

CHAPTER 6

CHARACTEROLOGICAL CORRELATES OF TEMPORAL COMPETENCE

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6.1 Theoretical Bases of the Study

The key aim of scientific psychology is searching for the truth about man. Nowadays, its distinguishing feature is the predominance of a variable-centered research approach. Its representatives, who take as a basis a description of the individual differences revealed mainly in behavior and tend to describe the structure of personality in terms of traits theories, aim, first of all, at defining its elementary characteristics: their number, nature and mutual relationships.

Notwithstanding this model of psychological research (it certainly offers the model of personality structure which is inferred from reliable empirical data: precise, and simultaneously simple and universal, it must be noted that reducing the knowledge about man (personality) to its description and static conceptualization, irrespective of a situational context, loses a motivational and dynamic aspect of human activity. Further lost is the fact that a concrete (living) man exists and acts in a specific world and is an active participant of mutual relationships linking him with this world (cf. Strelau, 2002, p. 25–41; Oleś, 2003, p. 162–164).

Although this approach provides measurable and valuable data concerning certain aspects of human functioning, it requires complementary research into those aspects which have become excluded from this (natural sciences) perspective that is, taking into account personalistic dimensions of human existence and activity. Therefore, a necessity emerges for scientific psychology to develop a person-centered research approach which will create an opportunity for revealing complexity and multidimensionality of a specifically human reality. This approach should make use of the methods that enable a holistic conceptualization of man as a person, that is the subject of his existence and activity. This necessity is more and more frequently emphasized in the relevant literature (cf. Giorgi, 1970/2002; Robins et al., 1996; DeBois, 1997). The way of conceptualizing and operationalizing temporal competence suggested by Z. Uchnast and K. Tucholska (2003) as well as the

way of conceptualizing and operationalizing personal character based on W. Stern's conception of the human person both join this stream of research.

William Stern (1923a/1906, 1923b/1918, 1924; cf. Celińska, 2003), by choosing the person for the object of description and psychological interpretation ("*The person is living whole, individual, unique, striving toward goals, self-contained and yet open to the world around him; he is capable of having experience.*" <Stern, 1938/1935, p. 70; from: Allport, 1960, p. 36>) stresses specific human properties that should be respected by researchers:

1. internal integrity and uniqueness of a person,
2. the fact that a person's character (its internal integrity) is formed in the process of convergent relationships with the surrounding world,
3. the fact that a human being as a person expresses and internally integrates himself in purposeful activity oriented towards achieving goals/possibilities offered by the surrounding world,
4. the subject-like character of the relationships linking an individual with the surrounding world, as defined by the capability of possessing experiences and the associated ability to adopt conscious attitudes towards the possibilities offered by the surrounding world.

This conception of man forms the basis for the definition of the TYPE OF CHARACTER as: an individualized style of a person's acting in the surrounding world (which is a result of the appraisal and choice in light of gained experiences and goals/values offered by the surrounding world) oriented towards: protecting the *status quo*, that is, satisfying basic needs (the striving to maintain the factual state of one's own existence and physical and psychic integrity) or self-actualization with others (development) which expresses itself in the ability to adequately participate and cooperate with other people in the actualization of one's own and others' potentials.

6.2 Research Program

The way of understanding the type of character and temporal competences determines the specificity of the research approach adopted (methods of measuring variables and methods of statistical analysis of data). This approach aims at grasping a revealed unique configuration (qualitative organization) of characteristics within particular persons as living wholes. The undertaken research problem can be formulated in the form of a general question: What multidimensional associations exist between temporal competencies and the configuration of characterological traits in an individual's type of character?

To find an answer to this question an empirical study was conducted with the use of two factorial methods:

- a.. Questionnaire of Temporal Competence (QTC) by Z. Uchnast and K. Tucholska (2003) to measure the dependent variable (temporal competencies)
- b.. Character Types Psychological Inventory (ChTPI) by Z. Uchnast to measure the independent variables (types of character).

Character Types Psychological Inventory (ChTPI) by Z. Uchnast is the method fulfilling the suppositions of W. Stern. The model presentation of this tool is in Figure 6.1. This questionnaire consists of 270 items which identify 9 characterological orientations—9 scales (Fig. 6.1: 1–9). The scale labels reflect the orientation of activity preferred by the subject which is determined by the choice of a particular goal (value). Since the scales are only the mean score of the self-report data, within each of them three factors are distinguished (Fig. 6.1: A–C). The studies conducted by Z. Uchnast (1997) with use of the Questionnaire of Sense of Security (QSS), which includes among others the Ego Resiliency (ER) Scale additionally allowed identifying 27 factors which are significantly associated with: a low level of ER (defining an orientation toward efficient self-protecting) and a high level of ER (defining an orientation toward adequate participation, cooperation and development). The factors are a more unambiguous basis for the characterological description, since the reference points for a given configuration are not provided by interrelations between characterological traits but rather by the subject's active attitude towards the world in which he/she lives. The construction of this tool (1. the items do not reflect external specimens of behavior but the subject's specific possibilities of acting in the surrounding world; 2. a multi-categorical response system; 3. a factorial model) gives a chance for revealing the subjects' preferences for the possibilities of acting in the surrounding world.

Subjects:

160 subjects—women (76%) and men (24%)—students of the first and second years at the Catholic University of Lublin participated in the study, age range 19-20.

6.3 Verification of the Hypotheses and Conclusions

6.3.1 The Description of the Groups with Different Types of Temporal Competences

The objective of research was searching for multidimensional relationships between the individual's temporal competences and type of character. Therefore, the first step in the analysis of the collected data was identification of the typical configurations of temporal competences indicative of the types of temporal competences.

