ABSTRACT

PERSONALITY BREADTH AND CONCEPT IDENTIFICATION

by Walter John Schuldt

King's personality breadth model serves as the basic orientation in the present research. One dimension delineated in this model is broadness-narrowness in perceptual style. This, in essence, refers to greater or less awareness of environmental stimuli. This exploratory study investigates the relationship between personality breadth and concept identification.

One-hundred eighty male college students were tested on four measures of breadth -- Pettigrew's Category Width test, Clayton's adaptation of the Object Sorting test, King's Identification of Stimulus Elements test and King's Visual Scanning test. The measure of concept identification was an adaptation of Bourne and Haygood's task.

The obtained distribution of each measure of breadth was trichotomized and subjects were categorized into three levels of breadth -- broad, medium, and narrow. Analysis of variance was used to assess relationships between the three levels of breadth and three levels of concept identification difficulty -- 1, 3, and 5 irrelevant cues. No significant differences between levels of breadth were noted. A significant interaction effect was found between levels on the Object Sorting test and the number of irrelevant cues on the concept identification task but no psychological

interpretation was made.

Two additional analyses were performed. A Post-Test Inquiry was used to assess changes in perceptual strategy on the Visual Scanning test. Two groups were established -- a group that changed strategy and a group that did not change strategy. The relation of this change-no change dimension to performance on the five irrelevant cue condition of the concept identification task was assessed by use of a <u>t</u> test. No significant differences were found but results are suggestive that those subjects who changed perceptual strategy also made fewer errors on the concept identification task.

The possibility of an interaction effect between breadth and strategy was also investigated. Using the Visual Scanning test and the Post-test Inquiry, four groups were established -- broad-changers, broad-no changers, narrow-changers, and narrow-no changers. Performance of the broad-changers was compared to performance of the other three groups combined by use of a <u>t</u> test. The broad-changers made significantly less errors (.01 level) than did subjects in the combined group.

The results were interpreted as not necessarily giving support to King's theoretical position. However, in view of the exploratory nature of this research, the need for a more delimited and precise replication study was discussed.

Approved T.M. Allen Major Professor

Date Ychnony 19, 1962

PERSONALITY BREADTH AND CONCEPT IDENTIFICATION

By

Walter John Schuldt

A THESIS

Submitted to

Michigan State University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

Department of Psychology

3/2012

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to acknowledge the guidance and generous assistance given by the late Dr. Gerald F. King. He, as a psychologist, a teacher, and a friend, will always be a source of personal inspiration. The author also wishes to express his sincere appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Terrence M. Allen, who assumed the chairmanship of the master's committee, and to the other committee members, Dr. Clarence L. Winder and Dr. Donald M. Johnson.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		P	age
I.	INTRODUCTION	• •	1
II.	METHOD	• •	5
	Measures of Personality Breadth	• •	5
	Category Width (CW)	• •	5
	Object Sorting (OS)	• •	6
	Identification of Stimulus Elements (ISE)	••	6
	Visual Scanning (VS)	• •	7
	Measures of Concept Identification	• •	7
	Stimulus Materials	• •	7
	Experimental Task	• •	8
	Procedure	• •	8
III.	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION]	Ll
	Additional Analyses]	L7
IV.	SUMMARY	2	24
	REFERENCES	2	2 7
	APPENDICES	2	29

LIST OF TABLES

CABLE		Page
1.	Means and Standard Deviations of Concept Identification Error Scores	12
2	Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by CW	13
3	Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by OS	14
4	Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by ISE	15
5	Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by VS	16
6	Comparison of Perceptual Strategy Groups on CI Error Scores	18
7	. Comparison of Broad-changers, Broad-no changers, Narrow-changers, and Narrow-no changers on CI Error Scores	2 0

LIST OF APPENDICES

	Page
I.	Inventory Booklet29
II.	Instructions and Procedure: Identification of Stimulus Elements (ISE) Test
III.	Instructions and Procedure: Visual Scanning (VS) Test40
IV.	Visual Scanning Post-Test Inquiry41

I. INTRODUCTION

There is at present limited communication between various personality theories and the subject matter of general psychology. Personality theories are typically oriented toward accounting for individual differences, especially in the area of social adjustment, while the focus of general psychology is on the functional relationships between manipulated conditions and task performance. As a result, two disciplines have tended to develop within psychology, each with different objectives, concepts, and research methods.

There have been some recent attempts to relate task behavior to personality variables. Gardner (1953) found that equivalence-range preference, a type of cognitive style, was related to individual differences in size constancy, shape constancy, and brightness judgments. Holzman and Gardner (1960) obtained significant differences between "levelers" and "sharpeners," another type of cognitive style, on several measures of memory organization. Gruen (1959), using Tolman's concepts as a frame of reference, derived several measures pertaining to cognitive maps in an attempt to predict individual differences in human maze learning. A personality model was developed by King (1960) to predict individual differences in task behavior.

One dimension delineated in King's model is "broadnessnarrowness" in perceptual style. This, in essence, refers to greater or less awareness of environmental stimuli. Broad individuals are conceptualized as displaying a relatively even distribution of attention leading to increased awareness of the perceptual field; narrow subjects as displaying a relatively uneven distribution of attention leading to a more delimited awareness of the perceptual field. A number of other investigators have employed similar concepts, all of which might be subsumed under the generic term "personality breadth."

