

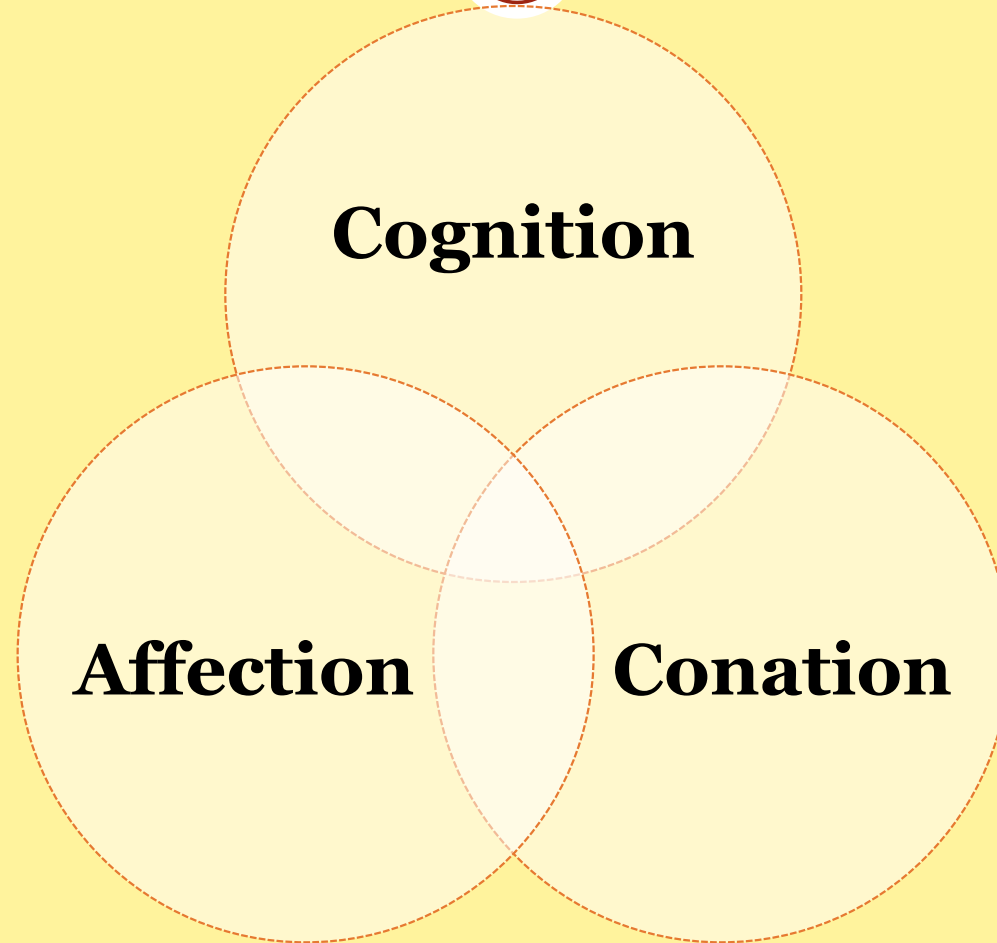
PERSONALITY STUDIES



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Personality

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PERSONALITY

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Motivation

**Basic pre-
disposition**

Genetic factors

The study of personality helps in:

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- **Understanding human nature**
- **The person in his entirety**
- **Individual differences**
- **Differentiate between mature and immature individuals**
- **Adjustment & maladjustment**
- **Level of pathology/ kind of disorders**
- **Nature of treatment for an individual**

Features of Personality:

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ADAPTABILITY

DISTINCTIVENESS

Personality

FLEXIBILITY

OBJECTIVITY

Other characteristics:

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- 1. Holism**
- 2. Motivation**
- 3. Individual differences**
- 4. Stability & consistency**

Different approaches to the study of personality:

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PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH -

Freud, Neo-Freudians

DISPOSITIONAL APPROACH -

Allport, Costa & McCrae, Eysenck, Cattell etc.

BEHAVIOURAL & COGNITIVE APPROACH -

Skinner, Bandura, Dollard-Miller etc.

HUMANISTIC & EXISTENTIAL APPROACH -

Maslow, Rogers, Rollo May, Sarte, Kierkegaard, Hiedeger etc.

Different perspectives in the study of personality:

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BIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE –

Role of genes; twin & adoption studies



ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE –

Role of the situational context

NATURE-NURTURE DEBATE

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**Nature
(Biology)**

Dispositional approach

Psychoanalytic approach

Humanistic approach

Behavioural & cognitive approach

**Nurture
(environment)**

Freewill versus determinism

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DETERMINISM

Behavioural & cognitive approach

Psychoanalytic approach

Dispositional approach

Humanistic approach

FREEWILL

Idiographic versus Nomothetic approach:

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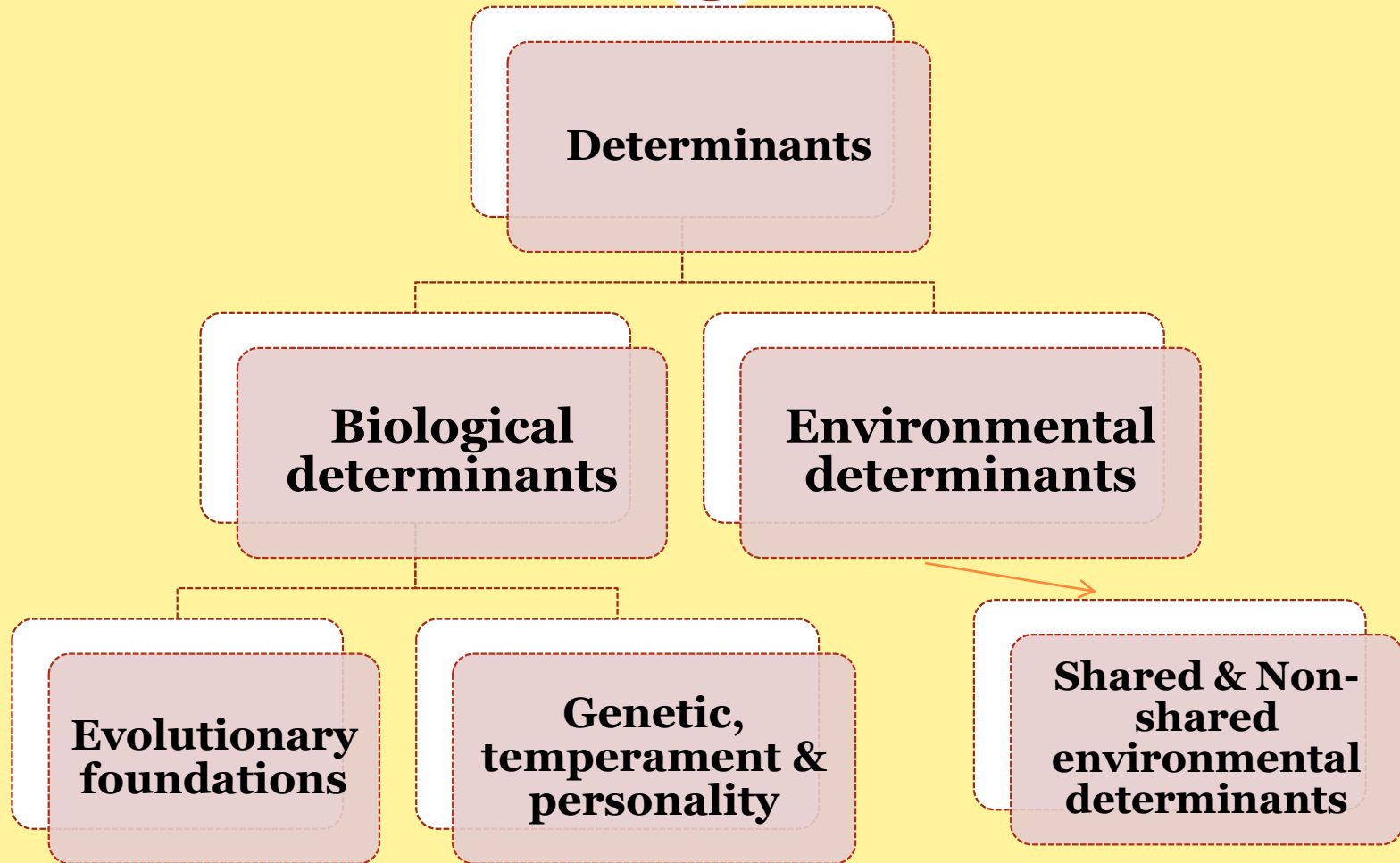
IDIOGRAPHIC APPROACH:

**Focus on
uniqueness/
subjectivity**

**NOMOTHETIC
APPROACH: Focus
on generalizability/
predictability**

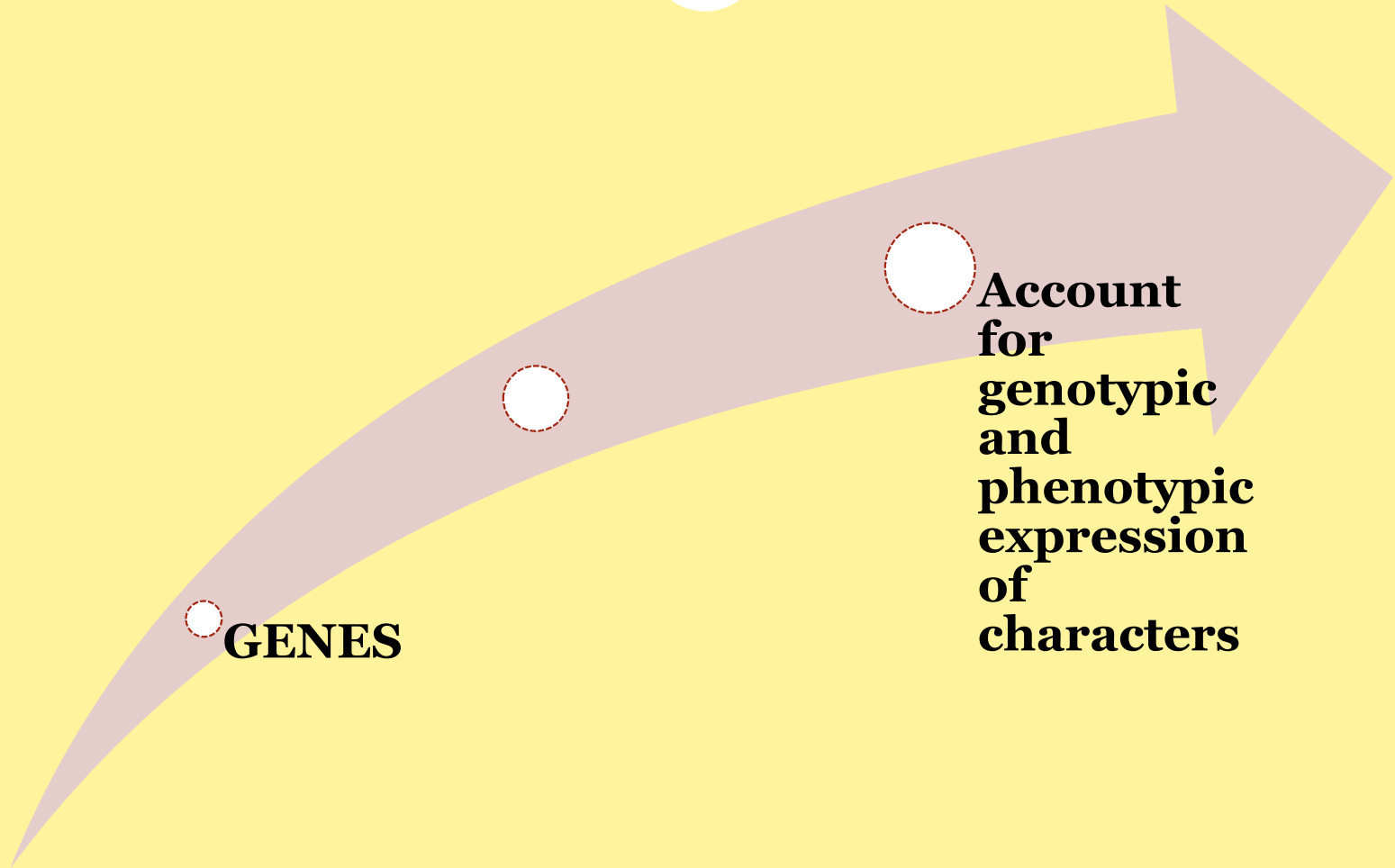
Determinants of Personality:

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Heritability = Genetic variation in a trait/ Phenotypic variation in a trait

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ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINANTS

Shared factors :

