

# **History of Personality Theory in Psychology**

# Personality theory and its ancient roots

- the ancient era
  - Hippocrates 370 BCE (humors and qualities)
  - Plato proposed four groupings (artistic, sensible, intuitive, reasoning)
  - Aristotle proposed link between physical aspects of body and behaviour

# Personality theory and its ancient roots

- Frank Gall 18th century neuroanatomist
  - skull measurements and emotions & thoughts
  - foundation for physiological basis of personality
- the case of Phineas Gage

# History of Personality theory in Psychology

- the era of clinical observation
  - beginning with Charcot, father of modern neurology
  - Freud and the Psychoanalytic movement
  - case studies of hysteria

# History of Personality theory in Psychology

- the Gestalt tradition
  - opposed the segmental and fragmented view of personality
  - emphasised upon unity of behaviour
  - study of the "whole"

# History of Personality theory in Psychology

- the experimental psychology tradition
  - carefully controlled observation
- the behaviourist tradition
  - plasticity of behaviour

# History of Personality theory in Psychology

- the psychometric tradition
  - measurement of psychological attributes
- the phenomenological tradition
  - Carl Rogers