The statistical method used for identification of homogenous subgroups was non-hierarchical cluster analysis (Quick Cluster Procedure, k-means). As the basis

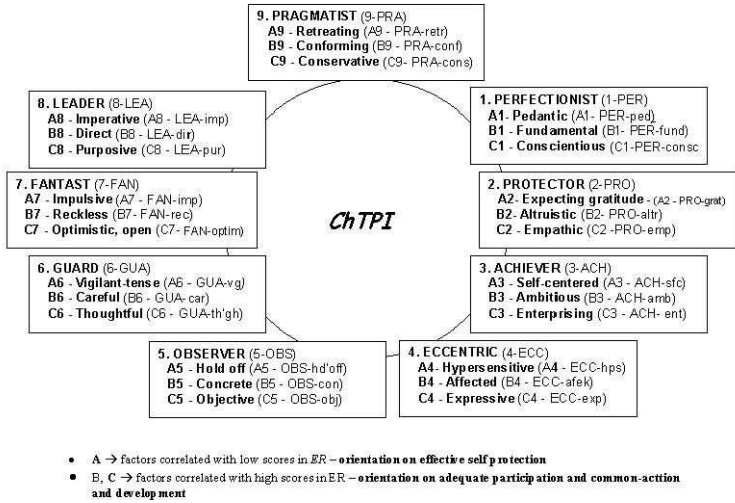


Figure 6.1: Character Types Psychological Inventory (ChTPI) developed by Z. Uchnast.

for the typology served the scores obtained from all subjects (N=160) in four basic factors of the Questionnaire of Temporal Competence (QTC) by Z. Uchnast and K. Tucholska (2003). The basic descriptive statistics (M, SD) are presented in Table 6.2 and Figure ??.

The analysis of the configuration of the scores obtained by the subjects in the scales of Life Openness (LO), Sensible Life (SL), Prospective Attitude (PrA), and Past Acceptance (PaA) allows for a brief description of the identified types.

TYPE I—RESOURCEFUL

This type is represented by the most numerous subgroup, 51 people (31.88% of the sample). These individuals obtained a high score in the LO scale and average scores in the SL, PrA, and PaA scales. This configuration of the scores indicates that these subjects show spontaneous readiness for trust in other people and the surrounding world, have the ability to start direct relationships with others, without excessive care or prejudices (LO). This is favored by the acceptance of one’s own past (PaA), a positive attitude to one’s own life “here and now” (SL) and an openness to what the future is going to bring (PrA). This pattern of scores suggests that these people will function in their environment efficiently and suggests describing them as Resourceful.

Table 6.1: Descriptive statistics of QTC for the identified types of temporal competence.

Scales of QTC		Types of temporal competence			
		I	II	III	IV
		Resourceful <i>N</i> = 51	Reactive <i>N</i> = 30	Careful <i>N</i> = 42	Synergic <i>N</i> = 37
LO—Life Openness	M	55.55	40.50	37.93	56.78
	SD	4.33	8.78	6.39	4.81
SL—Sensible Life	M	51.24	35.80	52.88	59.32
	SD	4.40	7.75	5.88	2.96
PrA—Prospective Attitude	M	50.24	39.90	55.36	59.35
	SD	6.45	8.26	5.82	5.48
PaA—Past Acceptance	M	51.06	39.57	51.95	61.49
	SD	6.50	8.29	6.59	5.58

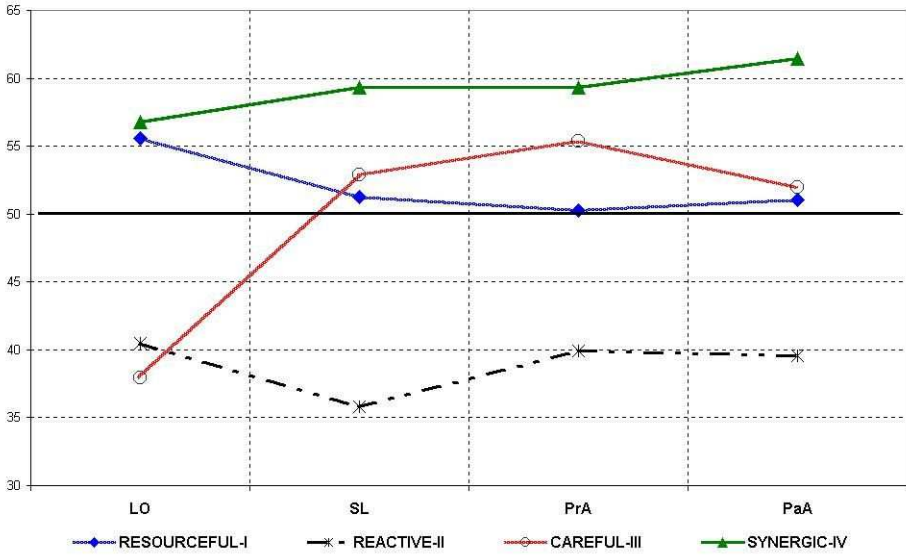


Figure 6.2: QTC mean scores profiles for four homogenous types of temporal competence.

TYPE II—REACTIVE

This type comprised the smallest subgroup—30 people (18.75% of the sample). Their scores lie within the range of low scores in all four scales of the QTC, which clearly suggests a deficit in their temporal competences, with the lowest score in the SL scale. This configuration of scores indicates a negative attitude to one's own life (SL), and a lack of trust in the world which finds expression in the tendency to isolate and withdraw oneself (LO). The negative attitude towards the present is coincident with a lack of acceptance of experiences from the past (PaA) and becomes the cause of a fear of an uncertain and dangerous future (PrA). This configuration of scores suggests that people belonging to this type will tend to exhibit defensive and rigid behaviors of a reactive character.

