

PERSONALITY

Definition of Personality:

The term personality has been defined differently by **different psychologists**.

Floyd Allport says ‘personality traits may be considered as so many important dimensions in which people may be found to differ.’

Watson opines that personality is everything that we do.

Kimble Young says, “Personality refers to the more or less organised body of ideas, attitudes, traits, values and habits which an individual has built into roles and status for dealing with others and with himself.”

In brief, personality is a comprehensive concept that give importance on the growth and behaviour of the child as an organised whole.

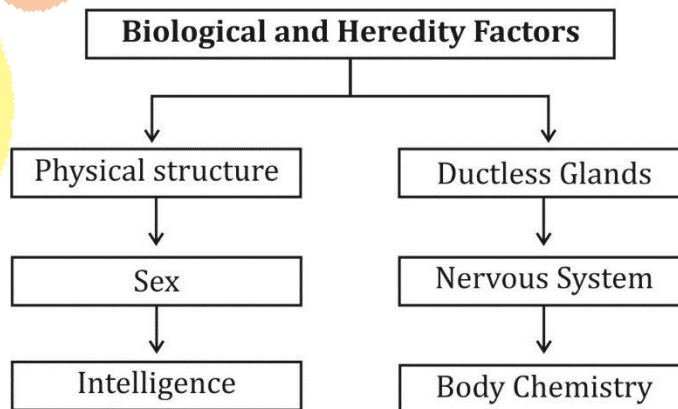
Factors Affecting Personality:

As personality is developed within the social framework, as such, many factors contribute to its development. For an easy understanding, the factors that effect personality are classified into two groups:

- (i) Biological Factors
- (ii) Environmental Factors

Biological Factors:

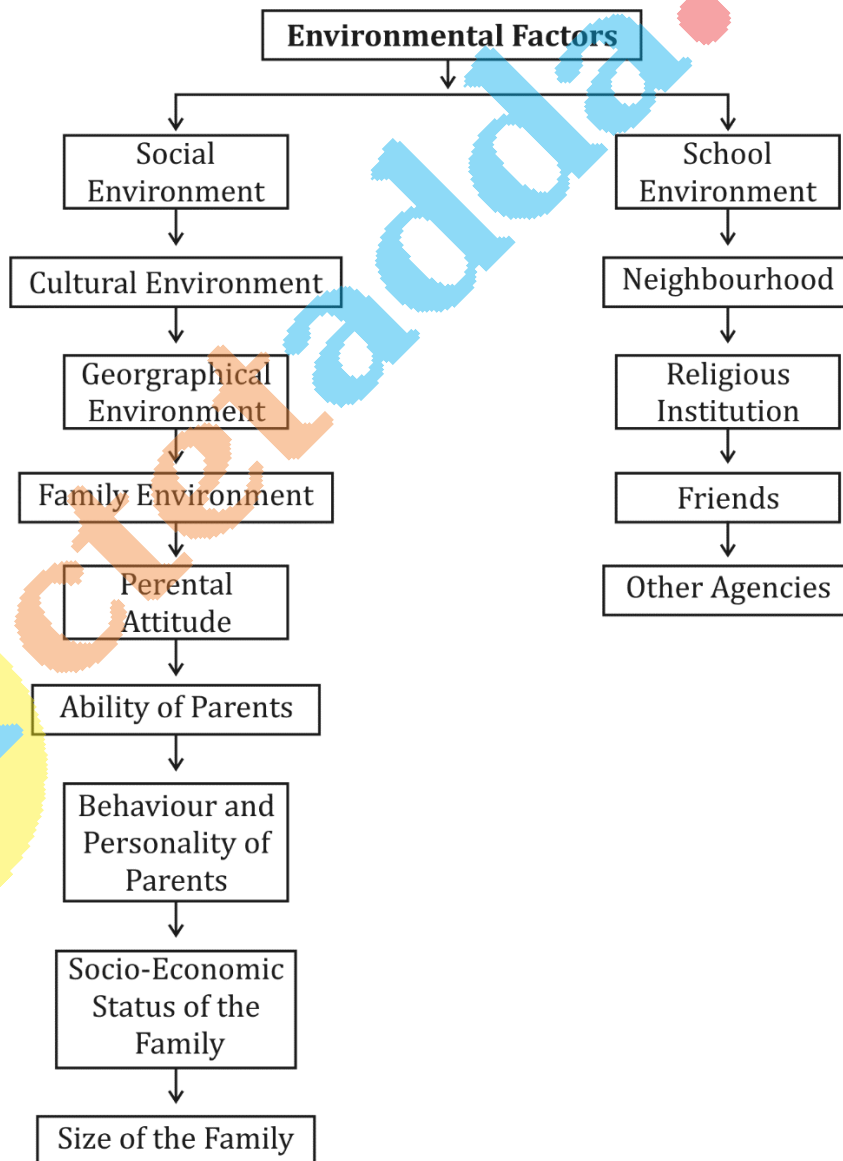
The biological factors are of biogenic by nature and include those of heredity, endocrine glands, physique and physical condition, nervous system, etc. A vivid description of these is given below:



- 1. Heredity.** Heredity is indeed, an important factor in personality development. Almost every form of personality has been attributed to heredity. According to Mendel, genes are the carriers of hereditary traits in the sense that they maintain integrity, particular constitution and properties in unaltered form from one generation to the next. For instance, the child inherits complexion, physique, intelligence, etc. from his parents.
- 2. Physique.** Physique refers to the relatively enduring, biological makeup and liabilities of an individual resulting from both genetic and environmental influences which determine his reactive potentialities.
- 3. Endocrine Glands.** The endocrine glands are characterized for interaction and interdependence. These glands secrete hormones. Any over-activity or under-activity of these glands can cause increase or decrease in hormones resulting in personality disorder.
- 4. Nervous System.** Nervous system too influences personality development. Mental abilities, sensory-motor skill are also determined by the nervous system. The autonomic nervous system and the central nervous system are responsible for personality development.

Environment Factors:

The environment is everything that affects the individual except his genes. The environment of an individual consists of the sum total of the stimulation which he receives from his conception to birth. As a matter of fact the following environmental factors have to be taken into consideration.



Types of Personalities:

Jung classified individuals into two psychological types – **(i) Extroverts and (ii) Introverts.**

The Extroverts are those who are sociable, friendly, interested in athletics, not easily embarrassed and cool and passionate; Introverts are those people whose interest turns inward and is directed towards inner life.

By and large, they are very fond of books magazine, lacks in flexibility. Attention directed inwards, inclined to worry. They are not popular with the mass of mankind and submissive, self-centered and scrupulous.

Chararacteristics Of Personality:

