

Personality (Pt.1)



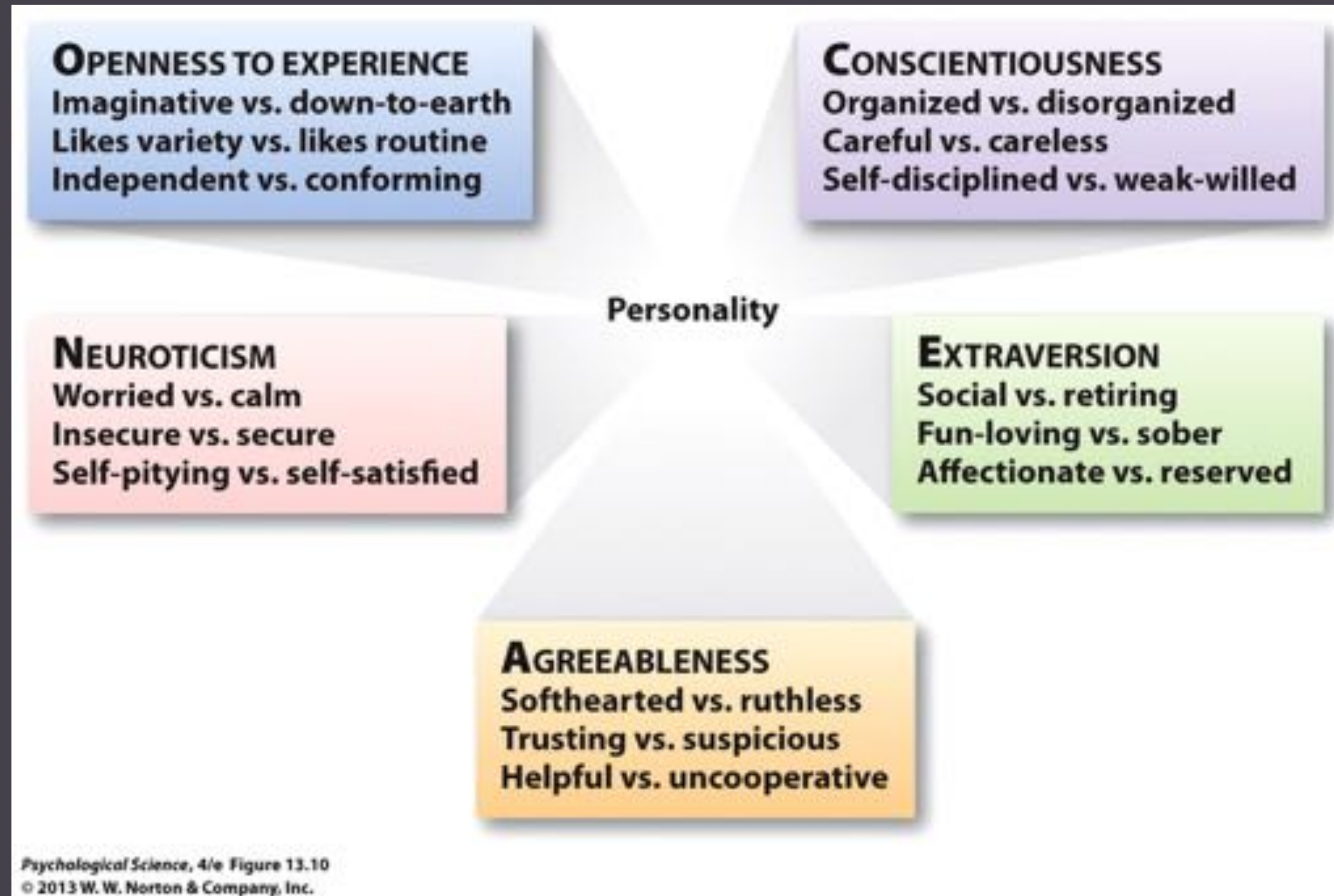
PSYCH 1101: DAY 26

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How Are We Different From Each Other?

