

William James (1842-1910) : Born in New York. He taught at Harvad (first physiology, later psychology and philosophy) from 1872-1907.

one's own mental state i.e., to observe, analyze and report one's own feelings.

Now let us turn to two psychologists James and Stout to know what they have said about psychological method in education.

- According to ***William James***, "Introspective observation is what we have to rely on first and foremost and always. The word intro-spection needs hardly to be defined - it means, of course, looking into our own minds and recording what we there discover. Everyone agrees that through this method one can discover one's own states of consciousness. So far as I know, the existence of such states has never been doubted by any critic, however skeptical in other respects he may have been."
- According to Stout, "In introspection we are concerned with the nature of experience itself and with the laws of mental process. The observer in introspection is directed towards the answering of questions of theoretical importance for the advancement of our systematic knowledge of the laws and conditions of mental process." Introspection examines inner behaviour of an individual and an individual knows about his own feelings or thoughts in a particular situation.

The Introspection method has both merits and demerits.

Merits of Introspection Method : The merits of the introspection method are given below:-

- Introspection is the easiest of all methods of educational psychology.
- It does not need any tool or laboratory as the subject and the investigator is the same.
- It is the most economical method and one which enables us to know about the mental state of an individual, i.e. his emotions and feelings.
- Introspection, as a method, has generated a lot of research and is used in almost all experimental students.

Drawbacks of Introspection Method : The drawbacks of the introspection method are given below:-

to make teaching learning process effective, the knowledge of educational psychology must be acquired by the teachers who are engaged in the teaching profession.



LET US KNOW

The importance and application of Educational Psychology basically reveals how the knowledge of educational psychology helps the teacher to make the teaching learning process effective in classroom teaching. For understanding the child, understanding the individual differences, to understand the classroom teaching, to understand the effective teaching methods, to understand the mental health and hygiene of the children, measuring the learning outcomes and curriculum constructions, research and experiments, understanding the heredity and environment of the children, giving feedback about the achievement of the children, the knowledge of educational psychology plays a prominent and pertinent role to teaching learning process in school.



ACTIVITY 1.2

Describe the effectiveness of educational psychology to a teacher.

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1.5 LET US SUM UP

- The word 'Psychology' is derived from the Greek word, 'Psyche' and 'Logos' which means 'Soul' and 'Study'. The basic meaning of educational psychology means the study of soul.
- It was McDougall who has defined psychology as the Science of

Behaviour as "to give us the better understanding and control of the behaviour of the organism as a whole."

- Educational psychology is one of the applied branches of psychology.
- This psychology studies the human behavior in educational situations. The pioneer work in the development of educational psychology was done by Herbert and Froebel, both are German Professors.
- Thus the actual meaning of psychology means study the human behaviour and education means the modification of human behaviour.
- To become a successful teacher, the knowledge of psychology is must to have to each and every one who are engaged in the profession of teaching.
- Various Psychologists has defined educational psychology in different ways. All Psychologists have concluded that Educational psychology is the body of scientific knowledge about two activities-education and psychology. Its subject matter is concerned with the condition that affects learning and behaviour
- The Nature of Educational Psychology has been found as an applied science, a positive science, a social science, an educational science, a specific science, a growing and developing science, an academic discipline, and also adopting various innovative ideas and scientific approaches which are used to study the behaviour of an individual in educational environment.
- The applications of educational psychology includes the scope of learner behaviour, growth and development of learning experiences, learning process, heredity and environment of children, development and adjustment of learner's personality, individual differences, evaluation of learning performance, providing guidance and counseling, mental measurement, mental hygiene of the children etc.
- The knowledge of educational psychology is very much helpful for a teacher for educational management in school.
- Educational psychology helps the teacher to understand their students for achieving the effectiveness of teaching-learning process.

learning-teaching process in its various ramifications (branches) directed towards helping the child come to terms with society with a maximum of security and satisfaction."

On main objective of educational psychology is to help a teacher to understand his student's behaviour in the educative process. A teacher may face different problems in the classroom as well as outside it. It is important that a teacher understands the significance of individual difference and solves the various problems of the classroom. Therefore, in order to achieve the objective of educational psychology some methods are adopted to collect data to know about a learner's personality.

The first attempt to adopt a method of educational psychology began in the year 1879 by W. Wundt of Germany. In recent years, with the development of technology, researchers have started using new methods of collecting and analyzing data.

2.3 CLASSIFICATION OF THE METHODS OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

We can see below some of the methods of educational psychology :

2.3.1 Introspection Method

2.3.2 Observation Method

2.3.3 Interview Method

2.3.4 Experimental Method

2.3.5 Case Study Method

Let us analyse these five methods of educational psychology one by one.

