

# INTRODUCTION PSYCHOLOGY LECTURE 2

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#### COGNITION

- Cognition is described as the mental process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through thought, experience, and the senses.
- Cognitive processes (perception, attention, memory, learning, thinking, decision-making)
- developmental changes
- state of the organism
- environment

## SENSATION AND PERCEPTION

• Sensation - input about the physical world obtained by our sensory receptors.



o Perception - brain selects, organizes, and interprets sensations in order to give meaning.



Sensory adaptation, habituation





#### ATTENTION

- Attention is a process/state of mind in which consciousness is focused on particular stimuli
- levels of awareness humans fluctuate between the high and low thinking states (focused x asleep)
- Attention
  - unintentional
  - intentional
  - involuntary
- o objective x subjective determinants of attention

# STATES OF AWARENESS

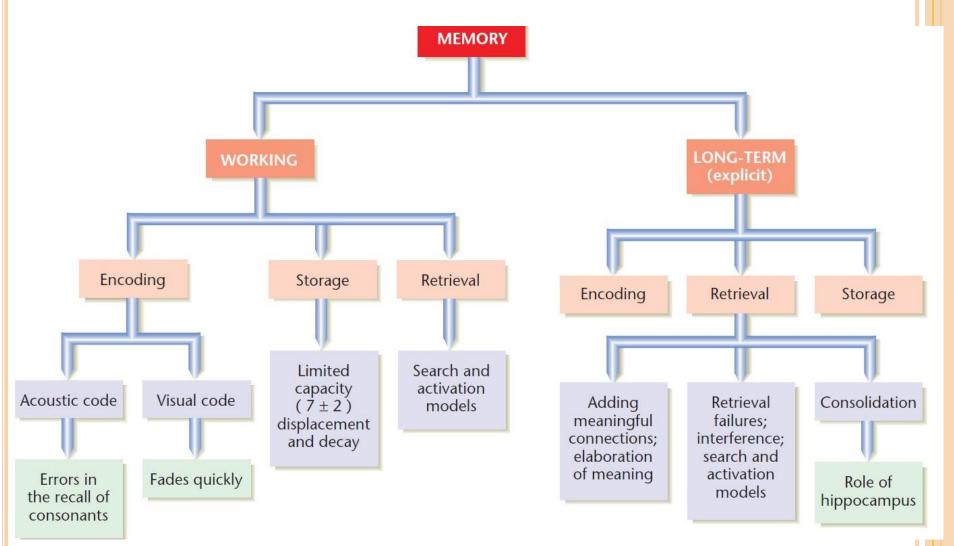


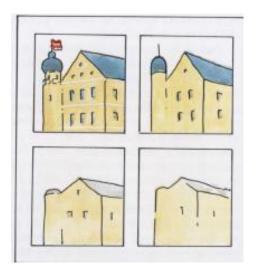


### MEMORY

Memory is the ability to take in information, store it, and recall it at a later time.

Hebb's Axiom: "Neurons that fire together, wire together."





Spontaneous extinction



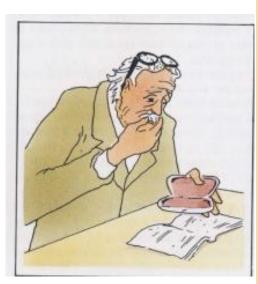
**Motivated forgetting** 



**Wrong reproduction** 



Traumatic forgetting



Confusion



Interference