad? In part, it happened because psychology has roots in such varied disciplines as philosophy, medicine, and the biological and physical sciences. As a result, different ways of viewing people, called **perspectives**, became part of psychology's intellectual traditions (Figure 1.5).



the best-supported elements of contrasting perspectives are merged into a new framework, which in turn will be challenged by still newer viewpoints.

If you have ever met someone who views the world differently from the way you do, then you know that perspectives matter. Similarly, perspectives serve as lenses through which psychologists examine and interpret behaviour. To illustrate this point, let's consider the case of Ray, who was a shy student when he first entered university. Ray knew he was shy, especially around women, yet he wasn't sure why. He had been nervous on the few dates he had gone on in high school. During his first term at university, Ray met some women he liked but was afraid to ask them out. He didn't make male friends either. By winter, he was depressed and his schoolwork suffered. After a good spring break visit with his family, Ray turned things around. He studied hard, did well in class, and made friends with some guys in the dorm. His mood improved and soon thereafter he met Kira. Kira was attracted to Ray but sensed his shyness, so she asked Ray out. They've been dating for a year and Ray is happy. He and Kira have even discussed marriage.

FIGURE 1.5 Youth and beauty . . . or maturity and wisdom? What we perceive depends on our perspective. When you examine this drawing, you will see either a young woman or an old one. Now try changing your perspective. The ear and necklace of the young woman are the left eye and mouth of the old woman.

Source: Public Domain. "My wife and my mother-in-law. They are both in this picture - find them" by W.E. Hill.

Soon we'll briefly look at Ray's case through the lens of six psychological perspectives. But first, to better understand how these perspectives evolved, let's examine psychology's roots and two of its earliest schools of thought.

Psychology's Intellectual Roots

Humans have long sought to understand themselves, and for ages the *mind-body problem* has occupied the centre of this quest. Is the mind—the inner agent of consciousness and thought—a spiritual entity separate from the body, or is it part of the body's activities?

Many early philosophers held a position of **mind-body dualism**, the belief that the mind is a spiritual entity not subject to physical laws that govern the body. But if the mind is not composed of physical matter, how could it become aware of bodily sensations, and how could its thoughts exert control over bodily functions? French philosopher and scientist René Descartes (1596-1650) proposed that the mind and body interact through the brain's tiny pineal gland. Although Descartes placed the mind within the brain, he maintained that the mind was a spiritual, nonmaterial entity. *Dualism* implies that no amount of research on the physical body (including the brain) could ever hope to unravel the mysteries of the nonphysical mind. Another view, monism (from the Greek word monos, meaning "one"), holds that mind and body are one and that the mind is not a separate spiritual entity. To monists, mental events correspond to physical events in the brain, a position advocated by English philosopher Thomas Hobbes (1588–1679). Monism helped set the stage for psychology because it implied that the mind could be studied by measuring physical processes within the brain. The stage was further set by John Locke (1632–1704) and other philosophers from the school of British empiricism, which held that all ideas and knowledge are gained empirically that is, through the senses. According to empiricists, observation is a more valid approach to knowledge than is pure reason, because reason is fraught with the potential for error. This idea bolstered the development of modern science, whose methods are rooted in empirical observation.

Around this time, Charles Darwin's (1809– 1882) theory of evolution was generating societal shock waves. Opponents attacked his theory because it seemed to contradict philosophical and religious beliefs about the exalted nature of human beings. Evolution implied that the mind was not a spiritual entity, but rather the product of biological continuity between humans and other species. Darwin's theory also implied that scientists might gain insight about human behaviour by studying other species. By the late 1800s, a convergence of intellectual forces provided the impetus for psychology's birth.

Early Schools: Structuralism and Functionalism

The infant science of psychology emerged in 1879, when Wilhelm Wundt (1832–1920) established the first experimental psychology laboratory at the University of Leipzig in Germany (Figure 1.6). There he helped train the first generation of scientific psychologists. Among these were August Kirschmann and James Baldwin, both of whom were founding members of the Department of Psychology at the University of Toronto, and George Humphrey, who began the tradition of research in experimental psychology at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario (Wright & Myers, 1982). One of Wundt's graduate students, Englishman Edward Titchener (1867–1927), later established a psychology laboratory in the United States at Cornell University. Wundt and Titchener believed that the mind could be studied by breaking it down into its basic components, as a chemist might break down a complex chemical compound. Their approach came to be known as structuralism, the analysis of the mind in terms of its basic elements.

5. Contrast the positions of dualism and monism as they apply to the "mind–body" problem.

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Discoveries in physiology (an area of biology that examines bodily functioning) and medicine also paved the way for psychology's emergence. By 1870, European researchers were electrically stimulating the brains of laboratory animals and mapping the surface areas that controlled various body movements. Additionally, medical reports were linking damage in different areas of patients' brains with various behavioural and mental impairments. This mounting evidence of the relation between brain and behaviour supported the view that empirical methods of the natural sciences could be used to study mental processes. Indeed, in the mid-1800s German scientists had already established a new field called *psychophysics*, the study of how psychologically experienced sensations depend on the characteristics of physical stimuli (e.g., how the perceived loudness of a sound changes as its physical intensity increases).

In their experiments, structuralists used the method of *introspection* ("looking within") to study sensations, which they considered the basic elements of consciousness. They exposed participants to all sorts of sensory stimuli lights, sounds, tastes—and trained them to describe their inner experiences. Although this method of studying the mind was criticized as being too subjective, and it died out after a few decades, the structuralists left an important mark by establishing a scientific tradition for studying cognitive processes. In the United States, structuralism eventually gave way to **functionalism**, which held that psychology should study the functions of consciousness rather than its structure. Here's a rough analogy to explain the difference between



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FIGURE 1.6 At the University of Leipzig in 1879, Wilhelm Wundt established the first laboratory of experimental psychology to study the structure of the mind.

 Compare the goals of structuralism and functionalism.

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