

Sigmund Freud

Father of Psychoanalysis

The Psyche

Human mind divided into 3 areas:

Id

- Unconscious
- Irrational
- Based on raw, primal instinct
- Libido or “drive” for food, water and sex
- Does not think – it acts
- Innate – no experience – does not learn
- **the pleasure principle** – needs to be regulated
- Evolution

Superego

- Subconscious or preconscious
- Moral / Judicial branch of personality
- Ethics, values, and rules
- Shaped by parents, society, culture, religion
- Idealism – not reality
- Socialization and Cultural Tradition

Ego Ideal represents all that is morally good – “Smile”

Conscience represents all that is morally bad – “Don’t frown”

Ego

- Conscious – it is your personality
- Regulates *id* and *superego*
- Seeks balance between the *id* and the real world
- Perception, memory, thinking
- Common sense acquired through experience
- **The reality principle**
- Interaction with Reality / Learning

Literary Applications

Authors create characters who are of “two minds”

- The character **knows** what is right but is compelled to do wrong
- In cartoons, we see the angel and devil on opposite shoulders
- Examples
 - Macbeth’s decision to murder King Duncan in *Macbeth*
 - Peter Griffin’s decision to play golf or celebrate his anniversary
 - Raskolnikov’s split personality or dual nature in *Crime and Punishment*
 - Authors also create characters who represent **parts** of the psyche

Lord of the Flies

- Jack
 - * Irrational, primal, libido, action / not words
- Piggy
 - * Rational, moral, ethical, historical, rule-driven
- Ralph
 - * Balanced, democratic, realistic, experienced

Psycho-sexual Stages