

Questions of Perception in the Works of A.A. Leontiev and A.V. Zaporozhets

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In the 70s of the last century A.N. Leont'ev noted that the wealth of accumulated empirical results on the perception of the outside world by living beings does not help to create an adequate theory of perception and noted the need to revise the very formulation of the problem of perception with the rejection of "a number of imaginary postulates that are held by it inertia".

Developing the ideas of A.N. Leontiev on building the image of the world, A.V. Zaporozhets questioned the often expressed position that the image of an object is a model of sensory stimuli acting on receptors of the nervous system. He convincingly shows that the nervous (physiological) model of the stimulus does not give the living thing an idea of the real objects of the world. He believed that the discovery of the subject conditions of the field of activity of a living creature can be achieved only on the basis of the image of objects that are involved in the activity of a living creature. In his early works, A.N. Leont'ev formulated the hypothesis that it is the activity of a living being that involves the subjective experiences of the body in the process of orienting behavior, making them a means of constructing images of objects as a sensual language for describing objects of the field of activity. A.V. Zaporozhets, developing this hypothesis, showed the role of the motor activity of the subject of activity in constructing the image of objects, which create for the living creature the illusion of observing real world objects. He states: "Without the participation of the movement, our sensations and perceptions would not have the quality of objectivity, i.e. relatedness to the objects of the external world, which, in fact, only makes them mental phenomena".

"According to A.N. Leontiev, and A.V. Zaporozhets, supported by the philosopher E.V. Ilyenkov, it is the objective nature of the subject's activity that ensures the construction of an image adequate to the subject involved in the subject's activity.

Based on the works of these authors, it is necessary to formulate a number of questions, the answers to which will help create a more adequate theory of perception:

1. What do living beings observe upon perception - real objects of the external world or their own ideas (hypotheses) about them?
2. Who or what builds images of objects of the outside world and who observes them?
3. If images are built by the brain of living beings - how does he do it and what material does he use for this?
4. What mechanism provides spatial "merging" of the image and the real object?

Answers to these questions and require the abandonment of a number of outdated postulates.

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