



Psychoanalytic Training, Year V
Winter I 2016-2017

Bion: Theory and Clinical Implications

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1. November 30, 2017: Introduction

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to define Bion's concepts of attacks on linking, and identify one essential characteristic of Bion's early period and one essential characteristic of Bion's late period.

Bion, W. (1959). Attacks on Linking. *IJP*, 40:308-315. [PEP Web Link](#).

Ogden, T. (2004) An introduction to the reading of Bion. *IJP*, 85: 285-300. [PEP Web Link](#).

2. December 7, 2017: Bion's Pre-psychoanalytic Experiences

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to explain how the experience of Sweeting's death influenced the development of Bion's concept of alpha function and to discuss Brown's concept of Constellation for Thinking.

Brown, L.J. (2012) Bion's discovery of alpha function: Thinking under fire on the battlefield and in the consulting room. *IJP*, 93: 1191-1214. [PEP Web Link](#).

Optional reading: Bion, W. (1997) War Memoirs: 1917-1919, F. Bion (Ed.) London: Karnac, pages 72-133. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

3. December 14, 2017 Bion's Bedrock: Learning from Experience

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to define Bion's concepts of alpha function, beta elements, and contact barrier.

Bion, W. (1962) Learning from Experience. In *Seven Servants*. NY: Jason Aronson, 1977. Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 27 and 28. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

4. December 21, 2017: Bion's Theory of Thinking

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to describe Bion's concept of apparatus for thinking, and Bion's assertion that in hallucinations, "the sense organs operate in reverse."

Bion, W. (1962) The Psycho-Analytic Study of Thinking. IJP, 43: 306-310. [PEP Web Link](#)

Emanuel, R. (2012) An application of Bion's theory of thinking and transformations in hallucinosis. An experience of supervision with Dr. Donald Meltzer. Journal of Child Psychotherapy, 38: 284-301. [PEP Web Link](#).

5. January 4, 2018: Dreaming and Reverie

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to describe Bion's concept of waking dream thought.

Bion, W. (1962) Learning from Experience. In Seven Servants. NY: Jason Aronson, 1977. Chapter 7. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

Bion, W. (1959/1992) Cogitations, pages 43-69. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

Ogden, T. (2003) On not being able to dream. IJP, 84: 17-30. [PEP Web Link](#).

6. January 11, 2018: Memory and Desire

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to explain Bion's injunction to abandon "memory and desire" in psychoanalytic listening.

Bion, W. (1967) Notes on memory and desire: Discussion. In Joseph Aguayo and Barnet Malin (Eds.) Wilfred Bion: Los Angeles Seminars and Supervision. London: Karnac, 2013. Appendix, pages 133- 149. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

Ogden, T. (2015). Intuiting the truth of what's happening: On Bion's "Notes on Memory and Desire." Psychoanalytic Quarterly. 84: 285-306. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

7. January 18, 2018: Late Bion— Receptivity to the unknown; emotional turbulence accompanies transformation and growth

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this seminar, candidates will be able to identify elements of the analyst's internal setting that permit relinquishing saturated ideas and support opening oneself up to the emotional turbulence in the here and now of the session: this leads to transformation and growth in the patient.

Bion, W. (1997). *Taming Wild Thoughts*. London: Karnac, pages 27-51. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]

Bion, W. (1976) *Emotional turbulence*. In *Clinical Seminars: Brasilia and Sao Paulo and Four Papers*. Abingdon: Fleetwood Press, 1987. Pages 223-233. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]

8. January 25, 2018: Transformations in O

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to compare "early Bion" with "late Bion" and describe Rudi Vermote's dual track model of psychic change.

Vermote, R. (2011) *On the value of 'Late Bion' to analytic theory and practice*. IJP, 92: 1089-1098. [PEP Web Link](#).

Bion, W. (1970) *Attention and Interpretation*. London: Heinemann, pages 62-82. Chapters 6 "The Mystic and the Group" and 7 "Container-Contained." In *Seven Servants*. NY: Jason Aronson, 1977. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]