TYPE III—CAREFUL

This type comprised 42 people (26.25% of the sample). They are characterized by a very low score in the LO scale, an increased score in the PrA scale and average scores in the SL and PaA scales. The highest differences between the scores occurring in this group are worth noticing. What characterizes people belonging to this type is a lack of life openness which is evident in a lack of spontaneity and natural readiness to recognize and accept what the present brings (LO). Although they possess the sense of a sensible life (SL) which is probably supported by the acceptance of past experiences (PaA), a lack of trust in other people and the surrounding world (LO) causes their orientation towards the future (a heightened score in the PrA scale) to have possibly a character of an escape from the necessity of engaging in the present. This configuration of scores suggests a way of acting characterized by excessive carefulness.

TYPE IV—SYNERGISTIC

This type is constituted by 37 people (23.12% of the sample). They obtained high scores in all scales of the QTC, even the lowest score (LO scale) lies within the range of high scores. The smallest differences between the scores are observed in this group. These people are characterized by life openness and the sense of a sensible life which provides the basis for direct and adequate contact with the surrounding reality (LO, SL). This attitude is rooted in the ability to recognize the significance of past choices for present experiences (PaA), which in turn enhances a positive attitude towards the future as expressed by their responsible planning and commitment and endurance in striving for chosen goals (PrA). This cohesion (synergy) within the three dimensions of psychological time suggests that these people can freely use all of them, and are able to recognize their significance and skillfully make use of the possibilities inherent in each of them taking into account the specificity and needs that flow from the present situation. This suggests that they reveal the fullness of temporal competences. Therefore this group can be regarded as a control group for the remaining groups.

Summarizing, it should be noted that the identified homogenous groups correspond, in spite of the differences in the investigated samples, to the type of temporal competences identified in the study performed by K. Tucholska (The Types of Temporal Competence and the “Big Five”). This suggests that empirically identified types of temporal competence may have a universal character and be found in other studies. This hypothesis, however, needs to be verified by an enlargement and diversification of the investigated populations (not confined only to university students).

6.3.2 Characterological Orientation of People with Different Types of Temporal Competences

In order to verify if there are differences in characterological orientations between the representatives of the identified types of temporal competences and to find which characterological variables differentiate them, analyses of variance MANOVA and ANOVA were performed on the scores obtained from the Character Types Psychological Inventory (ChTPI). The overall comparison of the profiles of the types revealed statistically significant differences between them (MANOVA: $F=2.07$, $p \leq 0.000$), which means that they are constituted by people with, from a statistical point of view, different characterological profiles and indicates the existence of statistically significant associations between types of temporal competence (QTC) and configurations of characterological features (ChTPI). The results obtained are presented in Table ?? and graphically in Figure 6.3.

Two scales had the strongest impact on the effects found: Eccentric (4-ECC) and Protector (2-PRO). However, statistically significant differences occur not only between Reactive (I) and Synergistic (IV) types. The characterological dimensions most strongly accounting for the attitudes towards the three dimensions of psychological time in the identified types are factors that correlate negatively with ER: A1-PER-ped and A6-GUA-vg.

The ANOVA results also indicate that the identified types do not differ with respect to four scales (9-PRA, 7-FAN, 6-GUA, 5-OBS) or nine factors of ChTPI (B9-PRA-conf, A2-PRO-grat, B7-FAN-rec, B1-PER-fund, C4-ECC-exp, B5-OBS-con, C1-PER-consc, B6-GUA-car, C5-OBS-obj). However, of much interest is the factor Pragmatist Conforming (B9-PRA-conf), in which all types obtained higher scores which suggests that, irrespective of the chosen style of acting in the world, they show the ability to adapt to the requirements of the environment. However, in order to evaluate the significance of this “adaptation ability” specific for each of the identified type of persons, the analysis of the global configuration of their characterological profiles should be carried out. ?? and Figure 6.2.

Since the Synergistic type (IV) is a control group for other types (because of the scores obtained in the QTC which were the basis for the typology), the contents analysis of MANOVA and ANOVA results should be started from this homogenous group. The profile of mean scores obtained by these people in the ChTPI (Fig. 6.3) deserves particular attention since it reflects a clearly cut characterological configu-

Table 6.2: Comparison of the types of temporal competences (*QTC*) in scales and factors of *ChTPI* (MANOVA).

