Phrenology
for the
Psychic
Entertainer

by John Riggs
Volume One of
“Lessons in Mentalism”
Phrenology for the Psychic Entertainer

by

John Riggs

A System for giving excellent readings and a relaxing scalp massage to your appreciative clients!

Volume One of “Lessons in Mentalism”
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Introduction

Studies have shown that more people believe in “body reading” techniques than in other psychic methods, such as Astrology or Tarot reading. Palmistry, Face Reading, and Aura Reading seem to attract more believers these days.

In the Psychic Entertainment community, there are more and more palmists entering the arena. A few years ago, there were very few palm readers around anywhere. Not so today! It behooves one to learn some of the more esoteric reading methods, such as phrenology.

Phrenology is almost a lost art. A hundred years ago, phrenology was a character reading method that was almost considered a science. It was based on a belief that prominent areas of the skull would correspond with similar development of the area of the brain beneath. There were 42 recognized “organs” or areas for the phrenologist to examine.

In the following pages, you’ll learn a system for learning the elements of Phrenology very quickly and be able to offer a very satisfying reading method in a short amount of time. Not only that, but as a fringe benefit the system will give you forty-two cold reading lines and a way to generate a wide variety of readings on the spot.

This book comes with a phrenology chart that you will use both to learn the areas and to help you in identifying the areas during a reading.

In the era of Phrenology’s heyday, it was possible to obtain a beautiful porcelain head, with the “organs” mapped out. Almost everyone has seen this graphic or this head. My research staff (Dr. John Bloor) has located a source for these, and the information is included in the Appendix.

Some History

During the first half of the twentieth century, Phrenology was the public's darling. I’ve even seen a Phrenology Machine from that era, complete with weird
helmet, that analyzed a subject's head and delivered a printed reading. Unfortunately, the subject was Randi, and the poor machine simply didn’t have a whole lot of depth to work with.

The father of Phrenology was a German doctor names Franz Joseph Gall. He first made his theories of Phrenology known in 1796, but was ignored for the most part until he traveled to Paris in the year 1806. The main objections to his theory, interestingly enough, was that Gall believed that the brain was divided into centers or areas. Unacceptable at that time, this is an accepted aspect of the modern understanding of the human brain.

Known variously as Craniology, Physiognomy, and Zoonomy, the term “Phrenology” was given Dr. Gall's system by Dr. Thomas Ignatious Forster, one of Dr. Gall's early disciples.

Franz Gall wrote a massive four volume text on Phrenology entitled: Anatomie et Physiologie du Systeme Nerveux en general et du Cerveau en particulier. If the title of the book has reflects the context, this work is probably too esoteric for our purposes.

The practice spread throughout England, America and France, and by 1850 was one of the most heatedly debated topics of the age. The scientific community, as always, tried to debunk the claims of Phrenologists, but the public went completely wild over it.

Ever fickle, the public eventually turned to another mystical trend — Spiritualism— and the phrenological accoutrements went into storage. Perhaps the time is ripe for a resurgence of this arcane practice.

**The “Organs”**

The organs or “faculties” of phrenology are basically bumps on the skull. In theory, this indicates development of the brain area lying directly beneath the bump. These bumps provide a clue as to the talents, abilities, and personality of the individual.
The head was first divided into three areas. The front of the head is considered to be site of the intellectual attributes; the middle of the head is the emotional area, and the back of the head is -- what else? -- the instincts. These areas are further divided into forty-one smaller areas, or organs, and it is with these organs that we’re interested.

You can start your reading by visually determining which of the three divisions of your subject's head is more developed. You can deliver some prefatory lines complementing them on their intelligence, emotional development, or their strong and intuitive instincts. Then, you can move on to locating the “organs”.

To determine the location of these organs is the fun part. You run the tips of your fingers over the querent's scalp, starting just above the eyes, traveling the length and breadth of the head, and finishing at the nape of the neck. Like Palmistry, this is a very tactile and pleasant experience for the recipient.

In theory at least, the head is symmetrical, and I suppose you include bumps found on either side of the head.

The chart provided with this book tells you the location of each organ. I’ve reproduced this chart for your convenience on the next page. As you come across the bump, a quick glance at your chart will give you the name of the organ.

It’s helpful to have a good knowledge of the various organs. Remembering the location of forty-one areas can be a bit daunting, however, so I’ve included a mnemonic system that will be of help to you.