The "Big 5" Personality Traits

(handy mnemonic: OCEAN)



Animals Show Similar Differences In Traits

CURRENT DIRECTIONS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Personality Dimensions in Nonhuman Animals: A Cross-Species Review

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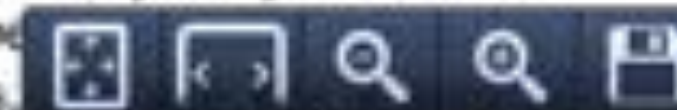
Abstract

The evolutionary continuity between humans and other animals suggests that some dimensions of personality may be common across a wide range of species. Unfortunately, there is no unified body of research on animal personality; studies are dispersed across multiple disciplines and diverse journals. To review 19 studies of personality factors in 12 nonhuman species, we used the human Five-Factor Model plus Dominance and Activity as a preliminary framework. Extraversion, Neuroticism, and Agreeableness showed the strongest cross-species generality, followed by

newsworthy, except that Susie is a bear. Scientists have been reluctant to ascribe personality traits, emotions, and cognitions to animals, even though they readily accept that the anatomy and physiology of humans is similar to that of animals. Yet there is nothing in evolutionary theory to suggest that only physical traits are subject to selection pressures, and Darwin (1872/1998) argued that emotions exist in both human and nonhuman animals. Thus, personality traits like Extraversion and Agreeableness may not be as uniquely human as once was thought (Buss, 1988). Early attempts to assess animal personality, including the pioneering studies by Stevenson-Hinde, were conducted in the 1970s and the 1990s

methods, and notations; and varied in their scope and reliability. Our first task was to select the most trustworthy reports; starting with more than 100 potentially relevant studies, we selected those that had sample sizes larger than 20 animals and a reasonably broad coverage of personality traits.²

To integrate the many pieces of information provided by the diverse research reports, we used the most widely accepted and complete map of personality structure: the human Five-Factor Model (FFM; John, 1990). The FFM is a hierarchical model with five broad factors (Table 1), which represent personality at the broadest level of abstraction. Each bipolar factor (e.g., Extraversion vs. Introversion) summarizes several more specific facets (e.g., sociability), which, in turn, subsume a large number of even more specific traits (e.g., talkative, outgoing). Unfortunately, no short labels capture the broad FFM dimensions adequately, so the traditional labels have not been understood; thus, (for Neuroticism, Neuroticism



How Do We Measure Personality?

How Do We Determine Whether A Measurement Is Good?

- **Reliability**
 - will repeated measurements yield a similar answer?
(consistency of measurement)
- **Validity**
 - is the measurement assessing what it is supposed to assess?
(accuracy of measurement)



Unreliable & Invalid



Unreliable, But Valid



Reliable, Not Valid



Both Reliable & Valid

Now You Might Think This Joke Is Funny

Two statisticians are out hunting when one of them sees a duck. The first takes aim and shoots, but the bullet goes sailing past six inches too high. The second statistician also takes aim and shoots, but this time the bullet goes sailing past six inches too low. The two statisticians then give one another high fives and exclaim, "Got him!"

1. Projective Tests

- Strategy: have people interpret ambiguous stimuli as a window into their personality
- Assumption: people will reveal hidden aspects of personality such as motives, wishes, and unconscious conflicts

Rorschach Inkblot Test



Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)



- What led up to this event?
- What is happening at the moment?
- What are the characters thinking and feeling?
- What was the outcome of the story?