Scales and Factors of <i>ChTPI</i>	Types from <i>QTC</i>								(ANOVA)		Games-Hovell test $\alpha = 0.05$
	I Resourceful <i>N</i> = 51		II Reactive <i>N</i> = 30		III Careful <i>N</i> = 42		IV Synergic <i>N</i> = 37				
	M	SD	M	SD	M	SD	M	SD	F	<i>p</i>	
1-PER	47.43	11.97	51.60	11.46	50.33	11.18	43.65	14.06	2.99	0.033	
A1-PER-ped	49.92	10.12	58.27	7.80	51.07	10.10	43.05	12.09	12.35	0.000	[I-II,IV] [II-III,IV] [III-IV]
B1-PER-fund	47.61	11.37	45.63	10.11	48.50	8.59	45.00	12.83	0.89	0.562	
C1-PER-consc	46.71	10.35	46.73	11.17	50.43	13.75	50.00	10.69	1.24	0.297	
2-PRO	51.43	9.30	45.97	12.91	47.69	13.71	54.92	11.58	4.08	0.008	[I-IV]
A2-PRO-grat	51.94	8.30	50.97	9.99	50.10	10.25	51.03	10.78	0.28	0.842	
B2-PRO-altr	48.41	9.36	46.13	12.51	44.07	14.75	51.78	11.49	2.92	0.036	[III-IV]
C2-PRO-emp	52.65	9.51	44.40	12.05	50.07	11.13	57.32	9.99	8.73	0.000	[I-II] [II-IV] [III-IV]
3-ACH	47.82	12.58	48.10	12.17	53.86	10.88	52.78	13.15	2.69	0.049	
A3-ACH-sfc	48.08	11.93	55.57	10.11	53.26	9.93	47.57	14.12	4.15	0.007	[I-II] [II-IV]
B3-ACH-amb	49.45	11.79	46.97	11.53	55.62	10.44	53.19	12.58	4.01	0.008	[II-I,II]
C3-ACH-ent	47.45	11.72	42.13	12.89	50.10	12.96	55.95	10.47	7.78	0.000	[IV-I,II]
4-ECC	49.33	9.74	55.17	10.28	49.60	10.64	45.38	11.23	4.88	0.003	[I-IV]
A4-ECC-hps	50.08	10.10	55.27	9.61	48.52	9.62	42.57	11.69	8.76	0.000	[I-IV] [II-III,IV]
B4-ECC-afek	49.94	9.66	57.23	9.53	47.93	12.77	45.46	12.74	6.56	0.000	[II-I,III,IV]
C4-ECC-exp	48.78	9.37	51.10	10.84	52.29	10.03	50.30	10.48	0.971	0.408	
5-OBS	48.84	12.13	50.73	10.23	52.26	7.89	46.84	12.25	1.84	0.143	
A5-OBS-hd'off	49.59	9.22	53.73	8.90	50.31	9.11	44.59	10.97	5.29	0.002	[II-IV]
B5-OBS-con	48.29	11.56	50.27	8.76	51.79	10.59	47.62	12.74	1.19	0.317	
C5-OBS-obj	49.37	11.84	46.47	10.26	52.40	10.01	52.35	9.35	2.48	0.063	
6-GUA	48.10	12.28	52.43	9.61	50.67	10.88	48.05	11.92	1.27	0.287	
A6-GUA-vg	48.41	9.08	57.80	6.93	49.88	7.45	43.46	9.22	16.70	0.000	[I-II] [II-III,IV] [III-IV]
B6-GUA-car	50.22	11.95	46.80	11.42	47.00	12.66	51.16	11.42	1.32	0.271	
A6-GUA-th'gh	47.92	11.49	48.53	10.57	54.29	10.60	53.27	10.73	3.66	0.014	[I-III]
7-FAN	49.78	9.57	47.40	11.61	49.21	11.79	50.81	10.55	0.58	0.630	
A7-FAN-imp	50.10	10.63	53.33	9.52	50.10	11.13	45.43	10.90	3.19	0.025	[II-IV]
B7-FAN-rec	50.43	10.36	47.50	11.71	49.57	10.30	51.38	10.07	0.82	0.565	
C7-FAN-optim	48.33	8.67	42.07	12.66	48.10	12.11	54.84	11.08	7.55	0.000	[IV-I,II]
8-LEA	49.00	10.83	48.60	11.93	54.52	10.83	52.46	10.79	2.66	0.050	
A8-LEA-imp	48.49	11.19	52.53	13.26	53.52	10.47	47.22	11.85	2.75	0.045	
B8-LEA-dir	49.78	11.02	50.27	9.12	55.57	9.86	52.35	11.51	2.66	0.050	[I-III]
C8-LEA-pur	49.39	8.91	45.03	9.71	52.62	10.44	55.73	9.21	7.81	0.000	[I-IV] [II-III,IV]
9-PRA	52.47	10.06	49.47	13.07	50.69	11.00	52.27	12.46	0.56	0.645	
A9-PRA-retr	51.69	11.70	51.60	10.46	45.69	11.50	48.70	10.15	2.74	0.045	
B9-PRA-conf	55.96	8.60	54.60	12.97	55.83	10.68	54.38	11.47	0.232	0.874	
C9-PRA-cons	47.27	8.87	42.77	9.31	51.74	9.80	52.35	12.37	6.67	0.000	[II-III,IV]
MANOVA	$F = 2.07; df1 = 108; df2 = 363.29; p \leq 0.000$										
Notes:	A → factors correlated with low scores in <i>ER</i> —orientation on effective selfprotection										
	B,C → factors correlated with high scores in <i>ER</i> —orientation on adequate participation and common-action and development										

