

8. February 25. HOUR EXAM. What is a literary character? When we turn to literature, what are we looking for? What do we expect?

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Holland, "Why Do We Care?" Online. 29 pp.

Basic pitch is: emotions come from what we perceive willy-nilly (feeling plus visceral plus musculoskeletal). Convention that we do not act inhibits the musculoskeletal, but the other two remain.

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Panksepp, "The SEEKING System," 144-163. 20 pp.

Hard going. But very important. Self-stimulation and SEEKING -- these are key to literature.

145a5. SEEKING system leads organisms to pursue goods in environment, including knowledge. This has to do with the "making sense" process in literature. He uses the phrase: 145 b3.

Literature as self-stimulation system: self-stimulation activates SEEKING and SEEKING seems to be an end in itself. "A goad without a goal." 149ab. 149b 7 "Energized psychic state accompanies arousal of SEEKING system."

153B1. SEEKING is nonspecific. Anything that stimulates the lateral hypothalamic system will evoke SEEKING behavior. Also SEEKING is tonically active. We are always trying to "make sense."

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Holland, "Are Literary Characters People?" Online. 23 pp.

This is pretty straightforward. 2 pathways. Dorsal - ventral, where and what.

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Luria, "The Three Principal Functional Units," pp. 43-101. Handout. 59 pp. Started with psychoanalysis, but politically impossible. Luria is founder of modern neuropsychology.

227.3 "Psychological processes are not indivisible 'functions' or 'faculties,' but complex functional systems based on the concerted working of a group of cerebral zones, each of which makes its own contribution to the construction of the complex psychological process." nice phrasing

3 functional units x 3 zones. Hierarchy (Hughlings Jackson): Luria uses term "vertical functioning" -- 57.8. 227.3 "Psychological processes are not indivisible 'functions' or 'faculties,' but complex functional systems based on the concerted working of a group of cerebral zones, each of which makes its own contribution to the construction of the complex psychological process." nice phrasing

3 functional units X 3 zones: primary - secondary - tertiary (p. 43.3).

Functional units--

1. Waking - attention. (sensing inner world?) What is hierarchy of zones here? See p. 60. This is Solms' sensing of the inner world! 58.6: Cerebral cortex also performs non-specific activating functions. Every specific afferent or efferent fibre is accompanied by a fibre of the non-specific activating system. Stimulation of individual areas of cortex can evoke both activating and inhibitory influences on lower brain structures. nnh: this has to do with suspension of disbelief and form.



