SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Theory and Philosophy of Psychology

V.M. Rozin. Author's meditation on life and death in the evening of life

The author is trying to make sense of his own anniversary by comparing his own notions of life and death with those of prominent philosophers. Analyzing the ideas of Plato, who pointed out two different ways, one way of reconstructing other people and the society as a whole (which he failed) and another way of reconstructing oneself (in which he was successful), the author compares Plato's views on salvation with the ideals of M. Foucault and discusses his own notions of life and their role in the process of bringing his values into reality. A discussion of the notions of death indicates that it is an important moment in life and in personality self-determination. All these contemplations are specified with the material of authors' own life.

Keywords: life, destiny, conception, death, self-determination, personality, justice, good.

Special Theme of the Issue. To the 10-Year Anniversary of the Psychology Department of NRU HSE

A.K. Bolotova. Time and Space in Interpersonal Relationships

The paper analyses the temporal aspects of interpersonal relationships and the specific ways the factor of time plays its role in this domain. Each event in life or in social contact has its timeframe, which may be indefinite, or give it either premature or overdue status, or make it timely and urgent. Time becomes the fundamental factor of behavioral strategy choice: in every moment of relationship the interlocutor needs to be given time for solving own problems, not to be forestalled or interpreted prematurely. It is important to take notice of the interlocutor's emotional state in the 'here-and-now' and to be ready to invest one's own time into understanding and empathizing with the other person. In difficult situations of life it is important to achieve an active and timely coordination between the actors of their subjective time and space of their interaction, to achieve the so-called 'spatio-temporal balance' in order to coordinate their actions and construct their temporal «transspectives» and life strategies.

Keywords: life space and time, temporal competence, transspectives and strategies of life, spatio-temporal balance.

I.N. Semyonov. Research Directions in the Innovative Psychology of Reflexion in the Higher School of Economics

The paper presents a panoramic view of contemporary thought in philosophy and psychology, characterizes the research groups existing at the HSE Psychology department, analyzes the conceptions of reflection proposed by its professors, and presents new possible forms of intra-departmental, inter-university (with Moscow State University). inter-institutional (with the Institute of Psychology and Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Sciences), and (with scholars from international Austria, Latvia, and Ukraine) collaboration in the reflection research.

Keywords: philosophy, psychology, personology, pedagogics, ethics, consciousness, reflection, meaning, personality, individuality, development, abilities, activity, professionalism, creativity, research, research groups.

E.S. Osokina, B.V. Chernyshev, E.G. Chernysheva. The Influence of Alpha-Training on Auditory Evoked Potentials Depending on Individual Differences in Temperament

An empirical study was conducted, aimed to find out the influence of alphatraining on auditory evoked potentials in a continuous attentional task setting with a binary answer choice and the dependency of the said influence on individual differences in temperament. It is shown that alpha training results in the changes of the characteristics of the P2 and the N1-P2 complex, and the specific character of the change depends on three temperamental dimensions, neuroticism, mobility of nervous processes, and cooperation.

Keywords: biological feedback, alpha-training, evoked potentials, temperament.

Interdisciplinary Research

A.V. Kondrashkin, K.D. Khlomov. Deviant Behavior in Adolescents and the Internet: Change in the Social Situation

A reparative approach described in this paper is a theoretical foundation of social psychological work with adolescents exhibiting deviant behavior. Development of new online forms of communication among adolescents has led to a change in their social situation. Adolescent deviant behavior has been also affected by the changing social environment. The paper presents the data on social changes that happened to adolescents in the street. The possible consequences of those changes for adolescent development and deviant behaviour manifestations. The outcome of the paper is a set of suggested modifications to the technology of social psychological work with adolescents in a situation of social maladjustment and those exhibiting deviant behaviour.

Keywords: reparative approach, adolescents, deviant behaviour, social psychological maladjustment, Internet, social psychological work, companies, social situation.

Work in Progress

E.G. Kozintseva. Influence of Task Content on Writing Productivity in Sensory Agraphia: An Experimental Study

The research addresses the mechanisms and change patterns of the psychological structure of written speech in agraphia associated with differences in the content of written tasks. The organization of the psychological processes that underlie writing is considered to be an active process that has adaptive value and takes place in the context of specific tasks set before the person. An empirical research programme is proposed combining the traditional approach to agraphia diagnostics with analysis of changes in writing productivity associated with writing tasks of cultural-historic content. The number of mistakes made during written task performance is used as a measure of writing productivity; the analysis of the data takes into account the primary defect of agraphia, as well as the psychological content of specific tasks.

Keywords: clinical neuropsychology, agraphia, task, activity principle, cultural-historical theory.

V.F. Spiridonov, E.A. Abisalova. Changes in Creativity Indices as a Result of Semantic Priming

Traditionally creativity is conceived as a stable trait of personality or cognition

that cannot be changed by induction in experimental settings. A sematic priming study conducted by the authors shows this conception to be erroneous in relation to verbal creativity. Priming with rare (as opposed to frequent) answers to the Guilford's Alternate Uses led to statistically significant differences in originality scores between the two groups of subjects with different priming type. Only originality of responses was affected, but not the frequency of primed categories. Possible explanations refer to the general mechanisms of semantic memory organization and to the phenomenon of situational activation of stereotypes.

Keywords: creativity, semantic priming, originality, activation propagation theories, activation of behavioral stereotypes.

I.S. Utochkin, Yu.M. Stakina. On the Metacognitive Regulation of the Dead Zone of Attention

The dead zone of attention refers to a remarkable inability to notice perceptual events occurring around "the centre of interest" (an object that draws intense attention). The two experiments compared the speed of search and accuracy of detection of visual changes near and far from "the centers of interest". In both experiments, observers had preliminary knowledge about the dead zone of attention. Results were then compared to the ones from our earlier experiments (Utochkin, 2011) where no preliminary information was provided. It was found that preliminary knowledge has no effect on the speed of search for changes but increases the likelihood of change detection and correct recognition within the dead zone. The results are discussed in terms of metacognitive regulation and strategies of visual inspection of scenes.

Keywords: attention, dead zone of attention, change blindness, metacognitive regulation, strategy.

Reviews

E.A. Valuyeva, E.M. Lapteva. The Phenomenon of Hint in Problem Solving: A Creativity Psychology Point of View. Part 2. Hint Effects in Complex Cognitive Tasks.

The paper describes experimental studies of hint in problem solving, as well as theoretical approaches to understanding the mechanisms underlving the hint phenomenon. The empirical results revealing the conditions of effective hinting are described with particular attention to the conditions of spontaneous transfer of auxiliary information. The conditions of hint utilization include active search for hints. resemblance between the hint source and the target task, common coding and extraction processes of the task and the hint, the temporal relation between the moments of hint and task presentation, depth of processing of the task and the hint, and reaching an impasse in the course of task solution. Theoretical explanations of the hint effect in complex tasks are discussed, and the differences in hint use associated with individual differences in creativity are analvzed.

Keywords: hint, problem solving, activation, creativity.