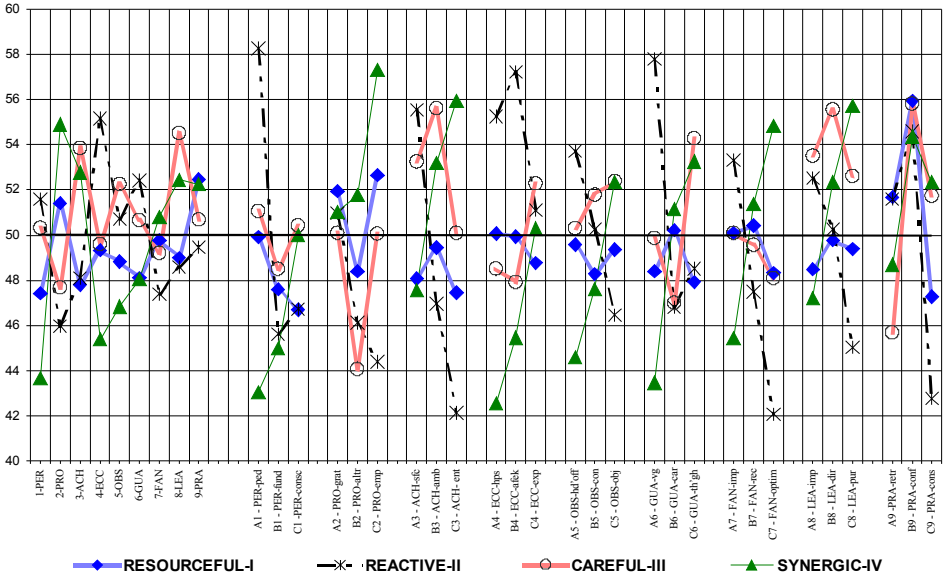


Figure 6.3: Mean scores profiles of four homogenous types of temporal competences (table 4).

ration. These people are characterized mainly by factors which correlate positively with Ego Resiliency (ER). The analysis of the configuration of all characterological indicators suggests that the orientation on adequate participation, cooperation and development is specific for them. The model picture of the indicators of the ChTPI defining the predominant characterological orientation of these people is presented in Figure 6.4.

As far as the overall configuration of the scores obtained by Synergistic type (IV) of temporal competences is concerned, it is characterized by a pro-social attitude, expressed in the ability to get into mutual and authentic relationships with other people (2-PRO; 5-OBS-; 6-GUA-). This is accompanied by an orientation toward achieving goals and successes (3-ACH) and leadership (8-LEA), expressed in the efforts to achieve personal influence on a sequence of events and one’s own life, determines their specific attitude towards themselves, others and towards work and tasks and shapes their style of acting in the surrounding world.

The basis for their openness to others lies in their trust in themselves and their own possibilities (C3-ACH-ent, C8-LEA-pur) flowing from the capability of an objective self-appraisal (C5-OBS-obj). Emotional stability (A4-ECC-hps-, B4-ECC-afec-, A7-FAN-imp-), high spirits and optimism (C7-FAN-optim), a lack of the tendency to excessive self-control (A1-PER-ped-, B1-PER-fund-) favor their self-acceptance and autonomy (C8-LEA-pur, C3-ACH-ent).

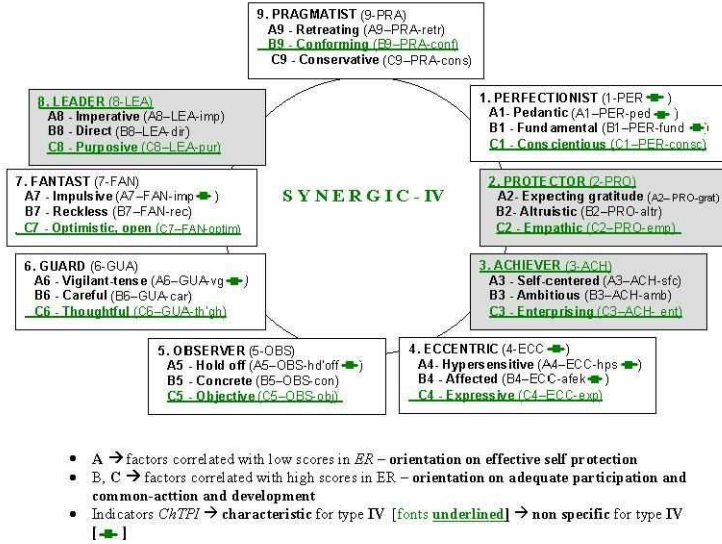


Figure 6.4: The indicators of *ChTPI*—defining the characterological orientation of the people from SYNERGISTIC (IV) type of temporal competences.

A positive attitude towards oneself is associated with openness revealed in interpersonal relationships (C2-PRO-emp, C7-FAN-optim, A5-OBS-hd'off-). Spontaneity and optimism (B7-FAN-rec, C4-ECC-exp) and the ability to adequately and objectively assess the intentions of other people (C5-OBS-obj, B5-OBS-con-) cause that in relationships with others they experience a sense of security (A6-GUA-vg-). As a result, they willingly and easily establish interpersonal relationships, and their unusual emotional sensitivity, empathy skills, understanding others' needs and unconditioned acceptance of others favors the capability of providing emotional support for those who need it (C2-PRO-emp, B2-PRO-altr, A2-PRO-grat-). The accompanying skill to take up the leader role in a group (C8-LEA-pur, B8-LEA-dir) co-occurring with the ability to co-operate with others (B9-PRA-conf, A8-LEA-imp-, A3-ACH-sfc-), enhance the skills of motivating and directing others in goal-oriented activities (C3-ACH-ent, C8-LEA-pur).

Their striving for achieving personal influence on their own life (C3-ACH-ent, C8-LEA-pur), openness to the challenges of the world and people (C7-FAN-optim, A6-GUA-vg-, A5-OBS-hd'off-), thoughtfulness (C6-GUA-th'gh), factualness and healthy skepticism (B6-GUA-car, C5-OBS-obj) and accompanying enterprising (C3-ACH-ent), organizational talent (C8-LEA-pur), responsibility and appropriate ambitions (B3-ACH-amb, A1-PER-ped-) allow for the conclusion that their strivings for achieving goals will be successful.

Summarizing the above analysis of the configuration of the scores obtained in

the ChTPI by people representing Synergistic (IV) type, they can be claimed to be characterized by a creative and developmental style of activity in the surrounding world, oriented on adequate participation and cooperation with other people for actualization of both one’s own potentialities and those of other people.

