

## Section 5. Psychology

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### Subjectivity and peculiarities of subjective characteristics development among master's degree students

**Abstract:** The significance of the concept of subjectivity is dealt with in article. In activities, behavior and decision making, the subjectivity is connected first of all with individual peculiarities utilized by a person in an active life, i. e. individual peculiarities in goal setting and solution. is examined in the article. In order to determine exponents of a person's subjective qualities, we conducted a pilot study.

**Keywords:** subjectivity, adoption of decisions, subjective qualities, responsibility, social activity, masters, activity, personality.

Social activity, responsibility and ability to make decisions in emergency situations are characteristics of a personality determining a successful person upon conditions of dynamic changes of the environment and requirements of the modern society.

In this connection, a subject for many research works in modern psychology is an extended characteristic of a person's commitment which can be seen in his activities and behavior, i. e. these are subjective characteristics investigated by us. In parallel with the systematic description of subjectivity, a way to detect its parameters is determined in psychology. Careful analysis of this characteristic is significant when solving practical tasks, such as professional selection, assessment and development of personnel, candidate pool. Development of subjective qualities determines the sense of life, priorities and prospects in professional career building; it helps to make decisions rationally and purposefully in problematic situations.

Subjective-activity approach of S.L. Rubinstein [1; 2] laid a solid scientific theoretical and methodological foundation in investigation of subject and subjectivity categories. Considering the problem of the owner (subject) of the process, S. L. Rubinstein was against insulation of the owner from the process, and against conception of their interrelation to be considered as external only. He saw the condition of the subject's formation and development in the process. Therefore, he noted that the owner (subject) acts transforming an object in accordance with his purpose, but also he plays different roles during the process and as a result of its fulfillment, when both object and subject are changed. Not that in respect to a specific activity, the subjectivity is determined as an ability to initiate this activity consciously and independently, to overcome inner and outer inconsisten-

cies restraining successful personal realization.

According to V.D. Shadrinov [3], the subjectivity is a person's characteristic which embraces ability to resist internal and external conditions that make a barrier during a person's interests realization (goal setting and achievement, self-actualization, etc.). Within this framework, we can say that development of subjective characteristics is a necessary condition in the ontogeny for a personality.

The subjectivity foundation rests upon the key characteristics of a personality. Therefore, personal qualities determine a person as a socially active individual. The subjectivity directs a personality to a particular purpose achievement and an ability to overcome inner and outer barriers. Kuznetsova M.D. [4] writes in her article, that the subjectivity is considered from a position of a systematic approach that embraces separate features and characters of a personality allowing an individual to keep his individuality, subjectivity, in spite of unfavorable outer factors, and characterizing him as the owner of the process.

So, on which step of a person's macro-characteristic is "subjectivity" situated? In this order, the issue of substantial characteristic of a person should be developed. From a perspective of subordination approach, *individuation* is the basic level of a person's macro-characteristic. In order to perform cognitive and transformation activities, one has to get to a conscious level of psychic reflection (cognition and regulation). This transition marks a person's transition from the individual organization level to *subjective*. Consciously separating himself from the environment, a person becomes a subject who can change the environment and himself purposefully. We can note that it is referred to the avatar of the subjective level — self-consciousness and self-regulation. A subject, being in-

volved in the complex system of public relations, becomes a *personality*. By realization of his potencies and tendencies in conscious activities, in communication with other people, a person gets to the next level of *individuality*. On this level a person's individual characteristics are realized through particular actions, particular deeds, particular achievements and results. Individuality who has realized his/her connections with the world as a single whole, who has realized him/herself as this whole but not only a part of this whole, becomes a *universum*.

So, the hierarchy of a person's macro-characteristics is as follows: individuation — subject — personality — individuality — universum.

Based on this hierarchy, we see that a person's development is growing from the individual level to the universal [5].

However, we will take the liberty to disagree with the position of "subject" level in the above mentioned hierarchy. Based on research works of A. R. Ermentayeva, it's worth noting that each subject is a personality, but not each personality is a subject. In her works, A. R. Ermentayeva [6], based on the subjective psychology of S. L. Rubinstein, A. V. Brushlinsky, K. A. Abulkhanova, considers subjectivity as an axiological attitude of a personality to him/herself and to other people, as an ability to improve communication and activities. In other words, at the hierarchy of a person's macro-characteristics, a subject is higher than a personality, for this is an inherent exponent of activity and responsibility. And subjectivity is a feature being formed, existing thanks to the established nature of a person's life, purposefulness of actions, multidimensional expressions of activity, and rational ability to change him/herself and other people.

