

Guided Reading Activity

16-3

Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders

For use with textbook pages 460–463

Directions: Outlining Locate the heading in your textbook. Then use the information under the heading to help you write each answer.

I. Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders

A. Introduction

- In the section-opening excerpt, did the prince fake his symptoms to avoid work pressures?

No, the symptoms were real (but caused by anxiety)

B. Somatoform Disorders (Hysteria)

- What creates the symptoms of somatoform disorders? anxiety
- What do people with a conversion disorder "convert"? convert emotional difficulties into a loss of a physiological function
- What is a sign that someone is suffering from a psychological rather than a physical problem? Even though they have a physical impairment, they can remain calm
- What is the psychoanalytic explanation for hypochondriasis? the individual is repressing emotions and expressing them as physical symptoms

Wake up
no feeling
(Accepted)

C. Dissociative Disorders (Loss of memory or identity)

- How does amnesia affect memory? they retain general knowledge, but lose ability of who they are, where they are, and who is in their family
- What psychological function does a dissociative fugue probably serve? an escape from an unbearable conflict or anxiety
(Multiple personalities)
- In dissociative identity disorder, how do the different identities relate to one another? Distinct personalities with their own way of thinking/behaving
(At any point, one personality may take control)
- What childhood experiences are common among people with dissociative identity disorder? Suffer from severe physical, psychological, or sexual abuse
- What psychological function does dissociative identity disorder serve? Allows person to dissociate themselves from stressful events by selectively forgetting them