What is Personality?

Chapter 12
Personality Assessment

How can we assess personality?

Assessment can be performed through interviews, observations, objective tests, projective tests.

Objective Personality Tests

These tests use standardized questions that require written responses.

Are You an Extrovert or an Introvert?

1. Are you usually carefree?
2. Do you generally prefer reading to meeting people?
3. Do you long for excitement?
4. Are you mostly quiet when you're with others?
5. Do you often do things on the spur of the moment?
6. Are you slow and unhurried in the way you move?
7. Would you do almost anything for a dare?
8. Do you hate being in a crowd that plays jokes on one another?
9. Do you enjoy wild parties?
10. Do you like the kind of work you need to pay attention to?

If you said YES on most odd-numbered questions and NO on the even-numbered questions – you are relatively extroverted.

Do you believe that your destiny is controlled by yourself or by external forces?
- such as fate, god, or powerful others

Locus of Control

- Locus of Control refers to an individual's perception about the underlying main causes of events in his/her life.

Where do you see the control in your life?

- **Internal locus of control:**
  - People place their locus of control inside themselves
    - Behavior is guided by personal decisions and effort

- **External locus of control:**
  - People place their locus of control in their environments
    - Behavior is determined by luck, fate or external
A Self-Report Personality Inventory
How true is this of you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hardly at all</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>A Lot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I make friends easily.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>I like to keep busy all the time.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>I tend to be shy.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>I am very energetic.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I like to be with others.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>I prefer quiet, inactive pastimes to more active ones.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>I like to be independent of people.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>I tend to cry easily.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>I usually prefer to do things alone.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>I am easily frightened.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>I am always on the go.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>I tend to be somewhat emotional.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>I like to be off and running as soon as I wake up in the morning.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>I get upset easily.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>I tend to be easily irritated.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Score Your Test...
Reverse score the following items: 2, 4, 5, and 10
Add up scores 1-5
Add up scores 6-10
Add up scores 11-15

Scores 1-5 – related to sociability
- women average: 15-20; men average: 13-19
Scores 6-10 – related to activity level
- women average: 13-20; men average: 13-19
Scores 11-15 – related to emotionality
- women average: 11-18; men average: 9-16

Projective tests use ambiguous stimuli that can be perceived in many ways. Each person projects unconscious personality traits onto the test.

What School of thought supports this type of testing?

Examples of Projective Tests
- Rorschach Test
- Thematic Apperception Test
Rorschach Test

http://web.tickle.com/tests/inkblot/?test=inkblotogt
Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)
Sentence Completion

“I wish_________________________”

“My father_______________________”

“I always________________________”

“I________________________________”

“People__________________________”