

Repression, Defence and the Cognitive Unconscious

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Two views of the unconscious: wholesome vs scary

Consciousness as arousal: consolidation and reconsolidation

Life's problems: soluble and insoluble

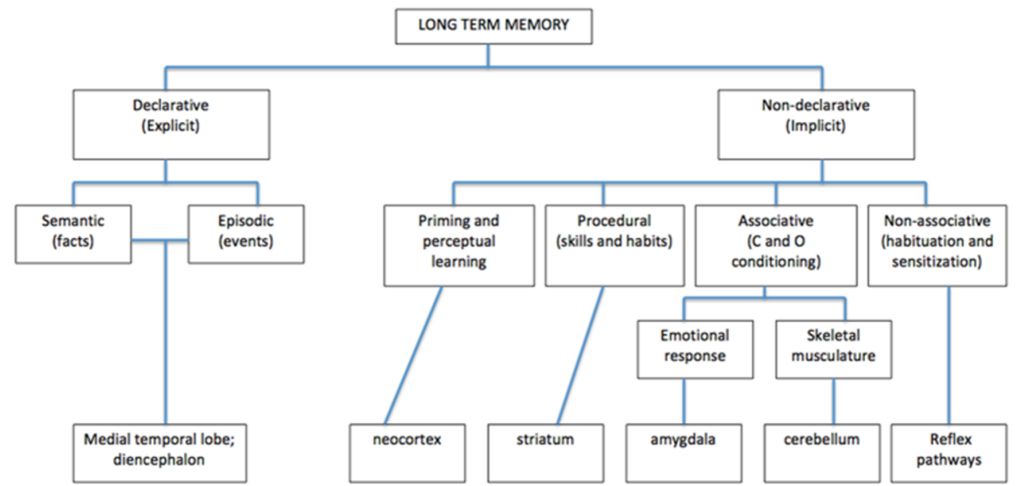
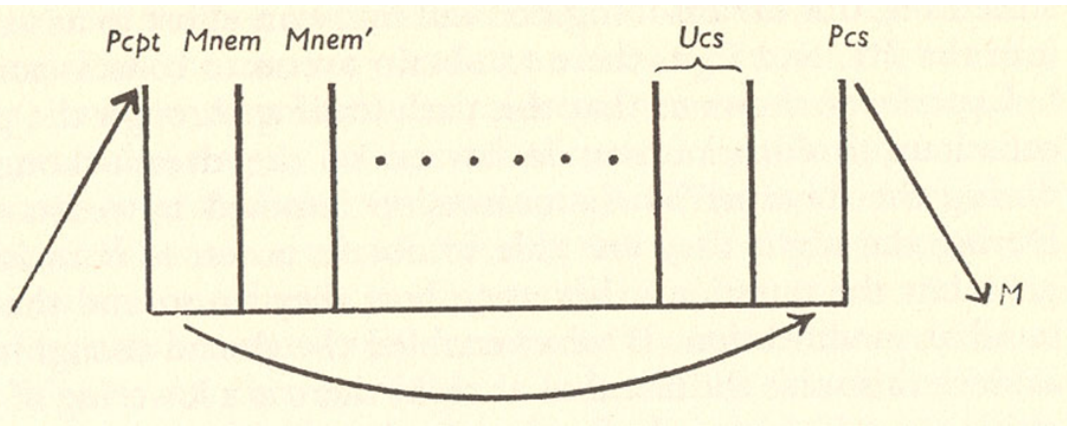
Making the best of a bad job: childish predictions

“Special characteristics of the system Ucs.”

“Thing presentations” and “Reconstruction”

Prediction error: our patients suffer mainly from feelings

“Return of the repressed”: repression vs. defence



As you know, I am working on the assumption that our psychical mechanism has come into being through a process of stratification: the material present in the form of memory traces being subjected from time to time to a *rearrangement* in accordance with fresh circumstances – to a *retranscription*. What is essentially new about my theory is the thesis that memory is present not once but several times over, that it is laid down in various kinds of indications.

