

PERSONALITY AND THE BARRON-WELSH ART SCALE¹

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Summary.—For 62 students scores on the Barron-Welsh Art Scale, a measure of creativity, were correlated with scores on the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire. As predicted, psychoticism correlated positively with Art Scale scores, while extraversion and neuroticism did not.

It has been suggested that psychoticism as a personality dimension (Eysenck, 1992) is closely related to creativity (Eysenck, 1993). It has been shown that scores on Psychoticism correlate quite well with such well validated measures of creativity as *divergent tests* (Eysenck & Eysenck, 1976; Woody & Claridge, 1977) and in Word Association with unusual responses (Upmanyu & Kaur, 1986; Merton, 1992, 1993). On this basis it was predicted that scores on Psychoticism would also correlate with those on the Barron-Welsh Art Scale (Welsh, 1975), which has been shown to be a good measure of creativity. Accordingly, 62 students were administered both the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire and the Barron-Welsh Art Scale. The scale is scored by adding the number of complex drawings *liked* and the number of simple drawings *disliked*; both scores were separately correlated with scores on Psychoticism and the other Eysenck scales. The sample had a mean age of 22.4 yr., with a *SD* of 6.8; correlations with age were insignificant so age was dropped from the calculations.

Table 1 shows the results. Psychoticism scores (Eysenck, Eysenck, & Barrett, 1985) significantly correlated with the Barron-Welsh dislike score and positively but insignificantly with the Barron-Welsh like score. Total Barron-Welsh score falls shy of significance on a two-tail test, but in view of the definite prediction made it is possible to use a one-tail test which is clearly significant.

Note the simple items disliked appears to correlate significantly with Psychoticism scores; complex items liked have a negligible correlation. This finding might be worth following up. The Lie (social desirability) scale scores correlate negatively, if only mildly, with those on the Barron-Welsh Art Scale; the Lie scale is often used as a measure of conformity and as such would be expected to correlate negatively with the Barron-Welsh Art Scale scores. Extraversion and Neuroticism give insignificant correlations. We may conclude that the results are mildly favourable for the postulated correlation between Psychoticism and Barron-Welsh Art Scale scores.

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TABLE 1
PEARSON CORRELATIONS BETWEEN SCORES ON PERSONALITY SCALES
AND ON BARRON-WELSH ART SCALE

Measure	5	6	7	M	SD
1. Psychoticism	0.12	0.25	0.23	3.31	2.65
2. Extraversion	0.05	-0.20	-0.11	14.56	4.36
3. Neuroticism	0.01	0.18	0.13	11.80	4.92
4. Social Desirability	-0.12	-0.10	-0.13	6.24	3.20
5. Barron-Welsh Like		0.35	0.76	18.44	6.13
6. Barron-Welsh Dislike	0.35		0.88	13.23	8.28
7. Barron-Welsh Total	0.76	0.88		31.66	11.92

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