In activities, behavior and decision making, the subjectivity is connected first of all with individual peculiarities utilized by a person in an active life, i. e. individual peculiarities in goal setting and solution. In this context, the subjectivity specificity is determined by resources of activity regulation which are topical for a person at the moment or topical in the context of a prospect.

The subjectivity model developed by M. D. Kuznetsova rests upon four basic personal qualities, such as:

- Motivational directivity of a personality to achieve success;
- General level of intellectual development;
- Reflectivity;
- Volitional regulation of behavior and subjective, internal control (internality) [7].

It's worth noting that various types of activity require solution of different practical tasks; this is why subjectivity in each type of activity will acquire qualitative diversities. From the previous statement, depending on tasks and conditions of the activity, the subjectivity structure will change: subjective qualities which are the most significant for the specific activity will come to the fore [4]. In our case, subjective characteristics will be described in the base of professionally important qualities of Master's degree students. In the contest of our research work, the subjectivity qualities to be considered are: responsibility, initiative qualities, vigor, self-independence, sustain, insistence, energy, attentiveness, purposefulness.

In order to determine exponents of a person's subjective qualities, we conducted a pilot study where the main tool used was a questionnaire "Diagnostics of a person's volitional peculiarities" by M. V. Chumakov. According to the method chosen, 9 scales of personal subjective qualities of the test persons are specified: responsibility, initiative qualities, vigor, self-independence, sustain, insistence, energy, attentiveness, purposefulness. Below are the results of the questionnaire "Diagnostics of a person's volitional peculiarities" after M. V. Chumakov (Table 1).

This pilot study was carried out at the Department of Emergency Situations of Astana city, and among Master's degree students of the Eurasian National University named after L. N. Gumilev. The study involved 20 people aged 22–40 years. Among them were 13 women (65%) and 7 men (35%). All test persons have higher education (100%).

Table 1.

Scale Testee/ Test man	responsibility	initiative qualities	vigor	self-independence	sustain	insistence	energy	attentiveness	purposefulness	$\Sigma$	The arithmetic mean value
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
A <sub>1</sub>	12	15	6	5	6	11	16	8	24	<b>103</b>	11,4
A <sub>2</sub>	16	12	18	15	19	10	17	15	17	<b>139</b>	15,4
A <sub>3</sub>	22	22	10	9	16	12	24	6	20	<b>141</b>	15,6
A <sub>4</sub>	21	18	15	15	27	15	24	12	27	<b>174</b>	19,3
A <sub>5</sub>	21	25	23	19	20	18	27	19	24	<b>196</b>	21,7
A <sub>6</sub>	21	25	14	16	11	16	27	16	16	<b>162</b>	18
A <sub>7</sub>	18	9	10	12	25	9	16	9	13	<b>121</b>	13,4
A <sub>8</sub>	24	18	15	14	15	15	25	16	27	<b>169</b>	18,7
A <sub>9</sub>	22	14	25	13	24	14	23	20	24	<b>179</b>	19,8
A <sub>10</sub>	19	13	8	11	18	10	19	19	18	<b>135</b>	15

<b>I</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
$A_{11}$	12	16	13	22	17	16	18	21	19	<b>154</b>	17,1
$A_{12}$	14	12	17	21	19	19	18	23	18	<b>161</b>	17,8
$A_{13}$	12	16	22	21	20	21	18	24	22	<b>176</b>	19,5
$A_{14}$	15	12	22	18	25	24	10	18	19	<b>163</b>	18,1
$A_{15}$	9	13	15	11	21	17	16	18	18	<b>138</b>	15,1
$A_{16}$	11	10	12	15	18	16	11	15	14	<b>122</b>	13,5
$A_{17}$	22	21	16	19	21	17	16	18	19	<b>169</b>	18,7
$A_{18}$	24	16	23	18	19	20	19	17	18	<b>174</b>	19,3
$A_{19}$	21	22	21	20	25	21	23	19	25	<b>197</b>	21,8
$A_{20}$	19	21	18	24	18	19	21	20	21	<b>181</b>	20
$\Sigma$	355	330	323	318	384	320	388	333	403	3154	
The arithmetic mean value	17,7	16,5	16	15,9	19	16	19	16,6	20	157,7	

Square deviation is  $\delta = 4,9$ .

Because this is a pilot study, we can consider that the square deviation value is applicable.