The theoretical basis for personality breadth research began as early as 1902 when Gross (cited by MacKinnon, 1944) assumed a functional relationship between experience intensity and the tendency for that experience to persist. Based on this assumption, he delineated two mental processes, namely, a deep-narrow process -- intense experience with much persistence -- and a shallow-broad process -- less intense experience with less persistence.

Tolman (1948) emphasized stimulus selection and the way routes to a goal are formed. He referred to a narrow cognitive map which is seen as a single goal path, and to a broader cognitive map which takes in a wider view of the environment with, consequently, more alternative goal routes.

Rokeach (1951) conceptualized cognitive organization as varying along a breadth continuum from comprehensive to narrow. Gruen (1959) also delineated "styles of cognitive representation." Two of the dimensions which he posited are "outer complexity" -- awareness of the stimulus field -- and "degree of organization" -- a concept similar to Rokeach's breadth

of cognitive organization.

Klein (1958) introduced a cognitive style variable which he called scanning. The scanner was described as one who deploys attention in a broad and intensive manner leading to an "intense concentration of the central task" and an "indiscriminate peripheral sensitivity that renders many aspects of the field available to conscious recall."

Other cognitive breadth dimensions posited are overinclusion (Cameron, 1951), leveling-sharpening (Holzman &
Klein, 1954), equivalence range (Gardner, 1953), and category
width (Pettigrew, 1958). The measures of equivalence range
and category width are used in the present research and thus
will be discussed later.

King's (1960) personality model will serve as the basic orientation in the present research. He emphasized the interaction between personality style and the nature of the task in predicting individual differences in task behavior. This interaction might be illustrated in a situation in which broadness-narrowness in perceptual style can be viewed in light of two concept identification tasks.

Task A consists of a number of stimulus elements or cues in the perceptual field, one of which arbitrarily serves as the correct concept. In this task the broad person, as compared to the narrow person, would be expected to solve the problem more readily in that he would be more aware of the alternatives (stimuli).

Task B represents a slight alteration in this situation.

If additional distracting stimuli are gradually added during the process of learning, the broad person's performance should be hampered more than the narrow person's performance in that he is responding to more irrelevant stimuli. While these examples are oversimplified and open to question, the general notion of personality-task interaction seems to be conveyed.

The preceding examples can also serve as an introduction to the focus of the present research which is concerned, in a more limited scope, with the relationship between personality breadth and performance on a concept identification task.

Concept identification will be assessed by a task similar to that described by Bourne and Haygood (1959). This task consists of three conditions which have different numbers of cues in the perceptual field. The six-cue condition seems generally to correspond to Task A as previously described.

This study was designed to evaluate possible differences between broad and narrow subjects on the concept identification task in general, or to assess possible interaction effects between levels of breadth and concept identification conditions. As an exploratory study, no specific hypotheses were formulated.

II. METHOD

Measures of Personality Breadth

Four tests which seem to reflect personality breadth were selected for use in this study. Two of these tests, the Category Width Test (Pettigrew, 1958) and Clayton's (1959) adaptation of the Object Sorting Test (Gardner, 1953), are considered measures of cognitive breadth. King devised the other two tests, the Identification of Stimulus Elements Test and the Visual Scanning Test, which he considered to be measures of perceptual breadth.

A research project is being undertaken by Perkins (1962) to assess the reliabilities and intercorrelations of these and other measures of breadth. The following discussion is to serve only as a brief introduction to the four tests used in the present study. More comprehensive descriptions of these measures can be found in Perkins! (1962) study.

Category Width Scale (CW). This paper and pencil test (Pettigrew, 1958) is a group administered, cognitive, preference task (Appendix I). Each subject is to estimate, through multiple-choice selection, the extremes of such items as "length of whales" and "annual rainfall in Washington, D.C." Each multiple-choice alternative is numerically weighted according to its direction and relative deviation from the item mean. Pettigrew sees the sum of the selected alternatives as reflecting the range of an individual's cognitive categories. In a personality breadth frame of reference, a

high score is considered indicative of breadth while a low score is considered indicative of narrowness.

Object Sorting (OS). This is a paper and pencil adaptation (Clayton, 1959) of the Object Sorting Test (Gardner, 1953). It is a group administered, cognitive, preference task (Appendix I) in which the subject is to sort 50 words, which refer to 50 objects, into groups that seem to belong together. Gardner suggests that this test indicates "equivalence range" -- the range of objects which a person is willing to subsume under one category. In a personality breadth frame of reference, the number of categories is used as a response measure with broad subjects defined as those forming few categories and narrow subjects defined as those forming many categories.

Identification of Stimulus Elements (ISE). This test, developed by King, is an individually administered, perceptual, achievement task. The subject is required to view five visual stimulus patterns, each consisting of eight different elements, and to learn a nonsense syllable associated with each pattern. The subject is then presented with a series of 40 cards each of which contains an element from one of the five stimulus patterns. The subject's task is to identify the name of the stimulus pattern to which each element belongs by marking the appropriate column of a multiple-choice answer sheet. The response measure used is the total number of correct answers. Broad persons are

defined as those who make many correct identifications; narrow persons are defined as those who make few correct identifications.