**The System**

For this method, we’ll use a standard system of mnemonics that will be familiar to those of you who have studied the Nicola Card System or any of Harry Lorayne's books on memory management.

We construct a list of substitute words that in turn are constructed from letters derived from the numbers we wish to remember.
Here are the alphanumerical equivalent for the numbers 1—10:

- 1 = T or D (One stroke)
- 2 = N (Two verticals)
- 3 = M (3M company)
- 4 = R (Four ends in 'R')
- 5 = L (spread five fingers; thumb and forefinger makes 'L')
- 6 = Sh or Ch
- 7 = K (Sort of resembles 'k')
- 8 = V or F (8 sort of looks like a handwritten, lower case 'f')
- 9 = P (Looks the same)
- 0 = S

These are standard substitutes. From these letters we can make the following list of words, which we will use to link to our cold reading lines and Phrenological attributes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mnemonic</th>
<th>“Organ”</th>
<th>Cold reading line</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 -- Tow</td>
<td>(Individuality)</td>
<td>Original, independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 -- Noah</td>
<td>(Eventuality)</td>
<td>People-watcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 -- Ma</td>
<td>(Comparison)</td>
<td>Judge of Character</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 -- Row</td>
<td>(Causality)</td>
<td>Planning, rational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 -- Law</td>
<td>(Laughter)</td>
<td>Sense of humor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 -- Shoe</td>
<td>(Locality)</td>
<td>Love to travel, sensitive to environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 -- Cow</td>
<td>(Time)</td>
<td>Sense of rhythm, Alarm clock mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 -- Ivy</td>
<td>(Tunefulness)</td>
<td>Ear for music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 -- Bee</td>
<td>(Calculation)</td>
<td>Logical, analytical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 -- Toes</td>
<td>(Order)</td>
<td>Organizational skill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Feature</td>
<td>Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tot</td>
<td>(Color)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tin</td>
<td>(Weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tomb</td>
<td>(Size)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tire</td>
<td>(Form)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Towel</td>
<td>(Language)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dish</td>
<td>(Humanity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Tack</td>
<td>(Benevolence)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Dove</td>
<td>(Veneration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Tub</td>
<td>(Agreeableness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Nose</td>
<td>(Imitation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Nut</td>
<td>(Spirituality)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Nun</td>
<td>(Hope)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Numb</td>
<td>(Ideality)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Nero</td>
<td>(Sublimity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Nail</td>
<td>(Firmness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Notch</td>
<td>(Conscientiousness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Neck</td>
<td>(Caution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Knife</td>
<td>(Secretiveness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Knob</td>
<td>(Self-Esteem)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mouse</td>
<td>(Approbativeness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Mat</td>
<td>(Continuity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Mane</td>
<td>(Constructive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Mime</td>
<td>(Acquisitiveness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Mower</td>
<td>(Alimentiveness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Mail</td>
<td>(Execution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Match</td>
<td>(Aggressiveness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Mock</td>
<td>(Vitality)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Sensitive to color
- Seeks balance
- Design sense
- Artistic eye
- Communication, sales
- Humanitarian
- Good hearted, generous
- Respect for tradition
- Hard to say No
- Imitates others
- Spiritual seeking
- Optimistic
- Idealist
- Can see the big picture
- Stubborn
- Perfectionist
- Caution
- Private
- Self esteem
- Gets on with others
- Attention span
- Improver
- Need for security
- Likes good food
- Completion
- Strong-willed
- Love of life
The Attributes

So what do these attributes mean? With very little deviation from classical Phrenological tradition, we can translate these weird attributes into our favorite cold reading subjects.

(1) Individuation

This is the ability to discern, to judge, and to compare. A good line would be, “You have a very sharp mind, you are very observant, a bit of a perfectionist, and can spot when little details haven't been taken care of. This hold especially true of yourself. You can be hard on yourself if your performance is less than perfect.”

Picture: A brave and proud little Tow boat.

(2) Eventuality

This is awareness of the world around you, and knowledge of current events. I explain it this way, “You’re a people watcher -- at the mall, you would spend as much time observing other people and wondering what was on their minds as you would shopping. In the workplace or social situation, you have the ability to read between the lines, and get to the truth behind the rumors. You’re interested in the world around you and enjoy a certain amount of change and variety.”

Picture: People boarding the Ark, two by two, with Noah watching and listening to the gossip!
(3) Comparison

“You have a very good sense of character, and are a good judge, right when you first meet somebody, of whether you can trust them or not. You’re aware of the value of a thing rather than how much it may cost.”

