Introduction of Structural Analysis (1): An interpretation of the Hand Test

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The purpose of this article is to introduce a new theory, Structural Analysis, to Japanese clinical psychologists. Structural Analysis, developed by Wagner, E. E. (1971), is a theory of personality that supports projective techniques, and is based on a hypothesis that personality is mediated through two psychological "structures". These structures are termed the Facade Self (FS) and the Introspective Self (IS). The FS, which constitutes the surface area of personality, is oriented toward the objective world and is needed to maintain basic contact with reality. The IS, which constitutes the deeper area of personality, is oriented toward the inner world of a person and produces a sense of identity that involves ideals, goals, and self-appraisals. This theory provides a theoretical framework in respect to which several psychological tests, especially projective techniques, are used to view different levels of personality. For example, the Hand Test measures overt action tendencies, and therefore directly focuses on the FS. In this paper, I show how Structural Analysis can be used as a guide when interpreting results of the Hand Test with a Japanese girl as the subject.

**Key words**: Structural Analysis, the Hand Test, personality theory