Visual Scanning (VS). This test, also developed by King, is an individually administered, perceptual, achievement task. The subject is confronted with two 12" X 12" cards each of which contains 63 different words. The subject is to view each card for one minute and recall as many words as possible. The total number of words recalled was used as the response measure. A broad person is defined as one who recalls many words; a narrow person is defined as one who recalls few words.

The Concept Identification Task.

The concept identification measure developed for use in this study was an adaptation of a task described by Bourne and Haygood (1959). As this task has been substantially changed from that delineated by Bourne and Haygood, a brief description of the stimulus materials and task will here be presented. A more comprehensive description of the specific procedures used in the present research will follow later.

Stimulus Materials. The stimuli were 3-3/4" X 5-1/2" cards each of which contained a geometric pattern. These patterns contained cues varying along six possible dimensions -- color (red or green), form (triangle or square), number (one or two), size (large or small), orientation (upright or tilted), and position (left or right side of card). Three different series of cards were constructed.

Each series contained patterns which were a combination of one cue relevant for solution and \underline{x} cues (1, 3, or 5) irrelevant for solution. All possible patterns appeared in each series. The order of patterns was determined in a semi-random manner -- no pattern followed itself and each pattern appeared equally often in every 64 patterns.

Experimental Task. The concept identification task was a trial and error two-choice discrimination learning problem (Bourne & Restle, 1959). Each subject is presented with a series of geometric patterns. When a pattern appears the subject is to check one of two columns on an answer sheet to indicate the category to which the pattern belongs. After each response, the subject is told the correct response. The criterion of problem solving is 16 consecutive correct identifications. The response measure is the total number of errors to solution.

Procedure

One-hundred and eighty male undergraduate students participated in this study. Every student was presently enrolled in a general introductory psychology course at Michigan State University.

All subjects were initially group tested at which time they were given the Category Width test (CW) and the Object Sorting test (OS). The specific instructions and tests administered are contained in Appendix I.

The subjects were later tested individually. The

Identification of Stimulus Elements test (ISE) and the Visual Scanning test (VS) were initially given to the subject during this individual testing session. The instructions for these tests are contained in Appendices II and III. Following the Visual Scanning test (VS), a Post-Test Inquiry (Appendix IV) was administered in an attempt to assess each subject's perceptual strategy.

The Concept Identification task (CI) was also administered during the individual session. In this task the 180 subjects were arbitrarily assigned to three experimental conditions with 60 subjects in each condition. In Condition 1-I, subjects were presented stimulus patterns containing one relevant cue and one irrelevant cue; in Condition 3-I, subjects were presented stimulus patterns containing one relevant cue and three irrelevant cues; in Condition 5-I, subjects were presented stimulus patterns containing one relevant cue and five irrelevant cues. The instructions, procedures, and criterion measures were the same for all groups.

The following instructions were read to each subject:

"Your task is to learn to sort a series of geometric patterns into two categories -- T or F.

I will say 'card' and present a geometric pattern.

Observe this pattern until I say 'check.' At this time, check either column T or column F (on an answer sheet previously provided) to indicate your choice of the category to which the pattern belongs. I will then say 'T' or 'F' to indicate the correct category. If you have checked the wrong category draw a line through the entire item. If you have checked the correct category do not draw a line through the item. When you have made 16 consecutive correct responses, stop the task, indicate that you have finished, and sit quietly until you have

been given other directions. Remember, look closely when I say 'card,' check T or F when I say 'check,' not before, look at your response when I say 'T' or 'F,' draw a line through it if wrong, leave it as it is if correct, stop after 16 correct responses in a row. Any questions?"

This was an experimenter paced task. As each card was presented, the experimenter said "card." After giving the subject five seconds to observe the card, the experimenter said "check." Eight seconds were allowed for the subject's response. The experimenter then gave the correct category and waited five seconds for the subject to comply with the instructions. This procedure was continued until the subject achieved 16 consecutive correct responses. If the subject did not achieve this criterion upon completion of 125 trials, the task was discontinued.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The distributions of CW, OS, ISE, and VS scores were trichotomized according to the criterion measure of each test so that 20 subjects were placed in each personality breadth group -- broad, medium, and narrow. Thus, each subject was classified as either broad, medium, or narrow in terms of each of the four tests of breadth. The mean CI error scores and standard deviations for each level of breadth are presented in Table 1.

Four 3 X 3 analyses of variance were used to assess the relationship between personality breadth and concept identification. A separate analysis was used for each of the four measures of personality breadth. Each design had three levels of breadth -- broad, medium, and narrow -- and three levels of CI difficulty -- 1, 3, and 5 irrelevant cues. The results of these analyses are presented in Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The F's assessing differences between number of irrelevant cues on the CI task are significant at the .Ol level. These significant F's and the means in Table 1 indicates results which are basically similar to those described by Bourne and Haygood (1959). Thus, the present simple CI task seems to elicit the same type of differences as the original more complicated and highly instrumented task.

