Describe the major historical schools of psychological thought leading up to the development of cognitive psychology.

Step 1:

The area of psychology known as cognitive psychology focuses on understanding how people think. Psychology from a cognitive perspective focuses on how thinking, emotion, creativity, and problem-solving skills interact to influence how and why you think the way you do.

Step 2:

The 6 Schools of Thought in Psychology Are

1. Structuralism.  
2. Functionalism.  
3. Behaviorism.  
4. Gestalt Psychology.  
5. Cognitive Psychology.  
6. Psychoanalysis.

Step 3: Explanation

The development of cognitive psychology was influenced by the following schools of psychological thought:

Structuralism: Wundt was one of its pioneers, and it is currently the dominant school of thinking. It suggests that the division of consciousness into its constituent parts should be emphasised in psychology.

A theory about the nature of mental states is called functionalism. Functionalists contend that rather than focusing on the components of mental states, we should instead look at what they do. In terms of familiarity or "reception," functionalism dominates among philosophers of mind and cognitive scientists.

All behaviours are learned by conditioning, and conditioning takes place through interaction with the environment, according to the behaviourist theory of learning. Behaviorists contend that environmental cues influence our behaviour.

Gestalt psychology, a branch of psychology that was established in the 20th century, laid the groundwork for the contemporary study of perception. Gestalt theory emphasises that everything is greater as a whole than the sum of its parts. That is, it is not possible to infer the characteristics of the whole from an analysis of its constituent parts.

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A way of treating mental problems, psychoanalysis is a body of theories and therapeutic practises that partially address the unconscious mind.

Describe some of the ways in which philosophy, linguistics, and artificial intelligence have contributed to the development of cognitive psychology.

Step 1:

Decision-making, problem-solving, attention, memory, intelligence, perception, and sensation are some of the covert mental processes that make up human thought, according to cognitive psychology. It is an interdisciplinary field that draws on anthropology, neurology, philosophy, artificial intelligence, and linguistics to better understand the nature of the human mind or cognition.

Philosophy addresses the fundamental questions that underlie the computational and experimental approach to the human mind, such as normative questions about how humans think or what they should think about, methodological questions about the nature of explanations in cognitive science, general questions about mind-body interactions, and reflective questions about how human thinking should be.

The field of artificial intelligence was founded after early computers were created and had been in use for a while. To create theoretical frameworks on the functioning of the mind, computer models that simulate mental operations have been devised, constructed, and tested in this subject. It is now possible to imitate human performance on tasks involving logical reasoning, problem-solving, and mental imagery using computational models. The field of artificial intelligence has looked into the efficacy of various theoretical stances in cognitive psychology in terms of knowledge representation and hidden mental processes.

In the discipline of cognitive science, methods other than creating and designing computational models were used to address issues concerning the nature of mental activities or the functioning of the mind. The importance of interpreting experiments in terms of theoretical concepts and within the confines of postulates and assumptions was emphasised. Following Noam Chomsky's lead, linguists have concentrated on uncovering the grammatical rules that underlie the structure of human languages. Chomsky was a linguist who proposed that language is a biologically grounded cognitive skill that is only employed by humans. They placed greater emphasis on semantics—the meaning of words—than on syntax—the rules that determine what comes before and after a word. The foundation of language comprehension was the use of various techniques, such as observation and the notation of minute variations between grammatical and non-grammatical expressions.

Compare and contrast the influences of Plato and Aristotle on psychology.

Answer

Plato's idealistic philosophy was based on his belief that all thoughts have an ideal, universal form. According to Aristotle, each instance of an object or notion must be examined separately because universal forms are not always tied to all of them. Aristotelian Empiricism is the result of this perspective. In contrast to Plato, who rejected this in favour of direct observation and experience, Aristotle believed that thought experiments and reasoning would be sufficient to "prove" a concept or establish the properties of an object.

Thoughts, according to Aristotle and Plato, are superior to the senses. Aristotle, on the other hand, claimed that the senses were necessary in order to accurately assess reality, contrary to Plato's view that they may deceive a person.

The cave allegory, which was crafted by Plato, serves as an illustration of this distinction. To him, reality consisted of thoughts since the outside world was like a cave where a person could only perceive shadows created by it. The obvious answer, according to the Aristotelian method, is to leave the cave and directly experience what is causing the light and shadows, as opposed to depending just on oblique or internal sensations.