House-Tree-Person



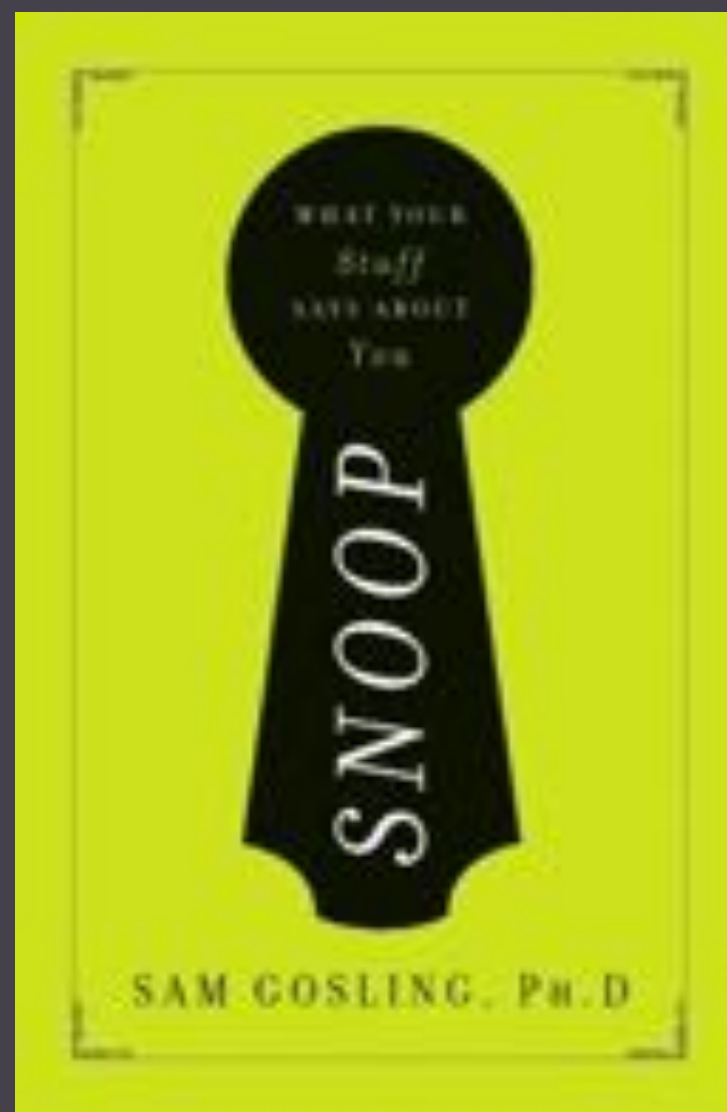
Projective Tests: Any Good?

- **Reliable?**
 - No.
- **Valid?**
 - No.
- There are some people who disagree (but they are just wrong).
- The best case to be made is that they can be an “ice-breaker” in therapy—they can encourage communication.

2. Objective Tests

- Primarily questionnaire measures
- Big 5 measures both **reliable** and **valid**
- Stable over many years
 - Grows in stability over time, especially after age 30
 - Agreement across multiple observers
- Predicts real-world behavior
 - Conscientiousness predicts marital fidelity
 - Openness to experience predicts job changes
 - Extroverts are more likely to look people in the eye and to have more sexual partners

Alternatives To Questionnaire Measures: Observation



- Gosling and colleagues
- Observation of dorm rooms, bedrooms, offices...even Facebook profile pages.
- Reliably correlated with Big 5 personality characteristics (especially extraversion and openness).