TABLE 1

Means and Standard Deviations
of Concept Identification Error Scores

P ersonalit y Bread th	00 <u>1</u> -	-	lentifica <u>3-</u> :	e tion Cor <u>I</u>	nditions <u>5-I</u>			
	M	SD	M	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>SD</u>		
Category Width (CW).								
Broad	2.75	2.65	12.90	6.90	22.00	23.5		
Medium	3.45	7.58	19.75	24.85	25 .50	24.0		
Narrow	3.00	3.03	10.90	18.59	18.30	23.9		
Object Sorting (OS).								
Broad	2.55	2.42	12.85	20.85	21.35	24.30		
Medium	3.80	7.61	20.85	25.39	14.95	18.34		
Narrow	2.86	3.06	9.85	18.37	29 .50	26.2		
Identificati	on of S	timulus 1	Clements	(ISE).				
Broad	1.75	.97	8.45	16.29	16.80	20.3		
Medium	4.70	24.30	12.90	25 .01	23.45	24.12		
Narrow	2.75	3.04	22.20	25.81	25.55	26.28		
Visual Scanning (VS).								
Broad	2.10	2.31	16.95	21.97	17.65	18.3		
Medium	2.40	1.70	9.20	15.87	25.8 0	27.1		
Narrow	4.70	7.84	17.40	26 .57	22.35	25.8		

TABLE 2

Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by CW

Source of Variation	đſ	SS	MS	F
Concept Identification	2	10841.21	5420.60	15.17**
Personality Breadth	2	942.34	471.17	1.32
CI X Breadth	4	447.86	111.96	.31
Within cells	171	61122.25	357.44	
Total	179	73353.66		

^{**} significant at the .01 level

TABLE 3 Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by OS

Source of Variation	df	SS	MS	F
Concept Identification	2	10841.21	5420.60	15.69**
Personality Breadth	2	99 .0 8	49.54	.14
CI X Breadth	4	3338 .5 2	834.63	2.42*
Within cells	171	59074.85	345 .47	
Total	179	73353.66		

^{##} significant at the .01 level
significant at the .05 level

TABLE 4

Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by ISE

Source of Variation	đf	SS	MS	F
Concept Identification	2	10841.21	5420.60	15.54**
Personality Breadth	2	1864.84	932.42	2.67
CI X Breadth	4	1028.86	257.22	.74
Within cells	171	59618.75	348.65	
Total	179	73353.66		

^{**} significant at the .01 level

TABLE 5

Analysis of Variance of 3 CI Conditions with 3 Levels of Breadth Measured by VS

Source of Variation	đf	SS	MS	F
Concept Identification	2	10841.21	5420.60	15.22**
Personality Breadth	2	245.01	122.50	• 34
CI X Breadth	4	1355.39	338.8 5	.95
Within cells	171	60912.05	356.21	
Total	179	73353.66		

^{**} significant at the .Ol level

Inspection of the analysis of variance tables reveals that in no case are the differences between personality breadth groups significant. However, the results suggest that those subjects classified as broad on the ISE do better on the CI task than narrow subjects although the differences are not significant.

It is also noted that a significant interaction effect between OS and CI is evidenced in Table 3. The results suggest that the medium subjects did best on the one irrelevant and three irrelevant cue conditions while the broad and narrow groups did better on the five irrelevant cue condition. However, these data do not suggest any meaningful psychological interpretation.

The results fail to provide evidence of a general relationship between personality breadth and performance on the CI task. This seems in basic accord with Perkins' (1962) correlational analysis of various measures of personality breadth. His results yielded little evidence for the existence of such a general trait. Moreover, these results are consistent with Bourne and Restle's (1959) mathematical model which assumes no individual differences in CI task performance.

Additional Analyses

As mentioned previously, the VS Post-Test Inquiry was administered to assess each subject's perceptual strategy. In an analysis of strategy, Item 2 of this inquiry sheet

was used as a criterion measure to establish two groups -a group that changed perceptual strategy between the first
and second card of the Visual Scanning test and a group that
did not change perceptual strategy. The 60 subjects participating in the five irrelevant cue condition of the CI task
were used as the sample in this analysis in that this condition seemed to correspond to Task A as described in the
Introduction.

The relation of this change-no change dimension to performance on the five irrelevant cue condition of the CI task was assessed by use of a \underline{t} test. The results of this analysis are presented in Table 6. While these results are suggestive that those subjects who changed perceptual strategy also made fewer errors on the CI task, this cannot be specifically concluded in that the statistical analysis revealed a \underline{t} (1.41) which is not significant at the .05 level.

While re-evaluating the data, the possibility of an interaction effect between breadth and perceptual strategy was suggested. Thus, another analysis explored this possibility.

Card I of the VS was used as the measure of breadth in this analysis in that it could be conceived of as, primarily, a perceptual task. It was felt that increased cognitive functioning may be introjected into VS task performance when Card II is presented in that the subject may strive for better performance by associating or categorizing the perceived words. Thus, Card II was not included in this analysis.

TABLE 6

Comparison of Perceptual Strategy
Groups on CI Error Scores

	Ā	SD	
Change	17.3	2 0. 5	t = 1.41*
No Change	25.7	24.9	

^{*} not significant at the .05 level

All subjects were ranked according to their score on Card I of the VS test and divided as close to the median as possible. The upper portion of the distribution was defined as broad; the lower portion defined as narrow. Item 2 of the VS Post-Test Inquiry was used to determine if a subject did or did not change perceptual strategy. Based on these two dichotomies, four groups were established -- broad-changers, broad-no changers, narrow-changers, and narrow-no changers. Each group's performance was then compared on the five irrelevant cue condition of the CI.