Picture: Your Ma Throwing out a bunch of bums.

(4) Causality

“You’re able to see the big picture, and can see order where others see chaos. You have an instinctive ability to plan ahead. You brought a great deal of self reliance into this world, and people respond to this on an instinctive level and allow you to assume the responsibility for what needs to be done.”

Imagine a person in a Row boat, trying to row their way through a chaos of papers and junk.

(5) Sense of Humor

“You have a unique and off the wall sense of humor -- You can see the funny side of tragedy. You understand the meaning of the quote: 'For those who think, life is a comedy. For those who feel, life is a tragedy.”

Imagine a bunch of Law men (police) laughing at you while you try to walk a straight line with your pants down!

(6) Love of Travel

“You would tend to be a little restless, and have a strong love of travel. If you don’t travel in real life, you would tend to take imaginary journeys in your mind. You would tend to be sensitive to your surroundings, and your mood can be affected by where you are and who you are with.”

Imagine flying to a foreign country in a giant shoe.

(7) Time

“You can tap into the unconscious mind; you have what we call an alarm clock mind. You can set the clock in your head to wake you up at say, seven AM,
and wake up by yourself right before the alarm goes off.”

Picture: A cow moos in your ear to wake you up. You slap it on the head to shut it up.

(8) Tunefulness

“You have a good sense of rhythm, and would be a good, if somewhat individualistic, dancer. Your mood can also be affected by lunar rhythms, or seasonal changes.”

Imagine an ivy climbing a stage, strangling every member of an orchestra.

(9) Calculation

“You have a keen mind that can analyze those around you. You are good with logic and rational thought.”

Imagine a computerized bee.

(10) Organization

“You have excellent leadership skills which are not fully developed at this time. You're good at delegation and organization.”

Imagine a bunch of toes marching in step like soldiers.

(11) Color

“You are sensitive to color. The colors around you can affect your moods. You would have a good fashion sense, and would be good at coordinating colors.”

Imagine a tot painting in many colors on a wall.

(12) Weight

“Your work in this life is to seek a balance between your need for security and your desire for independence.”

Picture: Trying to balance a weight (ton) on your head.
(13) Size

“You have a good sense of design -- you can figure out the right place for everything.”

Imagine arranging **tombstones** in a cemetery. Brrrr!

(14) Form

“You have a strong artistic side, and can be quite creative. Your work is to take the ideas in your mind and bring them into reality.”

Imagine driving a car with artists for **tires**.

(15) Language

“You have excellent communication skills -- you can charm, sway, persuade anyone to your way of thinking. You have a lot of magnetic charm that could serve you well in sales.”

Picture: Selling **towels** in a desert.

(16) Humanity

“You are a humanitarian, and care deeply for others. You would probably do well in activities that serve mankind.”

Imagine helping a **dish** out of trouble.

(17) Benevolence

“You have a good heart, a generous nature, which sometimes makes it hard for you to say 'no' to people when they prevail upon you for a favor.”

Picture: Saving a little old lady from setting on a **tack**.

(18) Veneration

“You have an affinity for antique things and old houses. You probably can relate to tradition and are a little old fashioned in a way.”

Imagine an old **TV** set.
(19) Agreeableness

“You are good at giving a favor, but uncomfortable with asking for one.”

Imagine being trapped in a tub of lard, but being too embarrassed to ask for help.

(20) Imitation

I cannot possibly see any use for this attribute -- if you can come up with a good line for this, let me know!

(21) Spirituality

“You have a strong spiritual side, and will tend to be attracted to spiritual matters.”

Imagine a nut carrying a sign that says: Armageddon is here!

(22) Hope

“You’re basically optimistic, if a little careful who you trust these days. You are not too bitter, and you will always have faith in humanity as a whole.”

Imagine a nun dedicating herself to humanity.

(23) Ideality

“You tend to see the best in people, and may not see the dark side of your loved one until its too late. Even though you may remember hearing the alarm bells going off, you chose to ignore them.”

Imagine a light bulb (idea) giving you a numbing shot in preparation to pulling your teeth.

(24) Sublimity

“You’re able to see the big picture, and have a good grasp on the immensity of the spirit and of the universe.”

Imagine Nero playing his fiddle while the universe burns.
(25) Firmness

“You are inclined to be a little stubborn at times.”

