that blindness is not reflected here. Gilhens and Prestage note the role of
black women as pioneers in combining
work outside the home with the tradi-
tional roles of wife and mother, and
argue that this role demands special at-
tention. I could not agree more, and
thus was disappointed that very few of
the pieces explored why it is that black
women with their dual burdens actually
have achieved more politically than their
white counterparts. This remains one of
the more intriguing questions when
considering the situation of women in
politics.

Intro Psych for
Psychologists?

N. S. Sutherland (Ed.)

Tutorial Essays in Psychology,
Vol. 1. Hillsdale, N.J.: Erlbaum,

Reviewed by Marcia K. Johnson

N. S. Sutherland is Professor of Ex-
perimental Psychology and Director of
the Center for Research on Perception
and Cognition at the University of Sus-
sex, England. A DPhil of Oxford Uni-
versity and a Fellow of Merton College,
he has been Visiting Professor at Massa-
achusetts Institute of Technology and a
Lecturer at Oxford. He is Editor of the
Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psy-
chology. Sutherland’s books include
Shape Discrimination in Animals,
Mechanisms of Animal Discrimination
Learning (with N. J. Mackintosh), and
Breakdown.

Marcia K. Johnson is Associate Pro-
fessor of Psychology at the State Uni-
versity of New York at Stony Brook.
She has been a Predoctoral Fellow at
the Institute of Human Learning at the
University of California (Berkeley),
where she earned her Ph.D. Johnson is
coauthor of Statistics: Tool of the Be-
havioral Sciences (with R. M. Liebert).

In the introduction to Tutorial Essays
in Psychology, N. S. Sutherland
notes (and I agree) that articles in the
Psychological Review, Psychological
Bulletin, and the Annual Review of Psy-
chology are often too technical for some-
one outside the field. Thus, this is the
first volume in a series intended to pub-
lish essays that describe a particular
specialty area in a fashion accessible to
researchers and students (including ad-
vanced undergraduates) in other areas
of psychology. The volume consists of
four independent essays.

“The Magical Number Two and the
Natural Categories of Speech and
Music,” by James E. Cutting, is a com-
mandably clear discussion of “categori-
ical perception” and the procedures used
to demonstrate it. Categorical percep-
tion is the apparent division of a con-
tinuous physical dimension into psycho-
logically distinct categories. Changes in
physical values within each category are
discriminated not at all or with dif-
culty whereas an equal physical change
across the category boundary results in
an easily discriminated difference. While
interest originally was stimulated in this
area because this was thought to be a
characteristic unique to human percep-
tion of certain speech sounds, Cutting
points out that categorical perception
occurs for other auditory stimuli as well.
A potential underlying neural mechanism
is also described.

Leslie Henderson’s chapter on “Word
Recognition” includes a number of his-
torical “gems.” Many of the questions
about word recognition that have re-
ceived so much recent attention (e.g.,
recognition from partial cues, superior
recognition of letters embedded in
words, semantic priming, the role of
sound) had been explored to some ex-
tent by the end of the 19th or begin-
ning of the 20th century. The second
half of the chapter, on recent work on
word recognition, is more in the style of
traditional reviews and probably re-
quires a fair background to understand
fully. However, it does convey both the
attractiveness of and the problems with
serial information processing models
that attempted “to identify the manda-
tory transformations of information
as it passed through the cognitive
machinery.”

“Psycholinguistics Without Linguis-
tics,” by P. N. Johnson-Laird, is not so

Contemporary Psychology, 1978, Vol. 23, No. 9
notes (and I agree) that articles in the *Psychological Review*, *Psychological Bulletin*, and the *Annual Review of Psychology* are often too technical for someone outside the field. Thus, this is the first volume in a series intended to publish essays that describe a particular specialty area in a fashion accessible to researchers and students (including advanced undergraduates) in other areas of psychology. The volume consists of four independent essays.

"The Magical Number Two and the Natural Categories of Speech and Music," by James E. Cutting, is a commendably clear discussion of "categorical perception" and the procedures used to demonstrate it. Categorical perception is the apparent division of a continuous physical dimension into psychologically distinct categories. Changes in much an argument against linguistics as it is against an approach to language exclusively inspired by transformational grammar. A number of linguistic approaches to syntax, meaning, and the relationship between the two are discussed, including problems raised by intonation, context, prior knowledge, and so on. While much of the essay seems more directed at colleagues within the field than outsiders, the paper is a good reference source for some currently influential ideas.

John D. Teasdale describes theory and evidence related to the "Psychological Treatment of Phobias." The essay highlights similarities and differences between systematic desensitization and implosion. The general message is that empirical work has demonstrated that many components of these treatments as originally proposed (e.g., deep muscle relaxation in the case of systematic desensitization, intense anxiety in the case of implosion) are not necessary for them to work. The critical component, evidently, is the repeated presentation of a feared stimulus with no obviously disastrous consequences.

Cutting's and Teasdale's chapters probably come closest to the stated aim of the volume. Johnson-Laird's chapter (and to some extent Henderson's) perhaps tries to cover too much that is too complicated for people unfamiliar with the area. On the whole, the project is worthwhile and successful, and I look forward to reading Volume 2.