A <u>t</u> test was used to assess the apparent significant difference of the mean error score of the other groups combined. The mean error scores, standard deviations, and <u>t</u> test are presented in Table 7. It is to be noted that the broad-changers made significantly less errors on this CI task than did the combined group. Moreover, one should note the little amount of difference between the means of the broad-no changers, narrow-changers, and narrow-no changers which gives increased credence to the assumption that these three groups are basically similar and significantly different in performance from the broad-changers.

It is realized that this has been a <u>post-hoc</u> analysis.

Moreover, it is stressed that significance tests have been used to assess apparent differences in obtained data. Therefore, the obtained significance levels cannot be interpreted as for legitimate statistical tests. These results are

Comparison of Broad-changers, Broad-no changers,
Narrow-changers, and Narrow-no changers
on CI Error Scores

	<u>M</u>	SD	
Broad-changers	4.33	3.04	
Broad-no changers	26. 29	24.54	t = 5.83**
Narrow-changers	23.83	22.99	t = 5.05**
Narrow-no changers	2 4.67	27.70	

^{**} significant at the .Ol level. The t test indicates significance of difference between mean errors of broad-changers as compared to mean errors of other three groups combined.

accordingly considered suggestive of individual differences in task performance.

These results do not necessarily support King's theoretical position. The individual differences attributed to broadness-narrowness on the Visual Scanning test could be a function of memory. It is possible that all subjects perceived the same number of words and that the obtained differences are a function of the number of words recalled. Moreover, narrowness in perceptual style and lack of strategy change could both be manifestations of perseveration. If a subject perseverated on a few words and on a given strategy, he would have been classified as a narrow-no changer. Thus, it seems difficult to discern whether perseveration is the significant variable, rather than perceptual style, or whether perseveration is a manifestation of perceptual style.

In view of the <u>post-hoc</u> statistical analyses and the alternative interpretations attributable to the results, a replication study is being planned. It is hoped that this study can be designed to control memory effects, assess perseveration, and obtain an empirical, rather than an introspective, measure of strategy.

Although the present exploratory study does suggest the possibility of a perceptual style dimension, no evaluation of King's model can be made until the results of a more delimited and precise replication study are assessed. However, it is felt that King's concepts of broadness-

narrowness in perceptual function can and will open up new avenues of research. Moreover, it is hoped that the present research served, in a small way, to demonstrate the possibility of obtaining increased integration of personality theory and the subject matter of general psychology.

IV. SUMMARY

A personality model developed by King (1960) to predict individual differences in task behavior serves as the basic orientation in the present research. One dimension delineated in this model is broadness-narrowness in perceptual style. This, in essence, refers to greater or less awareness of environmental stimuli. The present study was designed to investigate the relationship between personality breadth and concept identification. As an exploratory study, no specific hypotheses were formulated.

A total of 180 male undergraduate students was group tested on two tests utilized as measures of breadth -- the Category Width test (Pettigrew, 1958) and an adaptation of the Object Sorting test (Clayton, 1959). King's personality breadth measures, the Identification of Stimulus Elements test (Perkins, 1962) and the Visual Scanning test (Perkins, 1962), were given during individual testing sessions. Moreover, an adaptation of Bourne and Haygood's (1959) concept identification task was also employed.

The obtained distribution for each measure of personality breadth was trichotomized and subjects were categorized into three levels of breadth -- broad, medium, and narrow. Analysis of variance was used to assess the relationship between personality breadth, as measured by each personality breadth test, and concept identification. Each design had three

levels of breadth -- broad, medium, and narrow -- and three levels of concept identification difficulty -- 1, 3, and 5 irrelevant cues. These four analyses did not reveal any significant differences between the three levels of breadth. However, they did reveal significant differences between the three concept identification conditions indicating results basically similar to those described by Bourne and Haygood (1959). A significant interaction effect was also noted between levels on the Object Sorting test and the number of irrelevant cues on the concept identification task but no psychological interpretation was made.

Two additional analyses were performed. A Post-Test Inquiry was used to assess each subject's perceptual strategy on the Visual Scanning test. Two groups were established on the basis of Item 2 of this inquiry -- a group that changed strategy and a group that did not change strategy. The relation of this change-no change dimension to performance on the 5 irrelevant cue condition of the concept identification task was assessed by use of a <u>t</u> test. No significant differences were found but the results are suggestive that those subjects who changed perceptual strategy also made fewer errors on the concept identification task.

The possibility of an interaction effect between breadth and strategy was also investigated. Using Card I of the Visual Scanning test as a measure of breadth and Item 2 of the Visual Scanning Post-Test Inquiry as an index of change,

four groups were established -- broad-changers, broad-no changers, narrow-changers, and narrow-no changers. The performance of the broad-changers was compared to the performance of the other three groups combined by use of a <u>t</u> test. The broad-changers made significantly less errors (.01 level) than did subjects in the combined group.

The results were interpreted as not necessarily giving support to King's theoretical position. However, in view of the exploratory nature of this research the need for a more delimited and precise replication study was discussed.

