Anne Anastasi obtained her BA from Barnard College in 1928 and her PhD from Columbia University in 1930 at the age of 21. Influenced by H. L. Hollingworth and articles about early precursors of factor analysis by C. Spearman, Anastasi changed her orientation from mathematics to psychology. She also extended her study of individual differences to include major group differences. These changes began her association with the development of differential psychology. Her major areas of study are the nature and identification of psychological traits, test construction and evaluation, and interpretation of test results with specific reference to the role of cultural factors in individual and group differences.

Anastasi's publication of *Psychological Testing*, in the most recent edition, continues to stress the responsibility of the test administrator in selecting appropriate tests and methods of testing, interpreting test scores, and using and communicating test results. Other major publications include *Differential Psychology* and *Fields in Applied Psychology*. She has published more than 170 journal articles and monographs and was the only author who has contributed to every edition of the *Mental Measurements Yearbook* since its inception in 1938.

Anastasi received several honorary degrees and many awards such as the 1977 Educational Testing Service Award for Distinguished Service to Measurement, the E. L. Thorndike Award for Distinguished Psychological Contributions to Education (from APA Division 15), the American Psychological Association Distinguished Scientific Award for the Application of Psychology, the American Psychological Foundation Gold Medal, and the AERA award for Distinguished Contributions to Research in Education. In 1987 she was presented with the National Medal of Science by President Ronald Reagan. Anastasi was also professor emeritus at Fordham University and was esteemed as the third female president of the American Psychological Association. Anne Anastasi was known and seen by her peers as the most prominent woman in psychology up until her death in the year 2001.

**References**


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