

Psychology Terms

Psychology Terms Beginning with Letter C

The Cannon-Bard theory- a theory of emotion that argues that physical arousal does not have to occur before an emotion.

Case study- a type of research that involves doing an in-depth study of a single person or group.

Catatonic schizophrenia - characterized by stupor and muscular rigidity, alternating with excitement.

Catharsis- a type of emotional release that plays an important role in psychoanalytic therapy.

Chunking involves taking small units of information (chunks) and grouping them into larger units.

Clustering - a way of organizing information in memory. This strategy can make it easier to remember information and recall it later on.

Cognition-all of the mental activities that are involved in learning, remembering, and using knowledge.

Cognitive dissonance - particularly evident in situations where an individual's behavior conflicts with beliefs that are integral to his or her self-identity.

Comparative psychology -study of animal behavior. These comparative studies can lead to a deeper and broader understanding of human psychology.

Compensation- a type of defense mechanisms that is used to protect the ego from anxiety.

classical conditioning-, the conditioned response is the learned response to the previously neutral stimulus.

conditioned stimulus - a previously neutral stimulus that eventually comes to evoke a conditioned response.

The conscience- part of the superego that contains information about things that are seen as appropriate and inappropriate by authority figures.

control group - an important role in the research process by giving researchers something to compare the treatment group to.

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Correlation-a statistical measurement of the relationship, either positive or negative, between two variables.

Cross-sectional research- often used to study what is happening in a group at a particular point in time.

Conformity- a powerful social force that can influence our behavior for the good and sometimes for the bad.