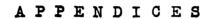
REFERENCES

- BOURNE, L. E. JR., & HAYGOOD, R. C. The role of stimulus redundancy in concept identification. J. exp. Psychol., 1959, 58, 232-238.
- BOURNE, L. E. JR., & RESTLE, F. Mathematical theory of concept identification. Psychol. Rev., 1959, 66, 278-296.
- CAMERON, N. "Perceptual organization and behavior pathology," in R. R. Blake and G. V. Ramsey (Eds.),

 Perception: an approach to personality. New York:
 Ronald, 1951, 283-306.
- CLAYTON, M. Equivalence range and the tendency to endorse absolute statements. M. A. thesis, Penn. St. Univer., 1959.
- GARDNER, R. W. Cognitive styles in categorizing behavior.

 J. Pers., 1953, 22, 214-233.
- GRUEN, W. Behavioral correlates of some dimensions of the cognitive field. J. Pers., 1959, 27, 169-186.
- HOLZMAN, P. S. & GARDNER, R. W. Level-sharpening and memory organization. J. abnorm. soc. Psychol., 1960, 61, 176-180.
- HOLZMAN P. S. & KLEIN, G. S. Cognitive system-principles of leveling and sharpening: Individual differences in assimilative effects in visual time-error. J. Psychol., 1954, 37, 105-122.
- KING, G. F. Perceptual breadth. Personal communication, Mich. St. Univer., 1960.
- KLEIN, G. S. "Cognitive control and motivation," in G. Lindzey (Ed.), Assessment of human motives. New York: Rinehart, 1958.
- MACKINNON, D. W. "The structure of personality," in J. McV. Hunt (Ed.), Personality and the behavior disorders. New York: Ronald, 1944.
- PERKINS, K. A. Reliabilities and intercorrelates of measures of personality breadth: perception and cognition.
 M. A. thesis (in progress), Mich. St. Univer., 1962.

- PETTIGREW, T. F. The measurement and correlates of category width as a cognitive variable. <u>J. Pers.</u>, 1958, <u>26</u>, 532-544.
- ROKEACH, M. A method for studying individual differences in "narrow-mindedness," J. Pers., 1951, 20, 219-233.
- TOLMAN, E. C. Cognitive maps in rats and men. <u>Psychol.</u> Rev., 1948, <u>55</u>, 189-208.



29

APPENDIX I

INVENTORY BOOKLET

Print	t Name				
		Last	first	Middle]	nitial
_					
Age .					
Sex	M or F	(Circle one)			

Estimation Ouestionnaire

The following 20 items call for two estimates or judgments, one for Part a and one for Part b of each item. Indicate your estimate by circling the appropriate number. In every case, give what you consider to be the most accurate estimate. Be sure to answer every item.

iter	<u>n</u> .							
1.						cage wid	th of windows is	34
			nat do yo					4
	a.	is t	the width	of the	e widest v			
			1.	1,363	inches	3.	48 inches	
			2.	341	inches	4.	81 inches	
	b.	is t	the width	of the	e narrowes	st windo	W • • •	
			ı.	3	inches	3.	ll inches	
			2.	18	inches	4.	1 inch	
2.	Ornith	ologi	ists tell	l us tha	at the bea	st guess	of the average	speed
	of bir	ds in	flight	would 1	be about 1	L7 m.p.h	. What do you t	:hink:
	a.	is t	the speed	in fl	ight of th	ne faste	st bird	
			1.	25	m.p.h.	3.	73 m.p.h.	
			2.				34 m.p.h.	
	b.	is t	he speed	in fl	ight of th	ne slowe	st bird	
			1.	10	m.p.h.	3.	12 m.p.h.	
			2.	2	m.p.h.	4.	5 m.p.h.	
3.	The av	erage	elength	of what	les in the	Atlant	ic Ocean has bee	en
	estima	ted b	y zoolog	gists to	be rough	nly 65 f	eet. What do yo	ou
	think:							
	a.	is t	he lengt	h of th	he longest	t whale	in the Atlantic	Ocean
			1.	120	ft.	3.	86 ft.	
			2.	190	ft.	4.	75 ft.	
	b.	is t	he lengt	h of the	he shortes	st whale	in the Atlantic	ocean.
			1.	6	ft.	3.	52 ft.	
			2.	43	ft.	4.	21 ft.	
4.	Shippi	ng au	thoritie	s have	calculate	ed that	the average weigh	ht of
		_					laritime Commissi	
					t do you t			
	a.	-			_		registered with	the
			mission .			-	•	
			1.		tons	3.	23,000 tons	
			2.	•			7,500 tons	
	b.	is t	the weigh				registered with	the
	-		nission .		•	•	•	
				3,900	tons	3.	2,700 tons	
			2.	1.100		4.	2 tons	

