


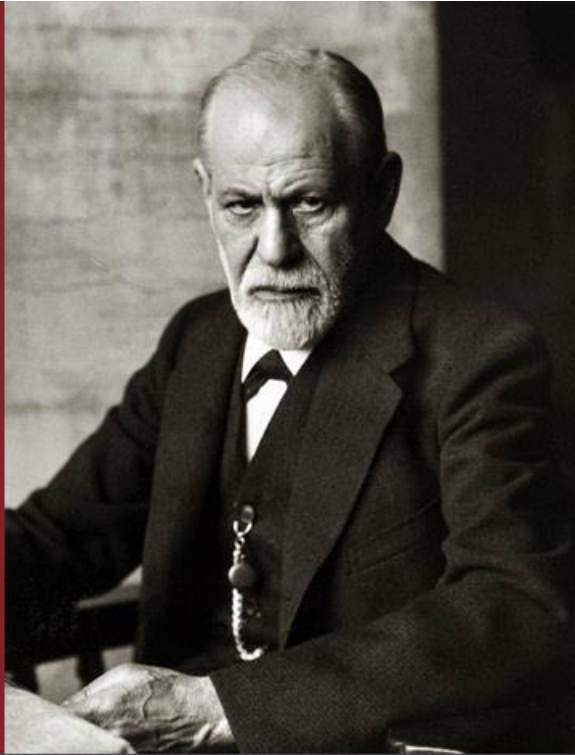
## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Introduction

# Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

Click and drag the timeline  
to view each of Freud's  
psychosexual stages  
in greater detail.



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## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Oral Stage

## Oral Stage

- The mouth is the primary zone of pleasure
- Babies gain this enjoyment by sucking and chewing
- Signs of fixation include: smoking, nail biting, overeating, etc.



A presentation slide for the Oral Stage of Freud's psychosexual development. The slide features a dark blue background on the left with white text, and a photograph of a young woman on the right. The woman has long, straight red hair and is wearing an orange top. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression, and her right hand is raised to her mouth, with her index finger partially inserted, suggesting nail biting. Below the text and image is a dark grey horizontal bar with a white circle in the center, and several small grey triangles pointing upwards along the bottom edge.

During the oral stage, the primary zone of pleasure is at the mouth, and babies gain this enjoyment through sucking and chewing. Freud theorized that during adulthood, the signs of fixation on this stage would include activities like smoking, biting one's nails, or overeating.

## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Anal Stage

## Anal Stage

- Conflict during potty training could result in anal fixation
- Harsh potty training could lead to an anal-retentive personality
- Signs of fixation include: extreme need for orderliness, control, cleanliness, and neatness



According to Freud, any conflicts during potty training and related self-control issues would result in an anal fixation. He believed if potty training was too harsh, this fixation could lead to what he called an anal-retentive personality during adulthood. This would cause a person to act like a perfectionist and have extreme needs for orderliness, control, cleanliness, and neatness.

## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Phallic Stage

## Phallic Stage

- The pleasure zone shifts to the genitals
- Children form a strong attachment to the parent of the opposite sex
- Oedipus complex: the attachment to the parent of the opposite sex and the desire to exclude the other parent



During the phallic stage, the pleasure zone shifts to the genitals, and Freud believed children begin to form a strong attachment to the parent of the opposite sex. For instance, boys feel love for their mothers but feel fear and hatred for their fathers, who they view as a rival for their mother's attention. He called this conflict the Oedipus complex, named after a Greek tragedy in which a boy unwittingly kills his father and marries his mother.

## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Latency Stage

## Latency Stage

- Earlier conflicts become hidden and repressed
- Children identify with the same-sex parent
- Children also tend to play with peers of the same sex



During the latency stage, earlier conflicts become hidden and repressed. Instead of fear, children identify with their same-sex parent. Boys prefer the company of their fathers and of other boys, while girls engage in behaviors like their mothers. Children also tend to play with peers of the same sex.



## Module 6: Personality

### Topic 1 Content: Freud's Psychosexual Stages of Development

#### Genital Stage

## Genital Stage

- Youth begin to focus on the opposite sex
- There is an awareness of gender identity



In this stage, Freud said that youth begin to focus on the opposite sex and become aware of their gender identity.