

directed to rehabilitate systems of psychological activity (particularly intellectual activity), and c) the application of structured procedures according to the impaired factors in each frontal syndrome variety is necessary. These conclusions are coincident with some of Tsvetkova's ideas (1966,1972,1985,1990), based on Luria's theory.

FRONTAL LOBE FUNCTION AND CONSCIOUS EXPERIENCE

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Conscious experience comes in many reference frames. When there is ambiguity among frames, the far frontal cortex acts as an executive to work out, think through, plan, the most appropriate, effective and practical action consonant with current circumstances. Anatomically and physiologically, the far frontal cortex can be subdivided into three functional units; each subdivision has been shown to be involved in one of these executive processes.

THE APPLICATION OF LURIA'S APPROACH IN NORTH AMERICA

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In surveys conducted in North America over the last quarter century in the field of clinical neuropsychology, Alexander Luria is ranked as number one in terms of prominence and influence. Interestingly, however, his influence has been only indirect, primarily through translated works and secondary approaches to his thinking. This presentation will focus on which translated works are and will be available and in what context they have been used. In addition the presentation will focus on the application of Luria's approach to neuropsychological assessment in North America. The two most common derivations are Christensen's approach which has only been adopted in very limited situations (and mostly in western Europe). Clearly, the most widely used approach in the United States has been that of Golden, Hammeke, and Purisch (Luria-Nebraska Neuropsychological Battery) in their loose interpretation of Luria's ideas in the development of a 269 item, 11 scale battery comprised of situations scored as 0, 1, or 2 and the converted into T scores. Demonstrations of both the Christensen and the Luria — Nebraska Neuropsychological Battery will be provided. The limitations, criticisms, and applicability of both of these approaches, as viewed by prominent neuropsychologists in North America, will also be considered.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF A MIDDLE CEREBRAL ARTERY INFARCTION USING LURIA'S AND NORTH AMERICAN PSYCHOMETRIC APPROACHES

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Luria's approach to neuropsychological assessment is perceived by westerners as non-psychometric, almost an

intuitive approach to understanding brain dysfunction. In contrast, North American approaches leave little to intuition, focusing on standardized tests. This presentation will compare and contrast the two approaches using an unusual case of a middle cerebral artery infarction with resulting unilateral neglect. This patient was administered most of Luria's approach as well as some of the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-Revised and the Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery, respectively the most commonly administered tests of intelligence and neuropsychological function in the United States. One major difficulty with the North American approach was the inflexibility of test protocols, including instructions, in adapting to unusual situations. With this case, it was almost impossible to administer most of the standard tests. For example, with the Trail Making Test, the patient only focused on one half of the page resulting in a markedly distorted outcome. The Luria approach appears to adapt more readily to such circumstances and adapts the test situation accordingly. The misunderstanding of North Americans to Luria's approach will be highlighted using this particular case.

ASSOCIATIVE VALUE OF THE WORD IN KIDS BETWEEN 18 AND 84 MONTHS OLD.

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With the purpose of knowing the development process of the deep lexical links and their potential relationships, deep lexical relationships of the words are used in an exploration of spontaneous language. 50 kids between 18 and 84 months old of Spanish language from central Mexico were evaluated. First studies of the linguistics were made by A.K. Sholkovsky and Melchuk 1967, Melchuk 1974 and others, who demonstrated in their researches that the deep lexical links are functions which are in the semantic base of the language (Luria 1990). The importance of knowing the development of the lexical functions in kids was given through knowing the words used in their spontaneous language evaluated by us with the double blinded methodology with a previously established criterion. Data show that the kids use words with a higher number of links when aging, the process begins when they are three years old and when they are four they do not show a big difference between one and other. On ages between four and half and seven years old we can notice a greater frequency on the use of words with three and four links and words with five links are showed with a lower frequency. Previous studies made by our group on adults show that in the Spanish language of adults, frequency of using five links words is similar to the seven years old kids. The value of these results is associated to language programs at early ages so as early detection of semantic pathology aspects.

LURIA AND ROMANTIC SCIENCE

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In his autobiography, Alexander Luria talks about classical and romantic science, the nomethetic and idiographic approaches to psychology, and his own life-long attempts

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