Chapter 1

Psychology- scientific study of the mind, brain, and behavior
Levels of analysis- consider the lower rungs most connected to biological influences, higher rungs connected to social influences
Multiply determined- almost all actions are considered this, or being produced by multiple factors
Individual Differences- variations among people in their thinking, emotion, personality, and behavior
Naïve realism- belief that we see the world as it is
Scientific theory- explanation for a large number of findings in natural world
Hypothesis- testable prediction derived from a scientific theory
Confirmation Bias- tendency to seek out evidence that supports our hypotheses and deny, dismiss, or distort evidence that contradicts them
Belief Perseverance- tendency to stick to our initial beliefs even when evidence contradicts them
Metaphysical claim- assertion about the world that is not testable
Nonoverlapping realms- science and religion are considered these because science bounds are tested in the natural world where religion is tested on unprovable moral claims, argued by **Stephen Jay Gould**
Pseudoscience- set of claims that seems scientific but isn't
Ad hoc immunizing hypothesis- escape hatch or loophole that defenders of a theory use to protect their theory from falsification
Patternicity- the tendency to detect meaningful patterns in random stimuli
Terror Management Theory- our awareness of our own inevitable death leaves many of us with an underlying sense of fear
Correlation-causation fallacy- error of assuming that because one thing is associated with another, it must cause the other
Variable- anything that can vary

Page 23 Scientific Thinking Principle Diagram

Falsiable- capable of being disproved
Replicability- when a study's findings are able to be duplicated, ideally by independent investigators
Decline Effect- fact that size of certain psychological findings appears to be shrinking over time
Introspection- method by which trained observers carefully reflect and report on their mental experiences

Willhelm Wundt- 1879 credited with launching psychology as a laboratory science

Table on page 29 about different perspectives by various psychological professionals

Structuralism- school fo psychology that aimed to identify the basic elements of psychological experience
Functionalism- school of psychology that aimed to understand the adaptive purposes of psychological characteristics

Natural selection- principle that organisms that posses adaptations survive and reproduce at a higher rate than do other organisms
Behaviorism- school of psychology that focuses on uncovering the general laws of learning by looking at observable behavior
Cognitive psychology- school of psychology that proposes that thinking is central to understanding behavior
Cognitive Neuroscience- relatively new field of psychology that examines the relation between brain function and thinking
Psychoanalysis- school of psychology, found by Sigmund Freud, that focuses on internal psychological processes of which we're unaware
Evolutionary Psychology- discipline that applies Darwin's theory of natural selection to human and animal behavior

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Basic Research- research examining how the mind works
Applied research- research examining how we can use basic research to solve real-world problems