Picture: Trying to drive a stubborn nail, that keeps evading the hammer!

(26) Conscientiousness

“You are a perfectionist, and can be a little critical of yourself if your performance doesn't meet up to your high standards.”

Imagine cutting a notch in your leg every time you get it wrong.

(27) Caution

“You have a basically cautious approach to life, and generally tend to talk yourself out of situations that are too risky.”

Picture yourself cautiously knocking on a door before entering.

(28) Secretiveness

“You are a very private person, and one way to really annoy you is for someone to get too nosy about your private affairs.”

Imagine a secret knife, that you keep well hidden.

(29) Self - Esteem

“Being completely satisfied with yourself has been an uphill battle, but you’re arriving at the point where you are starting to give yourself permission to feel good about yourself.”

Imagine a sad and depressed door knob, that you are trying to make feel better about itself.

(30) Approbation

“At times, you place too much weight on the remarks and opinions of others. You have a good ability to get along with others, and will sometimes act in a contrived manner to get attention or approval.”

Imagine a very social mouse.
(31) Continuity

“You have a good attention span, and can enter a trance state of concentration -- which is why you should not start a book at bedtime! The only drawback to this attribute is that it makes it hard for you to let go of things. You probably stay with a bad job or a bad relationship far longer than you should.”

Imagine a studious **mat** in a bad relationship.

(32) Constructive

“You are a tweaker -- an improver. On a job, you can find a new way to file the papers or a creative way to stretch a recipe.”

Imagine a lion with a construction hat on his **mane**.

(33) Acquisitiveness

“You have a strong desire for security -- security will always be a goal for you. You may find, when you are younger, that you want to 'cocoon' or nest, in order to provide you with that sense of security.”

Imagine a greedy **mime** playing for tips.

(34) Alimentiveness

“Young gastronomic range can be quite broad -- everything from haute cuisine to hot dogs and potato chips!”

Imagine a hungry **mower**, eating your hand. Or, you are mowing a lawn of food.

(35) Completion

“You like to finish what you start. It's just a matter of finding the time. Getting what you want in life is not the problem -- its figuring out what you want to begin with.”

Imagine finally getting your **mail**, after much exertion. This is not much of a stretch where I live.

(36) Aggressiveness
“When you find out what you want in life -- you will be able to get it. You are strong willed and assertive.”

Picture: You are in a fight with an aggressive match.

(37) Vitality
“You have a lot of vitality -- your joi de vivre is strong, when you aren't exhausted from dealing with the minutiae of your daily life.”

Imagine you’re mocking or heckling a lot of active, happy people.

(38) Friendship
“You will probably have a few close friends with which you've 'refamilied' yourself.”

Imagine going to a movie with friends.

(39) Conjugality
“You would be best in the bosom of your family. In a marriage, with the right person, you can achieve miracles.”

Imagine your wedding night with a map of your wife, as you try to find the right places.

(40) Amativeness
“You’re a romantic -- in love with love. You have a strong sex drive, and would tend to have trouble separating sex from love. You would have to have both together to be happy. Unfortunately, this has not always been the case for you. In other words, the biscuits and the gravy never seems to come out even!”

This one is too easy. If you can't make a connection between romance and rose, as your Psychic advisor I urge you to get out more!

(41) Inhabitiveness
“You’ll seek the security of a nest, or a well-padded rut to return to after your adventures in the world.”

Imagine the security of a well padded rut.

(42) Philoprogenitiveness

“You would do well with children and animals. You would get a great deal of satisfaction and love from working with either -- or both!”

Imagine it raining cats and dogs -- and children!

The Phrenology Form and How to Use It

The form on the next page will do all the work for you, once you have mnemonicized the data. The form should be taken to your printer and bound together in a pad of about fifty sheets.

There are two ways to use the form. As you feel for the prominent areas on your subject's skull, you consult your chart which should be in sight on your table. After a few weeks of study, you will no longer have to consult your chart.

As you identify the prominent areas on the head, you make a check mark by the number of the attribute. Or, as I sometimes do, hand the pen and pad to the person and have them mark the numbers as you call them off. When you’ve completed your examination, you set down with the person and deliver your reading -- using the numbers of the attribute to trigger your mnemonic!