5.	D.C. h	as rece:	ived an	•		_	century 41.1 inch	_	•
	What do	o you th							
	a.	is the	larges	t amou	nt of 1	ain that	Washingt	on has	
		receive	ed in a	single	e year	during t	his centu	ry	
			1.	82.4	inches	3.	63.7 i	nches	
			2.	45.8	inches	4.	51.2 i	nches	
	b.	is the	smalle	st amo	unt of	rain tha	t Washing	ton has	
							his centu		
			1.	_	inches	_	9.9 i	_	
			2.	-		4.			
6.	An	*****	-						••
0.		_	_	-			w York Ha		_
	_	_				-	What do	_	K:
	a.		_			_	enter or		
		New You		_	_	_	is period		
			1.	69	ships	3.	76 s	hips	
			2.	153	ships	4.	102 s	hips	
	b.	was the	e smalle	est nu	mber of	ships t	o enter o	r leave	
		New You	k in a	single	e day d	during th	is period	• • •	
			1.	_	ships	_	16 s		
			2.		ships		43 s	-	
7.	For the	e past 1					ation has	_	d an
							ou think:		
							a's popul	ation in	a
	4.		_			wenty ye		401011 111	-
		single	_	5,300	cuese (wency ye 3.	3,900		
				-			•		
	٠.		-	L, 500			4,800		_
	D.						a's popul	ation in	a
		single	_	_	these t	wenty ye			
			1.	470		3.	980		
			2.	-			2 <u>,</u> 520		
8.							speed of		ing.
	craft :	ln Ameri	ica is a	around	4.1 kr	ots. Wh	at do you	think:	
	a.	is the	speed o	of the	fastes	st sailin	g boat in	America	• • •
			1.	8.2	knots	3.	5.9 k	nots	
			2.	30.7	knots	4.	21.3 k	nots	
	b.	is the	speed o			st sailin	g boat in		
			1.		knots	3.	2.2 k		
			2.		knots	4.	1.2 k		
9.	Dools w		_ •			-	-		10
9,							new Amer		
	_	_		_			. What d	_	nk:
	a.		_				be publi		
		America		_	_	_	is period		
			1.	=	novels		870 n		
			2.	495	novels	4.	620 n	ovels	

		1.	145 novels	3.	90 novels	
		2.	205 novels	4.	260 novels	
10.	Betwee	n 1900 and 19	940 there was an	n average	of 48 lynchings per	
			States. What			
	a.	was the larg	gest number of :	lynchings	in any one year	
		during this	period in the T	mited St	ates	
		1.	79	3.	53	
		2.	63	4.	135	
	b.	was the small	llest number of	lynching	s in any one year	
		during this	period in the T	mited St	ates	
		1.	1	3.	33	
		2.	11	4.	19	
11.					me for all trains in	
					. was 285 minutes	
			nutes). What do			
	a.			t train f	rom New York City to	
		Washington i				
		1.	337 min.		396 min.	
	_	2.	304 min.	4.	483 min.	
	b.			t train f	rom New York City to	
		Washington i			0.50	
		1.	236 min.		268 min.	
	-1	2.	202 min.	4.	145 min.	
12.					per day during 1955	
			to be 27,440.	_		
	a.			oirtns in	the world in any one	;
		day during 1	36,501	3	40 976	
		2.	28, 207		49, 876 30,023	
	h				n the world in any	
	ω.	one day duri		DII CHS I	in the world in any	
			26,340	3.	14,330	
			24,725		19,704	
13.	When a				are considered,	
					of verbs per language	<u>د</u>
			around 15,000.			-
	a.				ny single language	
		1.	21,000		50,000	-
		2.	18,000		30,000	
	b.	_	•		any single language .	• •
		1.	1,000	3.	5,000	
		2.	13,000		10,000	
			÷			

b. is the smallest number of novels to be published in America in a single year during this period ...

14.		_			l length What do		_	1,000	German
	a.	is the	_		_	_	_		sample
					inches				
					inches				
	b.		_	h of th	he shorte	st Shep	herd dog	; in the	е
		sample							
					inches				
			-	_	inches	-			
15.					South Am				pproxi-
	mately				each. M		_		
	a.				f the mos	st popul	ated cou	intry i	n
		South A							
					million				
					million				
	b.	is the	popul	ation (of the le	east pop	ulated o	country	in
		South 1	Americ	a					
			1.	7,000		3.	2.4	millio	n
			2.	6.2	million	4.	29,000		
16.	A Stan	ford Un:	iversi	ty home	e economi	st has	estimate	ed that	the
				ends a	round 55	minutes	of his	day ea	ting.
	What d	o you tl	hink:						
	a.	is the	longe		ing time				
			1.	185	minutes	3.	245	minute	s
			2.	125	minutes	4.	90	minute	S
	b.	is the	short	est ea	ting time	of any	single	Americ	an
			1.	16	minutes	3.	38	minute	ε
			2.	4	minutes	4.	27	minute	8
17.	In 194	6 the a	verage	numbe	r of birt	hs per	state wa	as 68,0	00.
	What d	o you tl	hink:			_			
	a.	was the	e high	est nu	mber of h	oirths i	n a sing	gle sta	te
			_	87,000			71,000		
			2. 1	22,000			254,000		
	b.	was the		-	ber of bi	rths in	a sing	le stat	e
				29,000		3.	14,000		
				53,000		4.	900		
13.	Immedi	•		•	ar II, th	ne avera		er of s	ubma-
		_			t seven r		_		
		o you ti	=""	,				· · · -	
	a.	_		est nu	mber of a	submarin	es owned	l by on	e of
		these	_						
			1.	159		3.	118		
			2.	91		4.	69		
	b.	was the			umber of			ed by o	ne
		of the				~ ~~~~~		<u> </u>	
		301	1.	22		3.	36		
			2.	9		4.	47		
			- •			- •	• •	161-	1019

