

In-class writing assignments leading up to Writing Assignment 3

- Compare and contrast the ideas of Primary and Secondary Qualities as discussed by Locke, Berkley, and Hume.
- Please discuss Condillac's analogy of the sentient statue. Use this analogy to describe and explain the important tenets of British Empiricism and French Sensationalism.
- Many psychologists prefer to recognize the rationalists as being the most influential "forefathers" in the development of critical psychological concepts and theories. Please review so of the concepts proposed by the rationalists that have contributed to the field of psychology.
- Please define the philosophical terms of active mind vs. passive mind. In considering both Wundt and Titchner, what would be each psychologist's position on this question of whether the mind is active or passive? Be sure to provide evidence for your arguments.

Take-home Writing Assignment 3

Grading criteria:

4 points for answering the question fully

3 points for the factual correctness of the answer content

3 points for clear, concrete, and concise writing style

10 points total

Please choose one:

1. Wilhelm Wundt and Edward Titchner were both extremely influential early experimental psychologists and yet strikingly different in some aspects of their approach to the new field of experimental psychology. Wundt is said have been primarily influenced by the rationalists and Titchner was more influenced by the empiricists and positivists. What aspects of each psychologist's approach to experimental psychology support this characterization of his philosophical bias? In your answer please discuss individually Wundt and Titchner's ideas/assumptions and the relationship of these ideas to rationalism and empiricist philosophy.
2. Which philosophical school, Rationalism or British Empiricism, has had more influence on the development of modern psychology? In making your argument, please be sure to include the following information:
 1. Briefly outline the primary tenets of the philosophical approach that you think has been most influential.
 2. Provide specific instances and examples that support and illustrate your arguments.
 3. Explicitly explain why you think the other philosophical school **has not** been as influential.