Feeling someone's head may strike some of you as a questionable procedure -- especially in a high-volume situation such as a Psychic Fair. Don't worry. Hairdressers and cosmeticians do this every day. Simply take precautions to insure sanitary conditions. I suggest keeping a box of handy wipes nearby, and cleansing your hands before and after an examination. Or you may prefer to use a box of disposable rubber gloves.

1 (Individuality) Original, independent
By no means should you deliver the lines by rote. You should adjust the
context of the lines according to your observations and the age and appearance of
the client. I’ve written a lot about delivering a reading in my other books, and I
refer you, in particular to my discussion of the Gail Sheehy life pattern from
The Psychic Agenda.

Also include as much filler and discussion as you can eloquently work in. Flesh the reading out.

**Conclusion**

This is the first of a series of books tentatively
titled "Lessons in Mentalism" If there are any
topics in Mentalism you feel should be covered
in more detail, drop me a line and I will see
about producing the necessary information.

Future projects include instruction on such basics
as billet work, pocket writing, and cold decking.
More topics will be discussed as I think of them.

Thanks for buying this book. I hope you will use
the stuff within. If nothing else, you now have a
way to remember 42 different readings!

Peace.

John Riggs

Appendix: Some Articles on Phrenology
This appendix provides information about phrenology as seen by modern advocates of the practice. It also includes an address to get a very lovely (and expensive!) Phrenology head.

**Phrenology: An Historical Overview**

Phrenology is the science which studies the relationships between a person's character and the morphology of the skull. It is a very ancient object of study. The first philosopher to locate mental faculties in the head was in fact Aristoteles.

Several typologies have been defined, linking physiognomy with character. The study of the face, physiognomy, has been particularly studied by the 18th century Swiss author Lavater. The real scientific Phrenology, which established a direct link between the morphology of the skull and the human character, was discovered by the Austrian physician Franz Joseph GALL (1758-1828). Gall put the foundations for an anatomic caracteriology. He was one of the first to consider the brain as the home of all mental activities.

In the introduction to his main work *The Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System in General, and of the Brain in Particular*, Gall makes the following statement in regard to the principles on which he based his doctrine:

- **That moral and intellectual faculties are innate**
- **That their exercise or manifestation depends on organization**
- **That the brain is the organ of all the propensities, sentiments and faculties**
- **That the brain is composed of many particular organs as there are propensities, sentiments and faculties which differ essentially from each other. That the form of the head or cranium represents the form of the brain, and thus reflects the relative development of the brain organs.**

These statements can be considered as the basic laws on which the science of Phrenology has been built.
Through careful observation and extensive experimental measurements, Gall was able to link aspects of character, called faculties, to precise brain localizations.

The most important collaborator of Gall was Johann SPURZHEIM (1776-1832), who successfully disseminated Phrenology in the UK and the USA.

Other important authors on the subject in the last century include the Scottish brothers George COMBE (1788-1858) and Andrew COMBE (1797-1847).

George Combe was the author of one of the most popular works on Phrenology and the hygiene of the mind, The Constitution of Man.

The American brothers Lorenzo Niles FOWLER (1811-1896) and Orson S. FOWLER (1809-1887) were the leading Phrenologists of their time.

Lorenzo spent much of his life in England where he set up the famous Phrenological publishing house of L.N Fowler & Co.

In the early 19th century, Phrenology gained a rapidly growing interest. Some unscrupulous people did however abuse the science for commercial purposes, and the Victorian period saw the emergence of Phrenological parlours which were closer to astrology, chiromancy, and the like, than to real scientific characterology.

Unfortunately, those con-men have done a lot to stain the image of Phrenology as a real science, and their bad influence lives up to today.

In the early 20th century however, Phrenology benefited of a new interest, particularly in the viewpoint of evolutionism on one hand and criminal anthropology on the other hand.

Incorrect or incomplete examination of the skull (for example when the observer is misled by the subject's hairstyle)

Insufficient attention for the interaction between faculties. This is a very common cause of errors. It is not correct to make a judgment on one single faculty; the interaction of other faculties must always be taken into account.
Example: a strong Destructiveness does not in itself stand for a violent, aggressive person; a strong development of Moral faculties may lead this person's dynamic forces towards higher aspirations.

**Objective causes of error.**

These are disorders in the brain of the skull which distort normal development of the brain.

- Pathological deformation of skull
- Brain damage
- Major psychological disorders
- Drug addiction leading to brain disorders

**The Loose Foundations of Criticism Against Phrenology**

In today's psychological environment, it has become fashionable to criticize and reject Phrenology. One should look at some basic textbooks of psychology to see how the science is disdained and despised: one can read statements like “*Phrenology is unscientific,*” “*Phrenology is a quackery,*” and other crap of this kind.