Freud, Letter to Fliess dated Dec 6, 1896

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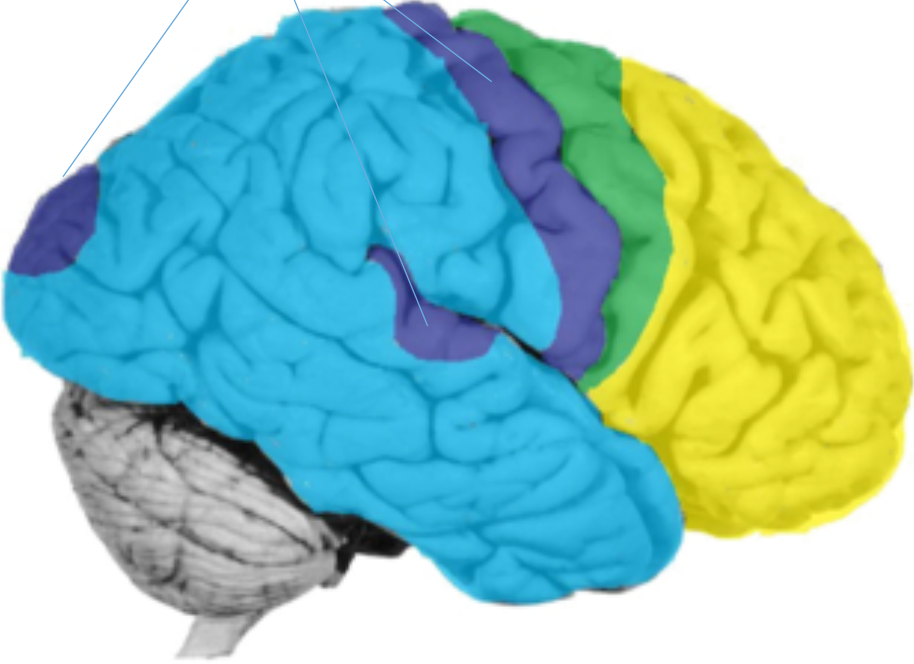
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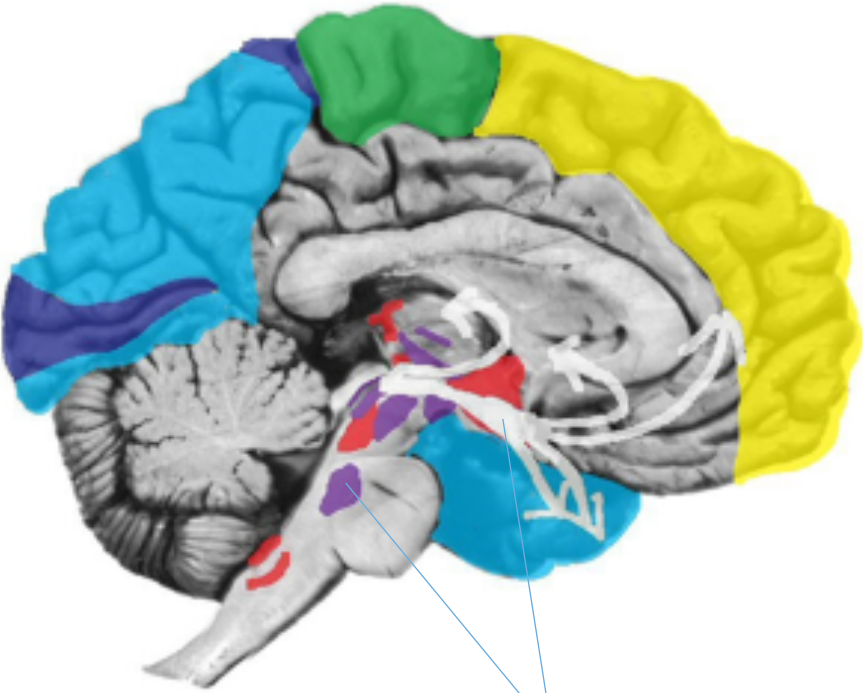
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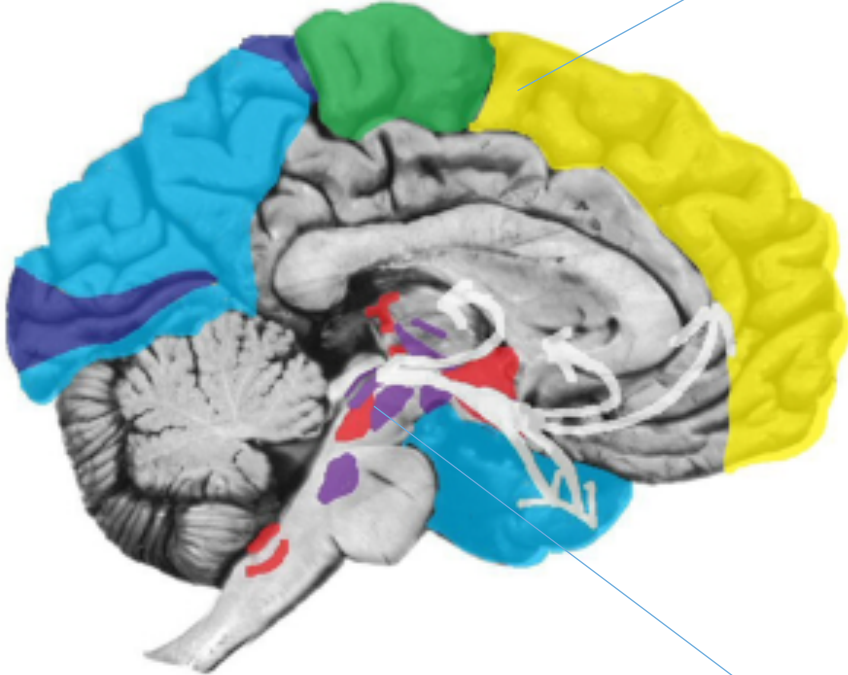
images



