

## Examrace

### Terminology in Psychology Competitive Exams Psychology Part 2

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**Counseling psychologist:** A psychologist who specializes in the treatment of milder emotional and behavioral disturbances.

**Critical thinking:** An ability to evaluate, compare, analyze, critique, and synthesize information.

**Declarative memory:** That part of long-term memory containing specific factual information.

**Dependent variable:** In an experiment, the condition (usually a behavior) that is affected by the independent variable.

**Determinism:** The idea that all behavior has prior causes that would completely explain one's choices and actions if all such causes were known.

**Developmental psychology:** The study of progressive changes in behavior and abilities from conception to death.

**Difference threshold:** The minimum difference between two stimuli that is detectable to an observer.

**Discovery learning:** Learning based on insight and understanding.

**Discrimination:** Perception of and response to differences in stimuli

**Discriminative stimuli:** Stimuli that precede rewarded and nonrewarded responses in operant conditioning.

**Divergent thinking:** Thinking that produces many ideas or alternatives; a major element in original or creative thought.

**Drives:** Internal states that arise in response to disequilibrium in an animal's physiological needs.

**Echoic Memory:** Sensory memory that allows auditory information to be stored for brief durations

**Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) :** The use of electroconvulsive shock as an effective treatment for severe depression

**Electroencephalograph (EEG) :** A device that detects, amplifies, and records electrical activity in the brain.

**Emotion:** A state characterized by physiological arousal, changes in facial expression, gestures, posture, and subjective feelings.

**Emotional intelligence:** The ability to perceive use, understand, and manage emotions.

**Encoding:** Converting information into a form in which it will be retained in memory.

**Endocrine System:** The network of glands that manufacture and secrete hormones into the bloodstream

**Episodic Memories:** Long-term memories for autobiographical events and the contexts in which they occurred

**Evolutionary psychology:** Study of the evolutionary origins of human behavior patterns.

**Expectancy:** An anticipation concerning future events or relationships.

**Experiential processing:** Thought that is passive, effortless, and automatic.

**Experiment:** Procedure used to test the effects of a treatment.

**Experimental Group:** Group that receives treatment during an experiment

**Experimental method:** Investigating causes of behavior through controlled experimentation.

**Extinction:** The weakening of a conditioned response through removal of reinforcement.

**Feedback:** Information on the results of one's efforts

**Five-factor model:** Proposes that there are five universal dimensions of personality.

**Fixation:** A state in which a person remains attached to objects or activities more appropriate for an earlier stage of psychosexual development.

**Flashbulb memory:** Memory created at times of high emotion that seems especially vivid.

**Free Association:** The therapeutic method in which a patient gives a running account of thoughts, wishes, physical sensations, and mental images as they occur

**Frequency theory:** Holds that tones up to 4,000 hertz are converted to nerve impulses that match the frequency of each.

**Frustration-aggression hypothesis:** States that frustration tends to lead to aggression.

**Functional Fixedness:** Block to solving problems caused by an inability to see new uses for familiar objects or ideas.

**Genes:** Specific areas on a strand of DNA that carry hereditary information.

**Gestalt psychology:** A school of psychology emphasizing the study of thinking, learning, and perception in whole units, not by analysis into parts.

**Gestalt Therapy:** Therapy that focuses on ways to unite mind and body to make a person whole

**Giftedness:** Either the possession of a high IQ or special talents or aptitudes.

**Groupthink:** A compulsion by members of decision-making groups to maintain agreement, even at the cost of critical thinking.

**Growth needs:** In Maslow's hierarchy, the higher-level needs associated with self – actualization.

**Hallucination:** An imaginary sensation — such as seeing, hearing, or smelling something that does not exist in the external world.

**Health psychology:** Study of the ways in which cognitive and behavioral principles can be used to prevent illness and promote health.

**Heredity:** The biological transmission of traits from parents to offspring

**Hippocampus:** A part of the limbic associated with storing memories.

**Homeostasis:** A steady state of body equilibrium.

**Hormone:** A glandular secretion that affects bodily functions or behavior.

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