In all these cases, these rejections are written without any prior assessment of the values of Phrenology as a science.

This criticism goes back very far in history. In fact, in 1808 Dr. Gall presented a Memoire to the Institute of France which was referred to a committee of five, including Cuvier.

At first the Committee considered the claims of Gall favorably, but when Napoleon Bonaparte came to hear about it, he severely reprimanded the Institute for submitting to be taught anatomy by a German, who even had the impertinence

The most important British Phrenologist of this century was the famous London psychiatrist Bernard HOLLANDER (1864-1934).
His main works, *The Mental Function of the Brain* (1901) and *Scientific Phrenology* (1902) are an objective appraisal of the teachings of Gall.

Phrenology was also very popular in the United States. In Belgium, Paul BOUTS started working on Phrenology from a pedagogical background, using the Phrenological analysis to define an individual pedagogy. Combining Phrenology with typology and graphology, he coined a global approach called Psychognomy.

The Science came however once again under attack because of the ongoing development of psycho-analysis. The introspective and subjective method of psycho-analysis only looks to the individual psychology through the psychological structure of the examiner, who will see the other subject through his own temperament and through his prevailing faculties. This subjective approach is clearly opposed to the objective analysis of Phrenology.

Furthermore, fascist ideologies like Nazism have misused some elements of craniometry in the framework of their infamous racist doctrines. These theories, albeit completely distinct from scientific Phrenology, have given a very bad name to the science.

Today, the moment has come to advocate a positive approach to scientific Phrenology which is to be considered as a valuable and powerful instrument for

- self-knowledge
- self-achievement
- education
- human relationships
- human resources
- law enforcement

Phrenology is a true science, which is there to benefit humanity.

Some Quotations about Phrenology
“Phrenology is a true science. Step by step the result of observation upon the connection between development and function. In the coming century, Phrenology will assuredly attain general importance. It will prove itself to be the true science of mind. Its practical uses in education, in self-discipline, in the reformatory treatment of criminals and in the remedial treatment of the insane will give it one of the highest places in the hierarchy of the sciences.


“I never knew I had an inventive talent until Phrenology told me so. I was a stranger to myself until then!”

- - - Thomas Alva EDISON

“The carateriological diagnosis is a joy and a power throughout life”

- - - Prof. Paul BOUTS

“Once a Phrenologist, always a Phrenologist!”

A Critical Appraisal of Modern Phrenology

Phrenology and the influence of the environment

Phrenology is a science based on observation. It is experimental and constructed on an analytical-synthetical base.

Starting from the measurements made on a subject's skull, it is possible to state which character faculties are more or less developed. The combination of these faculties yields an overview of the subject's character and personality. These are the innate propensities of the subject, the real foundations of the personality, which may be adjusted but not changed by external factors like environment and education.

One can compare this as follows: while as the Phrenological analysis describes a person's naked body, external factors provide the clothes, which, even
when influencing exterior appearance, will never change the body itself.

Errors in the Phrenological diagnosis

Some errors in the diagnosis may however occur. They can be attributed to the following causes which can easily be recognized:

Subjective causes of error; due to errors in the Phrenological interpretation of the skull e to state that the Emperor had no philosophical mind (Napoleon had in fact the sloped front of the practical realist)! with the result that the Committee was forced to present an unfavorable report. Since then Gall and his teachings were ridiculed and attacked in virulent words. Journals, schools and academies formed a sort of holy alliance against the system of Gall.

Without any further objective investigation of the science, this criticism is held up to today, and handbooks and encyclopedias copy each other's negative propaganda about Phrenology since nearly 200 years

This absurdly based criticism is further illustrated in the following two quotations:

“Phrenology is always criticized by those who never studied the science, using rather obscure reasonings and aprioristic statements”

- - - Dr. DESCURET, La Medecine des Passions

“No subject has ever been so thoroughly misrepresented, even by learned men of acknowledged authority, and no author has ever been so libelled and with such malice as Gall, and this notwithstanding the fact that there is not one man of scientific repute who has written anything which would indicate that he examined Gall's chief works.

- - - Dr. Bernard HOLLANDER, The Mental Function of the Brain

It would be an absurdity to reject Phrenology as such, without first assessing the value of the science, as is unfortunately too often done today.