So, consider the values of the Questionnaire scales according to the walls:

1. "Responsibility" scale is on the 7<sup>th</sup> wall, i. e. the raw point is 18, which is a high value.
2. "Initiative qualities" scale corresponds to the wall 6, the raw point is 15.5, which is also a high value.
3. "Vigor" scale also corresponds to the wall 7, the raw point is 16, high value of this scale.
4. "Independence" scale also refers to the 7<sup>th</sup> wall, the raw point is 15.9 — high value of this scale.
5. "Sustain" scale refers to the wall 6, and approximate raw point is 19 which is a high value.
6. The raw point of "Insistence" scale is 16, refers to the wall 8, and the value of this scale is high.

7. The raw point of "Energy" scale is 19, it refers to the wall 5, which is a transition value of the wall for this scale. However it must be taken as a high value.

8. "Attentiveness" scale with an approximate average value of 16.6 refers to the wall 7, which means high importance of the scale considered.

9. The last scale "Purposefulness" has the average value of 20 points and refers to the wall 7.

So, it should be noted that following the results of nine scales analysis, the holistic picture of development of volitional behavior regulation of this pilot group's participants is as follows (Figure 1): 1 test person, which is 5% of all participants, gained the lowest final score (103) which corresponds with the wall 3, according to the regulatory table of the final scores of the questionnaire. The wall exponent for 95% of test persons (data of 19 people) was of a high value according to final scores of all nine scales.

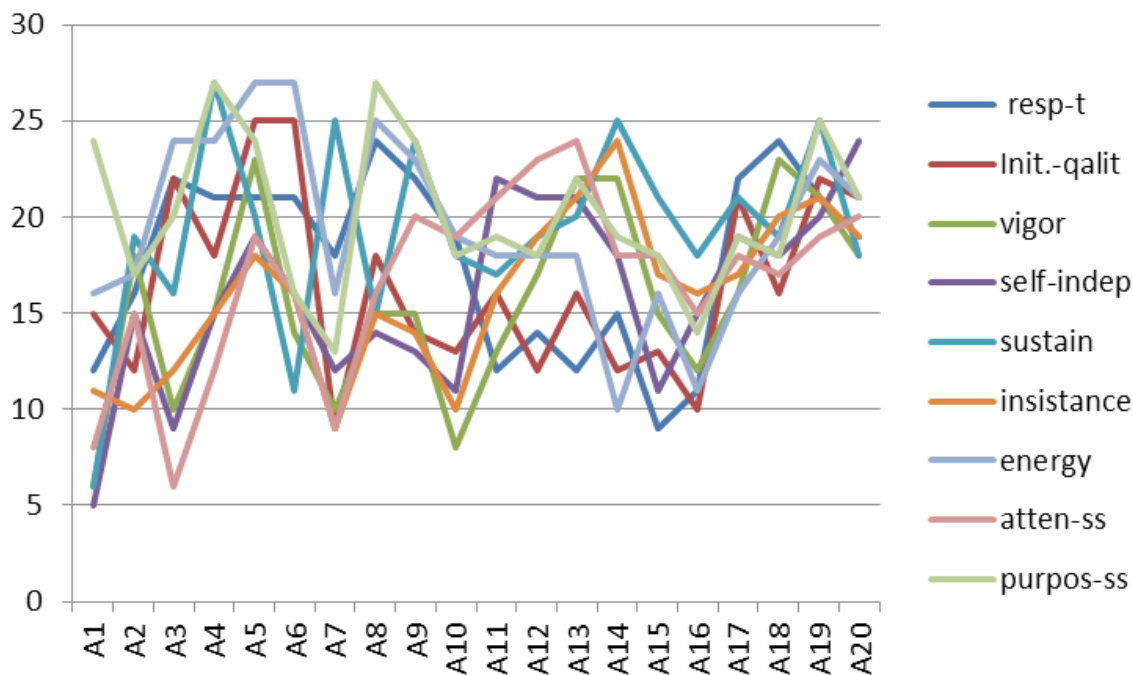


Figure 1. Comparative curve of indicators of results "person's volitional peculiarities"

Here:  $A_1-A_{20}$  — Testee/test man; **От** — responsibility; **ИИ** — initiative qualities; **РШ** — vigor; **СМ** — self-independence; **ВД** — sustain; **НС** — insistence; **ЭН** — energy; **ВН** — attentiveness; **ЦС** — purposefulness.

According to interpretation of M. V. Chumakov, the high value of purposefulness speaks for conscious life purposes of a test person. Generally, they try to plan their time and schedule of activities. Therefore, not only high life purposes are formed, but the goal of professional growth as well.

We would like to note that the final average score of

all test persons (100%) who took part in the pilot study is 157.7 points, which refers to the wall 7 and which is a high value of volitional behavior regulation.

We assume that this diagnostic study of subjective qualities of purposive sample in prospect will allow forming a model of development dynamics of subjective qualities of Master's degree students.

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