

SECTION-2

1. The meaning of personality:-

The term 'personality' is derived from Latin word 'persona' which means a mask. Acc. to K. Young "Personality is a patterned body of habits, traits, attitudes and ideas of an individual, as these are organised externally into roles and statuses and as they related internally to motivation, goals and various aspects of selfhood"

G.W. Allport defined it as "a person's pattern of habits, attitudes and traits which determine his adjustment to his environment."

Acc. to Robert E. Park and Ernest W. Burgess, personality is "the sum and organisation of those traits which determine the role of the individual in the group."

Determinant of personality.

Personality is a result of the combination of four factors, i.e., physical environment, heredity, culture, and particular experiences. Here we discuss each factor determining personality separately.

- Personality and environment:

Man comes to form ideas and attitudes acc. to physical environment he lives in. To the extent that the physical environment determines cultural development and to extent, that culture in turn determines personality a relationship between personality and environment becomes clear.

- Heredity and personality.

Heredity is another factor determining human personality. Some of the similarities in man's personality are said to be due to his common heredity. Every human group inherits the same general set of biological needs and capacities.

- Personality and culture.

There can be doubt that culture largely determines the types of personality that will predominate in the particular group.

Acc. to some thinkers, personality is the subjective aspect of culture. They regard personality and culture as two sides of same coin.

- Personality and particular experiences

Personality is also determined by another factor, namely the particular and unique experiences.

There are two types of experiences one those that stem from continuous association with one's group sec. those that arise suddenly and are not likely to recur.