states



reality principle



pleasure principle

(needs)

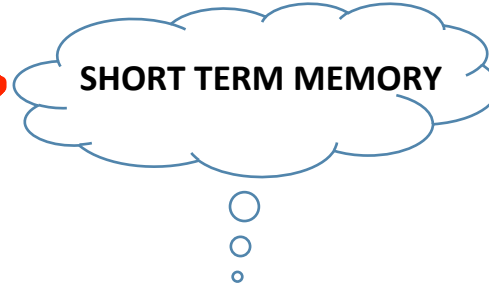
The **id** is conscious
and the **ego** aspires to be unconscious

(learning how to resolve needs)

conscious



SHORT TERM MEMORY



LONG TERM MEMORY

unconscious



Declarative
(Explicit)

Non-declarative
(Implicit)

Semantic
(facts)

Episodic
(events)

Priming and
perceptual
learning

Procedural
(skills and habits)

Associative
(C and O
conditioning)

Non-associative
(habituation and
sensitization)

Medial temporal lobe;
diencephalon

neocortex

striatum

Emotional
response

amygdala

Skeletal
musculature

cerebellum

Reflex
pathways

preconscious



“Consciousness arises instead of a memory-trace”

Freud, 1920, p. 25

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um up: *exemption from mutual contradiction, primary process* (mobility of cathexes), *timelessness*, *replacement of external by psychical reality* – these are the characteristics which we may expect to find in processes belonging to the system *Ucs*.