The least characteristic (average values) profile of the scores obtained in the ChTPI by people belonging to the Resourceful type (I) also deserves particular attention. The only high score is in Pragmatist Conforming (B9-PRA-conf) (Figure 6.3). The results of the ANOVA variance analysis indicate that despite the qualitative differences between these people with respect to characterological orientation (MANOVA), there are certain similarities between them and the Synergistic (IV) type. In particular one of the most characteristic scores for both groups is in the Protector scale (2-PRO) and the least specific score for them is in the Perfectionist scale (1-PER). It is worth noticing, however, that, in comparison with type IV, the most specific type for Resourceful people is the Pragmatist type (9-PRA). Furthermore, between the two groups there are statistically significant differences in five factors of the ChTPI (Table ??). The comparative analysis of the configurations of all characterological indicators (Figure 6.3) for types I and IV indicates that people with the Resourceful type of temporal competences are more strongly characterized by factors correlating with low scores in ER. The model presentation of the indicators in ChTPI defining the characterological orientation of these people is depicted in Figure 6.5.

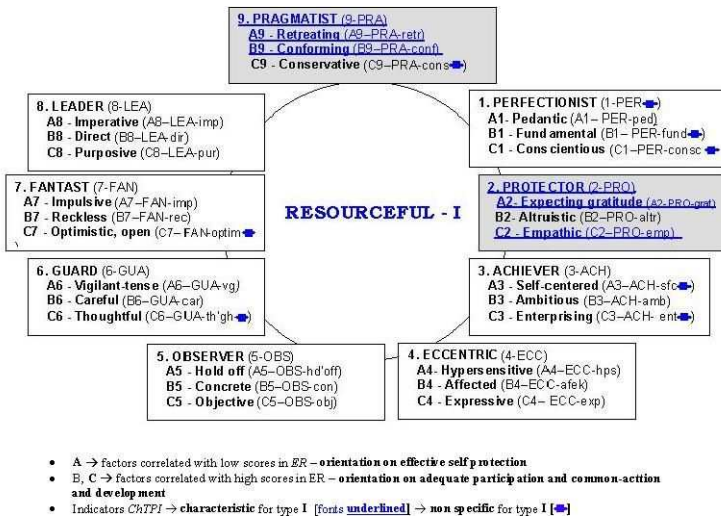


Figure 6.5: The indicators of ChTPI—defining the characterological orientation of people from the Resourceful (I) type of temporal competences.

Commenting on the overall configuration of the scores in ChTPI obtained by people with the Resourceful type of temporal competences, one can observe that they reveal, similarly to the Synergistic type (IV), a pro-social attitude (2-PRO). However, in comparison with type IV, the basis for the commitment of these people to providing emotional support for others is constituted by the expectation of gratitude for the provided help (A2-PRO-grat). This is accompanied by the orientation toward achieving harmony in all life spheres, which finds expression in a form of resignation from one's own choices in favor of the identification with group goals (9-PRA; B9-PRA-conf).

The attitude towards oneself underlying the chosen style of acting in the surrounding world is different in these people as compared to type IV. Although the scores in the factors measuring this sphere lie within an average range (Fig. 6.3), the comparative analysis with Synergistic type (IV) suggests certain conclusions for interpretation. It allows stating that these people to a lesser extent believe in themselves and their own possibilities (C3-ACH-ent-, A3-ACH-sfc-, 8.3.LEA-pur-¹). Although they also show the capability of an objective self-evaluation (the pattern of factors in scale 5-OBS), however, a considerable tendency to identify oneself with one's own emotional experiences (4.1. ECC-hps, 4.2. ECC-afek) and an increasing tendency for self-control and self-criticism (1.1-PER-ped) do not form a basis strong enough for self-acceptance and autonomy (C3-ACH-ent-).

Less self-confidence and the tendency to search for the confirmation of one's own value in the surrounding world cause them to tend to retreat in interpersonal relationships and show agreeableness (B9-PRA-conf, A9-PRA-retr, A2-PRO-grat, C7-FAN-optim-). As a result, although they function effectively in relationships with others, typically their sensitivity to others' needs (C2-PRO-emp) prompts their need for approval rendering them prone to adjust their own needs to the needs of others (the configuration of factors in scales 2-PRO, 9-PRA; C6-GUA-th'gh-).

The tendency to yield to others' intentions and a lower ability to set forth high requirements for oneself and for others (C1-PER-consc-) underlies the decreased (in comparison with type IV) tendency to undertake autonomous activity. One may speculate that their stronger tendency for seeking impulses that direct their activity (C3-ACH-ent-, C8-LEA-pur-) will prompt a tendency to leave matters to themselves and expecting solutions of problems by means of external circumstances. Although their functioning both in interpersonal and occupational spheres is efficient (average scores), such a configuration of scores suggests that their mode of acting is not oriented towards developing their own competences and those of other people but towards adjusting themselves to others' expectations.

Concluding, the above analysis of the configuration of scores obtained in the ChTPI by Resourceful (I) people suggests they are characterized by an adaptational style of activity and are oriented on adjusting themselves to the demands of the

¹The character “-” denotes the factors which are the least specific for this type (I) and those which differentiate (MANOVA, ANOVA) these people on a statistically significant level ($p < 0.05$) from people with type IV (Synergistic).

surrounding world.

A totally different characterological orientation, particularly different from the Synergistic type (IV) is revealed by the representatives of the Reactive type (II). The comparative analysis of all characterological indicators (ChTPI) for types II and IV (Fig. 6.3) indicates that characterological factors specific for Reactive people (II), as opposed to Synergic (IV) type, correlate with low scores in ER, therefore define an orientation toward efficient self-protection. The factors of scale (-PRA (Table ??, Fig. 6.3) are an exception. However, these indicators should be interpreted with reference to the overall characterological configuration of the identified types. The model presentation of the indicators in the ChTPI defining the characterological orientation of these people is depicted in Figure 6.6.

