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May-Born Psychologists You May Want to Know

4 May – 10 May



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Thomas Henry Huxley

4 May 1825

Huxley strongly supported Darwin's theory of evolution and helped popularize scientific thinking in the nineteenth century. He explored the relationship between the brain, consciousness, and behavior, arguing that mental processes should be studied scientifically. His ideas contributed to the broader movement that encouraged psychology to become a natural science.



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Karl Marx

5 May 1818

Although primarily known as a philosopher and economist, Marx influenced psychology through his ideas about society, labor, and human consciousness. He argued that social and economic conditions shape thoughts and behavior. Later approaches like social psychology, critical psychology, and cultural theories were deeply influenced by his perspective on human experience.



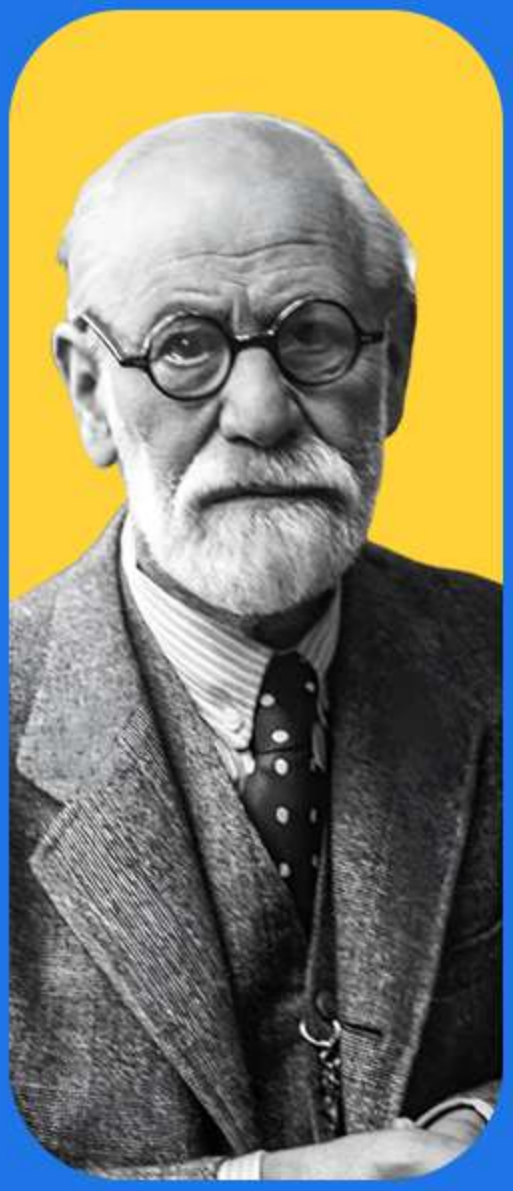
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Sigmund Freud

6 May 1856

Freud founded psychoanalysis, emphasizing the role of the unconscious mind, childhood experiences, and internal conflicts in shaping behavior. He introduced concepts like the id, ego, and superego, along with defense mechanisms and dream analysis. His theories transformed how psychologists understood personality, emotion, and abnormal behavior.



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Gustave Le Bon

7 May 1841

Le Bon studied crowd psychology, examining how individuals behave differently in groups. He believed crowds increase emotionality, impulsiveness, and suggestibility, often reducing individual reasoning. His work influenced later research on group behavior, mass movements, leadership, and social influence within social psychology.



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Leon Festinger

8 May 1919

Festinger is best known for Cognitive Dissonance Theory, which explains the discomfort people feel when beliefs and actions conflict. He proposed that individuals try to reduce this tension by changing attitudes or behavior. His work became central to understanding decision-making, attitude change, and social behavior.



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William Moulton Marston

9 May 1893

Marston studied emotions, personality, and human behavior. He developed theories about behavioral patterns that later influenced the DISC personality model and also worked on early lie detector research measuring blood pressure changes. Beyond psychology, he created the comic character Wonder Woman, inspired by his views on strength and human potential.



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Hendrik Zwaardemaker

10 May 1857

Zwaardemaker contributed to the study of sensation and perception, especially the sense of smell. He designed instruments to measure olfactory sensitivity and studied how odors are detected and classified. His work helped establish smell as a subject of systematic scientific investigation within sensory psychology.



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