

Rationalism or British Empiricism?

To get to the point, I feel that Rationalism has had more influence on modern psychology. This is mostly due to the ^{concept of} "active mind" that rationalists believe in. The active mind "acts on information from the senses and gives it meaning that it otherwise would not have" (156). ^{said quotations use your own words} It seems like the part of the brain that is doing this "acting upon information" is innate. ^{the argument that associations are a key process in the mind is proposed by the Empiricist Not the Rationalists} Humans will make associations between events and objects without any conscious effort, therefore "giving meaning that it otherwise would not have." But even more than this, there is a structure to the way that humans encode

information. In cognitive psychology there are models of how information is encoded. ^{called what?} Hierarchies are drawn to show how people associate ideas from broad topics down to small characteristics of objects or other things, and although these are theories, there is support for them. ^{very vague sentence also, again, by focusing on the importance of associations you are really describing the empiricist}

The other school of thought, British Empiricism, has not been as influential largely because of one "flaw" in the philosophy. British Empiricists tend to exclude inner experiences from the definition of empiricism. These Inner experiences are very important to animals that possess the proper cognitive abilities (humans, primates).

These animals can actually learn from their inner experiences. For example, humans will perform better at a task if they can practice the task and go over it in their mind. We do not actually have to be performing the task to learn from it. We have the ability to create the situation in our mind and think of problems and solutions that would arise. It is for

what evidence supports this argument you are making?

what is your definition of inner experience?

this reason that Empiricism has lost some of its support. Our minds are too active to be defined by a "passive mind."

good point

your definition
of rationalism
is problematic

Completeness 4/4
Correctness 1.5/3
Writing 1.5/3

7/10