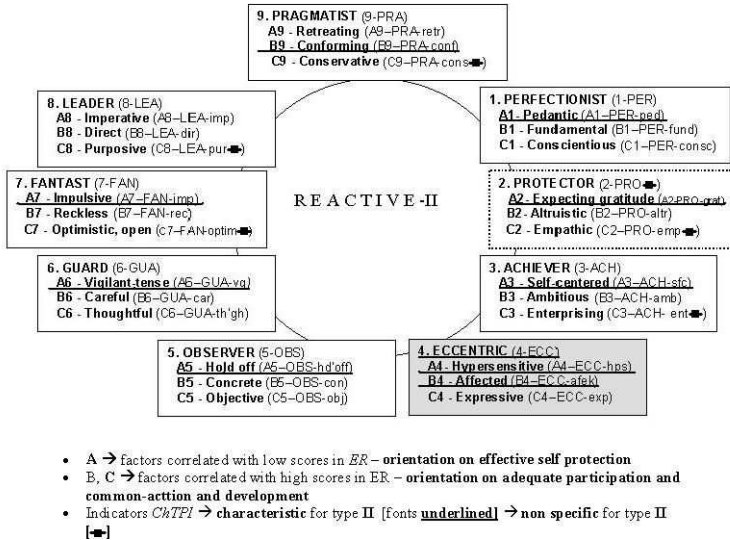


Figure 6.6: The indicators of *ChTPI*—defining the characterological orientation of people from the Reactive (II) type of temporal competences.

Interpreting these results in psychological terms one can state that people representing the Reactive type (II) are characterized by the tendency to perceive a value in their own emotional experiences, which is expressed in the tendency for profoundly and dramatically experiencing oneself (4-ECC). This is accompanied by a significant deficit in the need and ability to establish mutual and authentic relationships with other people (2-PRO-) and determines their specific attitude towards themselves, other people, their work and tasks and builds up a style of acting specific for them.

The roots of a deficit in openness to other people (2-PRO-), characteristic for these people, can be traced mainly to a lack of self-confidence enhanced by the

tendency for excessive self-criticism and the inability to accept their own weaknesses (A1-PER-ped). The accompanying impulsivity, tendency to experience negative moods (A7-FAN-imp, C7-FAN-optim-), oversensitivity and egocentrism (A3-ACH-sfc), revealed mainly in the form of a strong concentration on one's own emotional states (A4-ECC-hps, B4-ECC-afek), prompts the tendencies to close oneself in the world of one's own experiences.

The negative attitude towards oneself co-occurs with the tendency to perceive only negative aspects of reality (C7-FAN-optim), detect only potential hazards and project one's own fears and anxiety on the external world (A6-GUA-vg). This forms the basis for isolating tendencies in these people and is enhanced by a considerable deficit in the skills necessary to establish and maintain mutual interpersonal relationships (C2-PRO-emp-). A lack of empathy coupled with the difficulties with disclosure of oneself, emotions and feelings and motives of conduct (A5-OBS-hd'off) cause that contacts with others increase their feeling of being misunderstood and lonely.

Lowered trust in oneself and others and the tendency to estimate one's own internal states over factual reality (A4-ECC-hps, B4-ECC-afek) lead to a lack of openness to challenges of the surrounding world (A5-OBS-hd'off). Limitations in autonomy, initiative and inability to motivate oneself in the face of failures (C3-ACH-ent-, C8-LEA-pur-) and the tendency to compulsively compare oneself with others (A1-PER-ped) trigger difficulties in making one's own conscious choices which would enable the undertaking of efforts leading to a modification or improvement in one's own situation (B9-PRA-conf, C9-PRA-cons-).

In summary, the above configuration of the scores obtained in the ChTPI by people representing the Reactive type (II) justifies a generalization that they are characterized by the style of activity oriented toward protecting oneself in passive forms of isolation and withdrawal.

The model presentation of the indicators of ChTPI defining the characterological orientation of people representing the Careful type (III) is depicted in Figure 6.7.

The analysis of the configuration of all characterological indicators (Fig. 6.3) obtained in the ChTPI by the representatives of the Careful type (III) suggests certain similarities to the Reactive type (II) (Table ??). However, a comparison of the mean ChTPI scores shows a different characterological constellation in factors of scales: 3-ACH, 4-ECC, 5-OBS, 8-LEA (Figure 6.3). The results of ANOVA (Table ??) also point to statistically significant differences between these groups in seven factors. Particular attention should be paid to the factors of scale 9-PRA. Although a similar (highest) score was obtained by both groups in B9-PRA-conf, when compared to the Reactive type (II), Careful (III) persons scored significantly higher ($p < 0.05$) on C9-PRA-cons.

