J.P. Guilford’s Application of Titchener’s Approach

Name

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**J.P. Guilford’s Application of Titchener’s Approach**

J.P. Guilford was an American psychologist of the 20th century who made influential contributions to human intelligence and creativity. Guilford’s approach of studying consciousness and personality was borrowed from Edward Titchener (Taylor & Getzels, 2017). Titchener was an English psychologist who made important contributions to psychology based on his studies on the structure of the mind. Titchener’s approach to studying consciousness focused on introspection or self-awareness. Introspection analysis involves the study of a person’s conscious thoughts and feelings. Titchener introduced strict guidelines for reporting introspective analysis. Titchener believed that the individual mind was made up of complex structures that could be identified through experimentation. He introduced the concept of structuralist psychology, which involves studies on the elements of consciousness (Green & Feinerer, 2016).

Guilford adopted Titchener’s theory of structuralism as he believed that human intellect was based on different abilities. Guilford indicated that intelligence is not a unitary concept and that people may showcase intelligence in different forms. Guilford is well-known for indicating that intelligence tests cannot be taken as unidimensional rankings that indicate the superiority of some individuals over others. His work mainly emphasized the diversity of human thinking and abilities (Sternberg, Kaufman, & Roberts, 2019). Guilford applied Titchener’s theory of intelligence by indicating that the mind was made up of three dimensions including contents, products, and operation. Each dimension had different tasks that could be combined with other tasks to determine intelligence or ability to solve problems (Taylor & Getzels, 2017). Guilford applied Titchener’s retrospective analysis in his theory of intelligence. He indicated that retrospective tests such as multidimensional intelligence tests could be applied in determining an individual’s level of intelligence.

References

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