SHARP TEETH



Tony BARLOW

The Weaving Knife

ALFRED A. KNOPF

LAST DAYS by Brian Evenson

MILAN KUNDERA

The Unbearable Automaticity of Being

THE BROTHER OF LAMBERTO AND PROLETARIUS

Milan Kundera

The Joke

MILAN KUNDERA

Gene Wolfe

McMinn

Third Bear

JEFF VANDERMEER

THE TOWER OF THE HOLLOW REBEL: THE FORTY-NINTH

SECRET LIVES

Jeff VanderMeer

THE SITUATION

JEFF VANDERMEER

FINCH

JEFF VANDERMEER

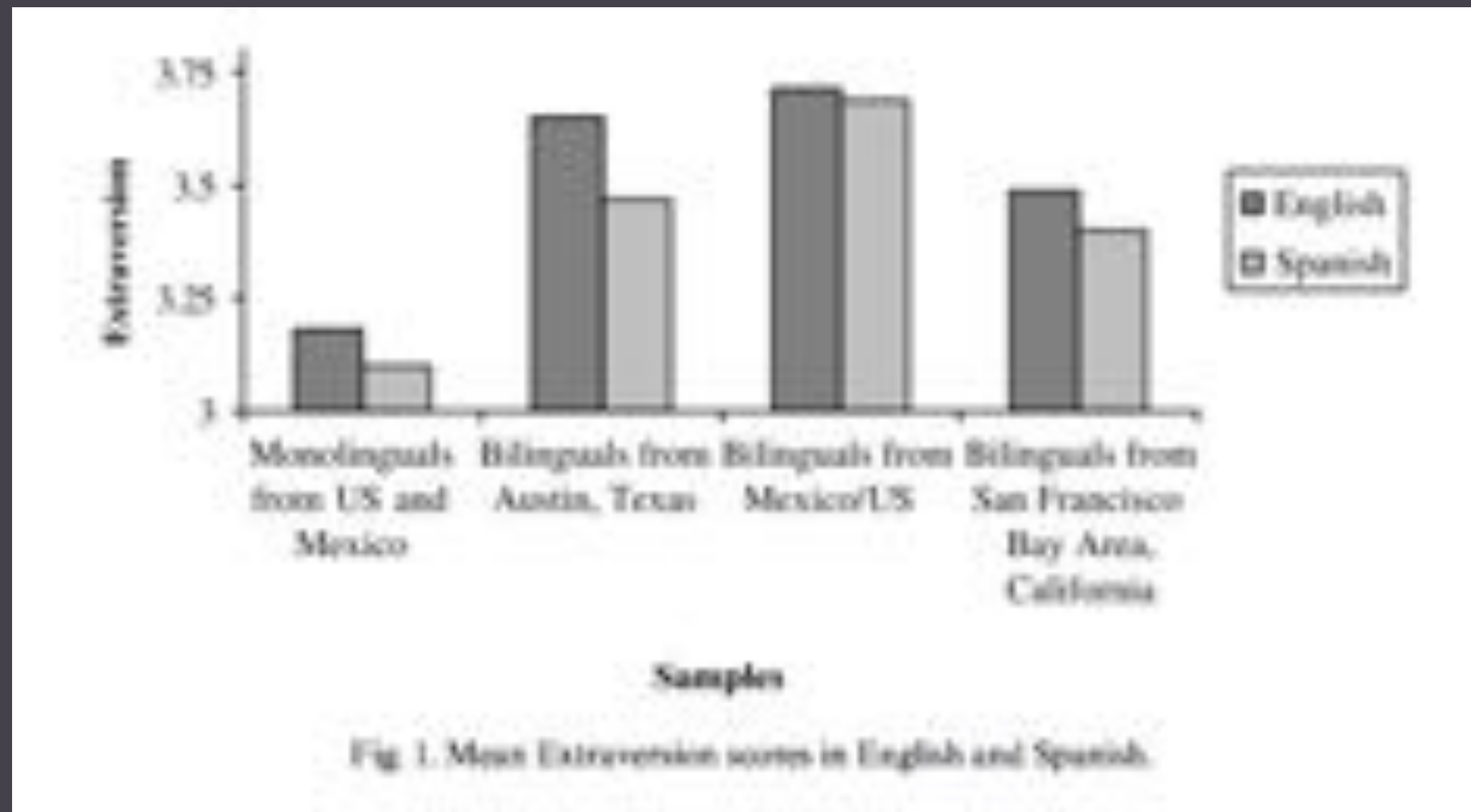
SHIRAZ: A Journey

LAST THING COMING HEAD

EDITED BY
AMY A. JEFF VANDERMEER

STEVE

Sidenote: Is Your Personality Different When You Speak In A Different Language?



N. RAMIREZ-ESPARZA ET AL (2006)