

The second great indebtedness, the acquiring of speech, is not in general limited in the same way to the intercourse with one or two persons, but forms a link between ourselves and numerous not-selves, and is the most powerful means of communication, opening out to us a larger view of the world and our surroundings.

In a similar way this second great experience, this further development of our mental life, leaves an indelible impress on our thoughts and governs them throughout our life.

We may condense the main effect of this second revelation on our mental development by saying that it introduces us to a process of selection. Through it we are forced to exercise attention, to fix our inner eye upon definite sensations which can be isolated, abstracted out of the confused flow of our inner experience.

In the later stages of our mental development this process of selection and definition, originally acquired through language, is carried much further, and when it proceeds by conscious methods, and not unconsciously by simple imitation of others, we enter upon the scientific stage of thought, and we term the process Analysis. On review, we may thus call the two processes in our early experience the two great revelations through which our mental life has been awakened. The recognition of a person has revealed to us Reality, and the acquisition of language has taught us to make distinctions within this reality. The earlier revelation opens to us the Synoptic view of something that is an independent whole within the circumference of our