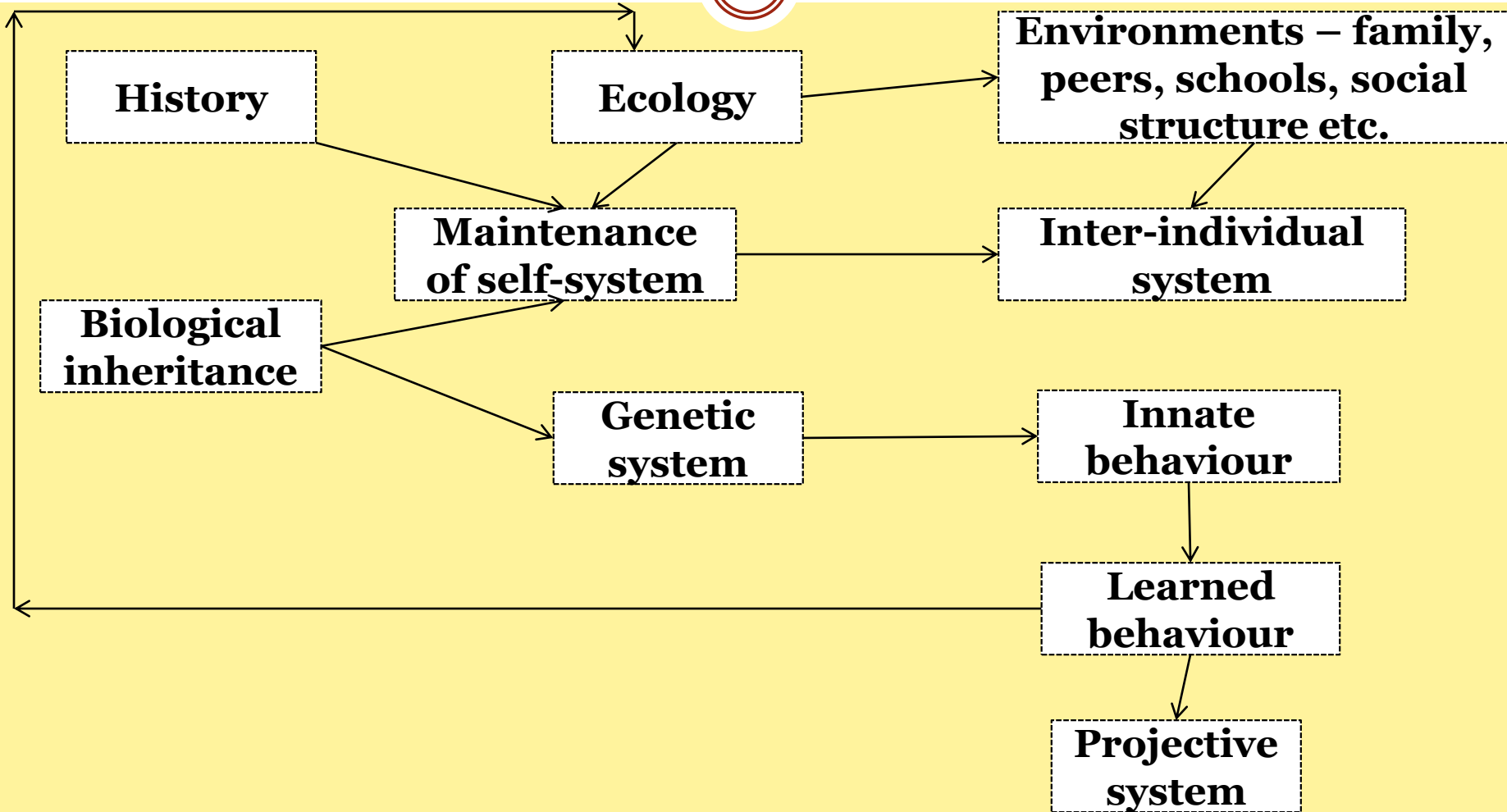
Parent-child relationships, parenting styles and disciplines, parents' teaching behaviours, stimulating physical environment

Non-shared factors:

Unique treatment of the child by parents, parents; beliefs, expectations and values; birth order; Sibling resemblances due to same sex, closer chronological age etc. ; Spacing among siblings

Inter-relations between the different determinants of personality:

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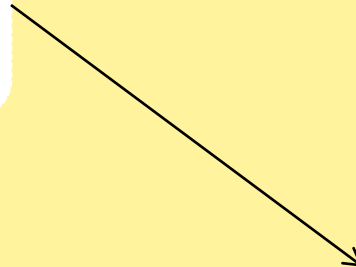
Culture

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**Maintenance of
self-system**

Environments

**Inter-individual
system**



Culture

A program of shared rules that govern the behavior of members of a community or society

A set of values, beliefs, and attitudes shared by most members of that community

Individualist cultures

Cultures in which the self is regarded as autonomous, and individual goals and wishes are prized above duty and relations with others

Collectivist cultures

Cultures in which the self is regarded as embedded in relationships, and harmony with one's group is prized above individual goals and wishes

- ***Genetic-environmental correlation*** relates to the idea that heredity influences the environments to which individuals are exposed. It underlies ***NICHE-PICKING*** on the part of the individual. Thus, development is best understood as a series of complex exchanges between nature and nurture.

Gender & Personality

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- **Psychoanalytic explanation: Oedipus and Electra Complex**
- **Role of gender stereotypes prevalent in the eastern society; the role of patriarchy etc.**
- **Gender & aggression**

Person & the Situation:

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Behaviour

Dynamic

**Interaction
of:**

**The person
(person
variables)**

**The
situation
(psychologically
meaningful
elements)**