19.	The av	erage number	of church	nes per relig	jious denomina	ation in
					. What do ye	
	a.	is the large	est number	of churches	of a single	religious
		denomination	n in the t	J.S.A		-
		ı.	4,833	3.	1,219	
				4.		
	b.	is the small	Lest numbe	er of churche	es of a single	e religious
		denomination	n in the t	J.S.A		
		1.	313	3.	1	
		2.	146	4.	23	
20.	In the	years 1916 t	hrough 19	946, accordin	ng to the U.S	. Weather
	Bureau	, there was a	an average	of 140 torn	adoes a year	in the
	United	States. Wha	at do you	think:		
	a.	was the larg	gest numbe	er of tornado	es in a sing	le year
		in the Unite	ed States	during this	period	
		1.	154	3.	312	
		2.	243	4.	197	
	b.	was the small	llest numl	er of tornad	loes in a sind	gle year
		in the Unite	ed States	during this	period	
		1.	103	3.	61	
		2.	122	4.	28	

Object Sorting I

First of all, I want you to know that there is no answer to this test. Everyone does it in his own way. I want you to do it in the way that seems most natural, most logical, and most confort-The instructions are simply to put together into able to you. groups the names of the objects listed below which seem to you to belong together. Write these groups down on the paper provided, labeling the categories A, B, etc. For example, in category A you would place those objects which seem to belong in one group, in category B those objects which seem to belong in a second group, and so on for as many or as few groups as you feel is necessary. You may have as many or as few objects in a group as you like, so long as the objects in each group belong together for one particular reason. However, no object may be placed in more than one group. If, after you have thought about all the objects, a few do not seem to belong with any of the others, you may put each of those objects into groups by themselves. So that you will be sure to sort all of the objects, it is suggested that you place a check mark next to each object when you place it in a category. Use a pencil with an eraser.

lamp post	hat	towel
television set	golf club	a watch
rock	picture	tree
hammer	wallet	postage stamp
ruler	spoon	chair
gloves	telephone	band aid
sweater	pillow	milk bottle cap
aspirin	rug	window shade
canoe	screw driver	a bolt
coat	measuring cup	shoe
pencil	cigarette	daffodil

book-end radio a baseball

lamp a match handkerchief

rope dictionary comb

a tire a pot tobaggan

pistol nail scissors dime

arrow shovel

Object Sorting I

APPENDIX II

Identification of Stimulus Elements (ISE) Test

Instructions and Procedure

Training Series. "I am going to show you some figures or designs. They were specially constructed so they may appear somewhat unusual or different. These figures have names which I would like you to learn. Look closely as I show you the figures one at a time. During the first presentation, I'll give you the names."

The figures are presented in the following order: CAX, MOG, LUD, BIV, JEK. The exposure time for each figure is 8 seconds. As <u>E</u> presents the first figure, he states: "This is C-A-X, cax." The same procedure is followed for the remaining four figures on the first trial.

After the first trial, <u>E</u> shuffles the cards so they will be presented in a different order on the second trial. <u>E</u> then states: "Now I'm going to show the figures again. See if you can identify them. Hold up the correct card as soon as you recognize the figure. Remember, look at the figures closely." <u>E</u> gives the correct name after 6 seconds. Presentation time, as on the first trial, is 8 seconds per figure.

A total of six trials is given, with E shuffling the cards before each trial. Before each trial, E indicates the number of the trial. For example -- "This is the second

trial." He also states: "Look at the figures closely."

Before the seventh trial, <u>E</u> states: "Now continue to indicate the names of the figures by holding up the correct card. I want you to remember something else as you look at the figures. When we're all through, I'm going to ask you to draw each figure from memory. So again I say 'Look at the figures closely.'" A total of 6 more trials are given under these conditions.

Test Series. "Instead of having you draw each figure,
I'm going to ask you to do something very similar. I'm going
to show you some parts or elements of the figures that you've
just learned. In other words, each of the drawings that you
will now see belongs to one of the previous figures. I want
you to name the figures from which these parts were taken.
Use this answer sheet that I give you. If you're not sure,
make a guess."

The 40 stimulus elements are individually presented (as numbered on the cards), the exposure time being 12 seconds for each stimulus element.

APPENDIX III

Visual Scenning (VS) Test

I. Simple Scanning and Recall

There are some words scattered about on the other side of this card. I'm going to let you look at this card for a short period of time, about a minute. Your task will be to find as many words as you can. When I take the card away, write down all the words that you remember seeing. Any questions? All right, now look at the card. (E hold Card I approximately 18 inches from § for 60 seconds. After the card is taken away, § records his responses, i.e., words, on a sheet of paper that is provided.)

Now here's another card with some different words scattered about on it. We'll do the same thing as before. Ready to look at the card? All right, here's the card. (E holds Card II approximately 18 inches from S for 60 seconds. After the card is taken away, S records his responses as before.)

APPENDIX IV

Nam	ne	
		<u>VS</u> Test
		I. Post-Test Inquiry
1.		how you approached the test on the first card that was you (Circle appropriate letter):
	a.	Concentrated on the words on one part of the card or in a certain area.
	b.	Scanned most of the card picking up words from a relatively wide area.
	c.	Concentrated on words of a similar nature or of the same category, like all animals or all parts of the body.
	đ.	An approach other than the above. Describe this approach briefly.
	е.	Some combination of the above approaches. Briefly indicate the combination.
2.	Did you o	change your approach on the <u>second</u> <u>card</u> ? (Circle
	a.	Yes

If answer was "yes", briefly describe the change.

b. No

noom use cilly

JUNISHE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

3 1293 03169 5368

