Re: The fun with the "categorization"

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From: MrPat (*mrpat_at_blue−g46*)
Date: 07/09/04

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"Glen M. Sizemore" <gmsizemore2@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:6e2f1d09.0407090938.5004be66@posting.google.com...
> You are asking the wrong questions. Can you not see that the very way
> that you ask the questions defines what form the answers are supposed
> to take?

I can see that point of view in the context of the use of everyday language, and have an intuition about what your getting at in this context, and I thought that might have been part of the problem in replying to the question when I posted it. I will have to ponder the implications of it. Also, I will have a think about what you've written below.

>
> All "learning" is "unconscious" except for those that have been
> trained to observe their own behavior. But we cannot be trained to
> describe all of that and we sometimes find ourselves responding to
> stimuli, and we cannot say anymore than that − sometimes (as in the
> Hefferline experiments) some cannot even say that. In the case you
> mentioned, triads that are solvable are composed of words that have
> occurred frequently together in extended discussions, readings, etc.
> This tends to make the words a sort of single stimulus class.
> Technically speaking, such words (or larger phrases) are linked
> "intraverbally." That is, hearing or reading these words alter the
> probability of responses that tend to occur with them in discussions,
> text etc. The behavioral mechanism is stimulus control; the term
> "vertebrate" is more likely to be part of reinforced speech than
> "backswing" when the discussion is about "mammals" and "reptiles."
> This means that, for example, when the discussion is about "the
> beach," responses like "boat" and "surfing" increase in probability
> because, all things being equal, speech contain these terms is likely
> to be reinforced by attention from one's listeners. Otherwise one is