Freud, 1915, p. 187

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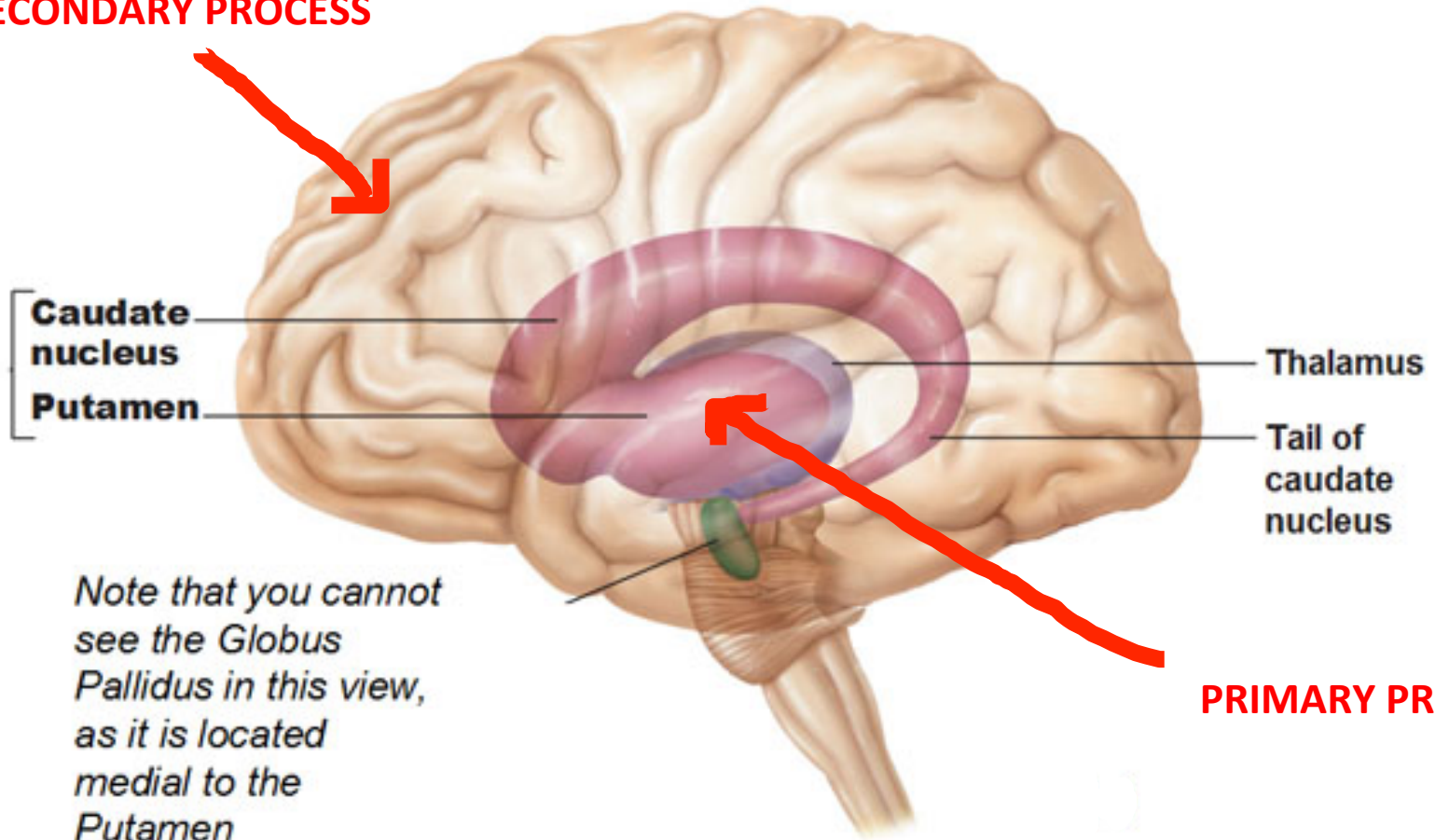
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Basal Ganglia

SECONDARY PROCESS



Caudate nucleus
Putamen

Thalamus
Tail of caudate nucleus

Note that you cannot see the Globus Pallidus in this view, as it is located medial to the Putamen

PRIMARY PROCESS

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