

BEHAVIORISM

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BEHAVIORISM

- Is based on the proposition that behavior can be researched scientifically without recourse to inner mental states
- originated at the end of the 19th century in the US
- analyzes human behavior

BASIC NAMES AND STAGES

CLASSIC or METHODOLOGICAL BEHAVIORISM	NEO- or RADICAL BEHAVIORISM
John Watson Ivan Pavlov Edward Thorndike	Burrhus Skinner Edward Tolman Clark Hull
S (stimulus) – R (response) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• possibility of predicting and changing behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• formalizing the laws of behavior• attention to linguistics

VERBAL BEHAVIOR

- viewing a language from the position of an external observer; studying Indian languages
- speech ~ verbal **behavior**
- B. F. Skinner: “Verbal behavior”, 1957
- Thorndike’s reinforcement theory

CHILD LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

- Main mechanisms: imitation, repetition, practice.
- Success factors: quality and quantity of heard language, regularity of the reinforcement.
- **Things to explain:** mistakes, language creativity, understanding of the language structures.

DESCRIPTIVISM

- Leonard Bloomfield
- The central method: study of the distribution of linguistic units.

the speaker's out-of-speech stimulus - **their speech reaction** –
the speech stimulus of the listener - the extra-verbal reaction of the
listener

KEY TENETS

- Only the directly observed phenomena can be the object of scientific researches.
- Speech is a form of behavior.
- Behavior is subject to the stimulus-response formula. The connection between stimulus and reaction can be reinforced.
- Behavior can be predicted and influenced by changing stimuli and reinforcements.
- Child language acquisition occurs through reinforcement and depends on external factors.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!