2.3.1 Introspection Method

This is the oldest method of educational psychology. The word 'introspection' has been derived from two Latin words, 'intro' meaning 'withing' and 'spiere' meaning to 'look'. Therefore introspection implies 'self observation', or in other words, to experience

UNIT 2 : METHOD OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

UNIT STRUCTURE

2.1 Learning Objectives

2.2 Introduction

2.3 Classifications of the Methods of Educational Psychology

- 2.3.1 Introspection Method
- 2.3.2 Observation Method
- 2.3.3 Interview Method
- 2.3.4 Experimental Method
- 2.3.5 Case Study Method

2.4 Importance and Applications of Educational Methods in Teaching-Learning

2.5 Let Us Sum Up

2.6 Further Reading

2.7 Answers to Check Your Progress.

2.8 Model Questions

2.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit you will be able to:

- know about the necessity of adopting different methods used to learn about the individual's behaviour.
- classify the methods into different types.
- describe each method with its merits and limitations.

2.2 INTRODUCTION

Educational psychology is an important branch of psychology. It is a subject which emphasizes the application of psychological principles in the field of education. It deals with the behaviour of an individual in the educational environment. According to the "Encyclopedia of Educational Research", "Educational psychology is the study of the learner and of the

- Understanding the child, understanding the individual difference, understanding the nature of classroom teaching, understanding the effective teaching methods, understanding problems of children, acquiring the knowledge of mental health and hygiene, constructing the curriculum, knowledge on heredity and environment, measuring learning outcomes, conducting research and experiments, provides knowledge about the efficacy of rewards and punishments, provides knowledge about the mental abnormalities and also use of academic innovations; the knowledge of educational psychology is essential in teaching-learning process.



1.6 FURTHER READING

1) Agarwalla, Dr. Sunita: Psychological Foundation of Education and Statistics, Bookland2008.

2) Chauhan, S S: Advanced Educational Psychology, Vikas Publishing House, 1993



1.7 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q. No. 1: Educational psychology is an applied branch of general psychology. Educational psychology studies the human behaviour in educational situations. It is because the meaning of psychology means to study the human behaviour whereas the meaning of education means the modification of human behaviour.

Ans to Q. No. 2: Herbert, Pestalozzi and Froebel, were the founder of educational psychology,

Ans to Q. No. 3: Educational Psychology is an applied discipline, it is the scientific study of human behaviour, by which the goal of life can be understood, directed and predicted.

Ans to Q. No. 4: Psychology basically indicates the whole concept in itself, whereas educational psychology is one of the branches of psychology. Thus, psychology is a macro concept considering all things related to

mind, soul and behaviour, whereas educational psychology is a micro concept related to the study of learner behaviour in an educational situation.

Ans to Q. No. 5: i. True, ii.True, iii.True

Ans to Q No 6: i.Educational psychology observes and studies the various problem as well as behavour of the learner in classroom teaching and also helps the teacher to take the remedial step as well as action in order to solve the various problem and behavioural disorder that learner have faced in classroom situation. Therefore, educational psychology is called as an applied branch of psychology.

ii. As studied the human behaviour and the human nature, educational psychology is constantly growing because of constantly changing the nature and behaviuor of human being. And also the science of educational psychology is ever growing due to constant changes in this field. Therefore, it is called as a growing and developing science.

iii. Educational psychology is a specific science because it has the wide scope to study the learner problems as well as behaviour in educational environment and also it has the wide implications of those facts and principles that have the specific significance and utility for the process of learning and teaching.

iv. The educational psychology as a branch of psychology itself indicates as an academic discipline. Because it has focused upon the learner's behavior as well as their various problems in school environment. Educational psychology has focused upon research studies on human behaviour. The information, the knowledge and various principles of teaching, the methodology all that constitutes the substance of educational psychology provide a base for educational theory and practice. So, it is called as purely as an academic discipline.

Ans to Q. No. 7: The scope of educational psychology means the area that educational psychology deals in or implies the field of study. In fact, the scope of educational psychology basically indicates two things:

- The limits of operations and applications of educational psychology
- Branches, topics and the subject matter with which educational psychology deals.



1.8 MODEL QUESTIONS

A) Short Questions (Answer each question in about 50 words)

Q. 1: What is meant by psychology?

Q. 2: What is meant by educational psyhology?

Q. 3: What is the relationship between education and psychology?

B) Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q. 1: What are the nature of educational psychology?

Q. 2: Why do you think that psychology should be related to education?

Q. 3: Explain briefly the effectiveness of educational psychology as a tool for a teacher in class room transaction.

C) Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q. 1: What do you mean by educational psychology? What is the contribution of educational psychology in solving classroom problems? Discuss

Q. 2: Select five classroom problems, where you can make use of the knowledge of educational psychology. Discuss

Q. 3: How does the knowledge of educational psychology help the teacher to modify the behavioural problems of the children in the classroom?