

## **Anagramology: An alternative study of personality**

*Dr. Mark Griffiths*

*Psychology Division, Nottingham Trent University*

For many years I have been a student of "anagramology". Does a person's anagram reveal anything about their personality or hidden self? In this article I put the question to the test. Was Sigmund Freud really just **Smug Dried Fun**? Or was it more a case of **Me, Id - Surf Dung**? Was it the case that Cyril Burt was someone who would **Crib Truly**? Did Albert Bandura foresee the opposition to the use of animals in psychology via a **Durable Rat Ban** or was he just telling a boring story with his **Drab Urban Tale**? What does Wolfgang Kohler's name tell us about the Gestalt school? Were they really the **Work Gang Of Hell**? (It is more likely that his name gives an insight into this page - **Gag Hell - Frown OK?**). Maybe Gordon Allport was a secret transvestite who liked his anti-perspirant (**Top Drag Roll-On**) and Ivan Pavlov a narcissist (**Vain Pavlov**)? Was Max Wertheimer more welcome down in South-West England (**Exeter Warm Him**) or was it an afterthought (**Mere Whim Extra**)? Was Jean Piaget into transport in a big way (**A Giant Jeep**) or did he hate it (**Jet Age Pain**). And did William James desire a secret legal career (**Jim Is Law Male**)? I could maybe hazard a guess that Noam Chomsky has problems with the more theological aspects of his life - what with **My Monk Chaos** and his **Coy Monk Sham**! Or is it that he's run out of heroin (**Oh My! - No Smack**)? Maybe it's all just a front anyway (**Oh My Con Mask!**) lying in his **Sony Hammock** on the **Shaky Common**.

And this is only the beginning! What about taking a deeper look at the psychoanalysts. Could it be the case that Alfred Adler was skinny as a boy (**Lad - Lard Free**) or that Anna Freud and Melanie Klein had a penchant for unusual winter wear with their **Andean Fur** and **Alien Eel Mink**? It could be the case that Carl Jung never let go of his pint (**Clung Jar**). The links between psychologists and alcohol are overflowing. What with Melanie Klein (**Liken Me In Ale**), Eric Berne (**Beer 'n' Rice**), B. Frederic Skinner (**Brief Screen Drink**), Albert Bandura (**Led a Run at Bar**), Kurt Lewin (**Turk 'L' Wine**), Carl Rogers (**Lager or RSC?**), Jean Piaget (**Ape a Gin Jet**), Edward Tolman (**Alarm Odd Newt**), Stanley Milgram (**Gin Stammer Ally** or

even *Man My Lager List*) and M. Argyle (*My Lager*). Perhaps the worst of them all was Alfred Binet whose goals were to *Find a Treble*, *Bartend Life* and avoid a *Flat Beer Din!*

As well as a drink fixation, Alfred Binet also appears to have a fetish about hair - or lack of it (*Barnet Field*, *Felt In Beard* and *Enter if Bald*). There are also some indirect psychology themes lurking including *Tend Lab Fire*, *Treble Id Fan*, *Fable Id Rent* and *Blind Rat Fee!* The less said about *Lard Benefit* and the *Bare End Lift* the better!

There are some people whose life seemed to be destined for psychology - at least according to their anagrams. For instance, look at the case on Albert Bandura. Was he already obsessive about psychoanalysis (*A Barb Adler Nut*)? Did he want to compete in the low thrills area of psychometrics (*Bland Burt Arena*)? And did he know that behaviourism wasn't for him (*Lab Rat - A Burden*)? Or that animal work into the small hours was a bad omen (*Lunar Rat Be Bad*)? And what about his research (*Blurb Near Data*)? There is no doubt that psychologically hidden meanings lie in his name!

Edward Tolman is another psychologist who appears to have at least two sides to his personality (*A Tandem World*). Was he *A Mad Lord Newt*, a *New Mortal Dad*, a *Red Dot Lawman* or *A Wet Lord - Damn!?* Did he *Waddle on Tram* or was he simply a *Drama Let Down*? Did he foresee the information superhighway (*A Mad Net World*) and have access to global demographic data (*World Men Data*)? Maybe all these anagrams are just *Roman Twaddle*? Let's just hope he didn't have any secrets because *Warm Dad Let On*.

We then come to those psychologists who it is best to leave without too much explanation. I'm thinking here of Max Wertheimer (*I'm Her Wax Meter*), Erik Erikson (*Kinkier Sore*), R.D. Laing (*Darling*), Wilhelm Wundt (*Dull Whim Went*), Kurt Lewin (*Winkle Rut*), Alfred Adler (*Lard Leer Fad*), Gordon Allport (*Drag Trollop On*), Wolfgang Kohler (*Freak Who'll Gong*), Solomon Asch (*Salon Smooch*), Donald Hebb (*Bland Bed - Oh!*), George Miller (*Glee Girl Or Me*), Karl

Pearson (*Or Nasal Perk*), Edward deBono (*A Wonderbed Do*), Alfred Binet (*Bed Inflater*) and Raymond Cattell (*Melt A Randy Clot*).

And who said words couldn't be fun?? I'll leave you with the philosophy of Eric Berne....*Er...Be Nicer!*

Anagramology : What do anagrams reveal about psychologists?

Did Alfred Adler diet? (*Lad - Lard Free!!*)

Did Gordon Allport use transvstite anti-perspirant? (*Top Drag Roll-On*)

Did Albert Bandura hate animal work? (*Lab Rat - A Burden?*)

Did Eric Berne's have a simple philosophy? (*Er...Be Nicer!*)

Did Alfred Binet have another job? (*Bed Inflater*)

Did Cyril Burt cheat in exams? (*Crib Truly*)

Did Wolfgang Kohler's hate the Gestalt school? (*Gang Of Work Hell*)

Did R.D. Laing have a pet name? (*Darling*)

Did Jean Piaget hate flying? (*Jet Age Pain*)

Did Edward Tolman become pro-feminist? (*Mortal New Dad*)

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