

# Dialogue in the Textbook

## Orbis Sensualium Pictus,

A World of Things Obvious to the Senses drawn in Pictures.

Invitation. I. Invitatio.



*The Master and the Boy.*

**M.** Come, Boy, learn to be wise.  
**P.** What doth this mean, to be wise?  
**M.** To understand rightly.

*Magister & Puer.*

**M.** Veni, Puer, disc sapersere.  
**P.** Quid hoc est, Sapere?  
**M.** Intelligere recte,

Dialogue between fictional or ideal characters in one of the first picture books for children, published by Johann Amos Comenius in 1658 (image courtesy of Archive.org)

## A SHORT STORY

Which brings in the numbers from ONE to TEN, inclusive.

Harry is starting for school; his father's two dogs are frisking and barking before him, wishing that they could go too. A short distance off, where the two roads cross, three other boys are waiting for Harry to come along.



One Boy. Two Dogs. Three Boys.

The four boys have nearly reached farmer Brown's house, by the side of which they count one, two, three, four, five pretty trees; just beyond the house there are six hens eating.



Four Boys. Five Trees. Six Hens.

Three little girls have come from the house on the hill, and the seven children are talking so loudly that the sheep in the pasture near by have run up to the bars where the children sometimes

An 1884 edition of the first textbook in America to include questions to be worked out inductively. The "inductive method" was developed by Johannes Pestalozzi over 200 years ago. (image from Archive.org)

## PROLOGUE

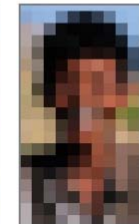
# The Story of Psychology

Harvard astronomer Owen Gingerich (2006) reports that there are more than 100 billion galaxies. Just one of these, our own relative speck of a galaxy, has some 200 billion stars, many of which, like our Sun-star, are circled by planets. On the scale of outer space, we are less than a single grain of sand on all the oceans' beaches, and our lifetime but a relative nanosecond.

Yet there is nothing more awe inspiring and absorbing than our own inner space. Our brain, adds Gingerich, "is by far the most complex physical object known to us in the entire cosmos" (p. 29). Our consciousness—mind somehow arising from matter—remains a profound mystery. Our thinking, emotions, and actions (and their interplay with others' thinking, emotions, and actions) fascinate us. Outer space staggers us with its enormity, but inner space enthralls us. Enter psychological science.

For people whose exposure to psychology comes from popular books, magazines, TV, and the Internet, psychologists analyze personality, offer counseling, and dispense child-rearing advice. Do they? Yes, and much more. Consider some of psychology's questions that from time to time you may wonder about:

- Have you ever found yourself reacting to something as one of your biological parents would—perhaps in a way you vowed you never would—and then wondered how much of your personality you inherited? To what extent are person-to-person differences in personality predisposed by our genes? To what extent by the home and community environments?
- Have you ever worried about how to act among people of a different culture, race, or gender? In what ways are we alike as members of the human family? How do we differ?



**A smile is a smile the world around** Throughout this book, you will see examples not only of our cultural and gender diversity but also of the similarities that define our shared human nature. People in different cultures vary in when and how often they smile, but a naturally happy smile means the same thing anywhere in the world.

**WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?**  
 Psychology's Roots  
 Psychological Science Develops  
**CONTEMPORARY PSYCHOLOGY**  
 Psychology's Biggest Question  
 Psychology's Three Main Levels of Analysis  
 Psychology's Subfields  
 Close-Up: Tips for Studying Psychology

A page from a contemporary psychology textbook that integrates no fewer than six questions for the student to answer through induction. (photographs have been blurred due to copyright restrictions; image used with permission).