Extensive experimental verification of the Phrenological localizations have proven their practical value. The Phrenological analysis of personality remains of incomparable value to assess the character.
The Analytical Diagnosis of the Most Important Phrenological Faculties

Throughout history, a number of Phrenological Faculties have been identified.

The number of classical faculties, according to Gall et al., amounted to forty-two. The twenty faculties described on this page however are the most important, the value of whose has been experimentally verified (for example through the works of Paul Bouts).

The faculties can be divided in several spheres.

A first classification is the following, taken from Paul Bouts's Psychognomy.

**The Area of the Intellect**
- Causality
- Comparison
- Constructiveness
- Locality
- Individuality
- Eventuality

**The Energetical Faculties**
- Firmness
- Self-esteem
- Approbativeness
- Destructivenes
- Cautiousness
The Moral Faculties
- Veneration
- Spirituality
- Benevolence
- Ideality
- Conscientiousness

The Area of Love
- Affection
- Acquisitiveness
- Secretiveness
- Amativeness

Recent Works on Phrenology
Paul BOUTS, De Psychognomie (in Dutch)
Paul BOUTS, La Psychognomie (in French)

This book, which is now available in Dutch and French edition (unfortunately not in English - a translation in Portuguese does exist however) is the main work of Prof. Bouts, in which he presents his global approach to character analysis, in which Phrenology, typology and graphology are combined. A full analytical diagnosis based on craniological measurements is described in this book.

Prof. Paul Bouts (born 1900) has been the main promoter of the renewed interest in Phrenology and Psychognomy in Belgium. He has also been active in Brazil and Canada where he founded institutes for caracterology. Besides his activities in the field of caracterology, he has written some works about healthy life-styles (Modern Hygiene for Intellectuals) and some spiritual-philosophical essays.

In this work, Prof. Bouts explains the evolution of cranial architecture through the ages, highlighting the growing development of mankind in its evolution from animals over humanoids towards future Perfection.

The works of Prof. Bouts are available from the author:

Prof. Paul Bouts
c/o Volkswerk voor Openlucht vzw
Galgenstraat 32
3110 Rotselaar
Belgium
Phone 016 58 09 52


This book describes the history of Phrenology and is aimed to the development of Phrenology into a tool of self-perfection through the harmonization of the different faculties.

Frances HEDDERLY, *Phrenology, A Study of Mind*

This book is written by Frances Hedderly, the last president of the British Phrenological Society which was active from 1886 to 1967. It gives a full overview of the history of the science and of its applications.

**Other Phrenological Items**

The most famous Phrenological study item is the Phrenological head: a representation of a head, mostly made of china, on which the Phrenological faculties are illustrated. The most famous Phrenological head is probably the one by L.N. Fowler & Co. Most of these items date from the nineteenth century and
can now only be found in antique shops.

A new edition of 1000 Phrenological busts in very fine Coalport china however has been commissioned by the London Phrenological Company, which can be contacted at the following

**The London Phrenology Company Ltd.**

53 St Martins Lane  
London WC2N 4EA  
England  
Phone: 0171 836 0727  
Fax: 0171 240 6697

Craniometers for taking skull measurements are available from the medical specialty trade; they are also used for other anthropometric measurements.
My Books

*Heavy Mental* deals with strong presentations of Psychic and Psychic reading techniques.

*The Compleat Fortune Teller* is a treatise on the Question and Answer effect, with some Pseudo-Psychometry thrown in.

*The Even Compleater Fortune-Teller* is a continuation of the Q & A discussion.

*The Psychic Agenda* is about ways to develop a reputation as a real Psychic, with many routines of strong mentalism.

*Psychic Soirees* deals with Psychic Parties and small shows.

*Phrenology for the Psychic Entertainer* is an easily-learned way to perform Phrenology readings.

*PW-The Mentalist's Secret Weapon* is devoted to Pocket Writing.

*The Suburban Charlatan*. Elegant mental mysteries for the Yuppie Psychic, with contributions from Psiman, Pecor, and Ron Martin.

*The Messiah Process*. No mentalism routines, but an in-depth discussion of psychological techniques to create a magickal experience in the sitter. Past life regression, astral projection, hypnosis, implanting false memories. Three case histories of people who created small cults using these techniques.

*Fat-Free Mentalism*. Tired of carrying around a trunkload of props? This book has routines using minimal props or preparation.