Psychological interpretation of these results allows for a claim that Careful (III) subjects, similarly to the Reactive (II) group, are characterized mainly by

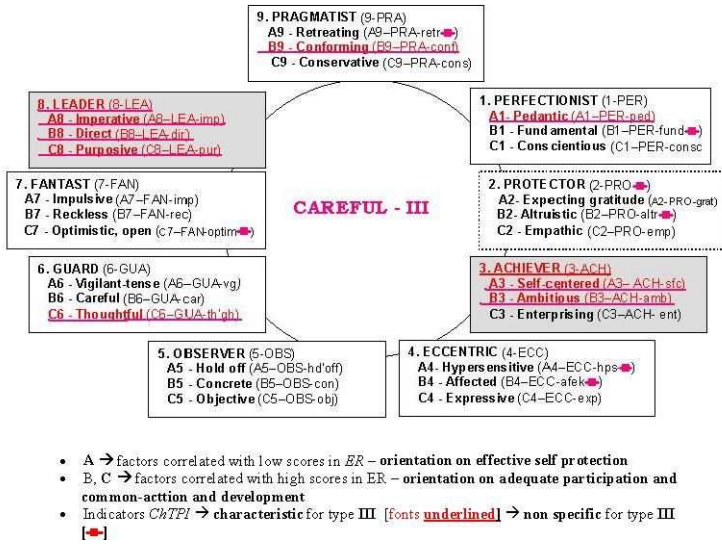


Figure 6.7: The indicators of *ChTPI*—defining characterological orientation of people from the Careful (III) type of temporal competences.

restricted openness to the surrounding world (2-PRO-²). However, in contrast to the Reactive type (II), this is accompanied by an orientation toward power expressed in the form of efforts made to master the surrounding reality (8-LEA: B8-LEA-dir), and on success expressed in the form of efforts made to gain the reputation of a triumphant person, for whom failure is alien (3-ACH: B3-ACH-amb).

Power and success, as the superior priorities for these persons activities determines their characteristic attitude towards themselves. They reveal the tendency to condition their self-esteem by their achievements and recognition from other people (B3-ACH-amb, A3-ACH-sfc). Although, in contrast to the Reactive type (II), they exhibit a satisfactory self-trust (C8-LEA-pur C3-ACH-ent, A4-ECC-hps-, B4-ECC-afek-), which is coincident with a strong strive for gaining self-respect (A8-LEA-imp). In contrast to type II, emotional oversensitivity is not characteristic to them (B4-ECC-afek-, A4-ECC-hps-). However, an excessive tendency to identify oneself with one’s achievements (B3-ACH-amb) infers that despite a belief in their own competence and superiority (A3-ACH-sfc), they can avoid situations in which they could experience failure or criticism.

A significant finding is that a reduced sensitivity to others’ needs (B2-PRO-altr-

²The character “-” denotes the factors which are the least specific for this type (I) and those which differentiate (MANOVA, ANOVA) these people on a statistically significant level (p<0.05) from people with type II (Reactive).

) is coincident with the skill to understand others' expectations and adjusting to them (C2-PRO-emp, B9-RA-conf). A deficit in the skill of compromise (A9-PRA-retr-) and a less specific tendency to identify oneself with strict moral principles and rules of conduct (B1-PER-fund) suggests that their leadership skills (8-LEA) are expressed in the form of a hostile and manipulative attitude toward others (B8-LEA-dir, A8-LEA-imp), as well as an egocentrism and competitive attitude (A3-ACH-sfc, B2-PRO-altr-).

A strong striving for gaining a personal influence on a sequence of events and on one's own life (the configuration of factors in scales 3-ACH, 8-LEA) as well as a tendency for identifying oneself with one's achievements (B3-ACH-amb), which are coincident with thoughtfulness, autonomy and initiative (C6-GUA-th'gh, C8-LEA-pur) suggests that tasks which they undertake will be done reliably and professionally (C1-PER-consc, C9-PRA-cons). However, the permanent striving for self-perfection can be hazardous and result in the future in a loss of contact with one's own internal life (B3-ACH-amb, A1-PER-ped, A3-ACH-sfc).

Summarizing the above analysis of the configuration of the results obtained in the ChTPI by people representing the Careful type (III), one can conclude that they are characterized by a style of activity oriented toward protecting oneself in the form of a hostile and manipulative attitude toward others.

6.4 Summary

Summarizing the results of the study, the claim can be made that there are clear, multidimensional associations between the type of temporal competences and the configuration of characterological features determining an individual's type of character. The differences (ANOVA, MANOVA) revealed in the characterological organization (ChTPI) between representatives of the identified types of temporal competences (QTC) showed a qualitative distinctiveness between their styles of acting in the surrounding world (types of character):

Type I of temporal competence—RESOURCEFUL (openness to the present, satisfactory (average): sense of life, acceptance of the past and openness to the future):

- orientation toward reaching harmony in all spheres of life and a pro-social attitude,
- this orientation determines a specific attitude towards themselves (satisfactory self-trust), others and the surrounding world (conformist tendencies), as well as towards work and tasks (tendency to seek impulses for ones own activity in the environment),
- adaptational style of activity oriented toward adjusting oneself to the requirements of the surrounding world.

Type II of temporal competence—REACTIVE (clear deficit in temporal competences in the form of negative attitude towards the present, past and future):

- concentration on one's own emotional experiences coincident with a lack of openness to others;
- determines a specific attitude towards oneself (lack of self-confidence, oversensitivity, egocentrism), others (sense of danger, misunderstanding and loneliness), work and tasks (loss of autonomy and initiative);
- style of activity oriented toward self-protection expressed in the passive forms of isolation and withdrawal.

Type III of temporal competence—CAREFUL (lack of openness to the present, satisfactory sense of life, acceptance of the past and future):

- success and power are the superior goals of their activity,
- determine a specific attitude towards oneself (the sense of self-esteem greatly dependent on achievements), others (hostility and manipulating tendencies) and work and tasks (excessive identification with performed tasks,
- style of activity oriented toward self-protection expressed in the forms of a hostile and manipulative attitude towards others.

Type IV of temporal competence—SYNERGISTIC (the fullness of temporal competences: integrity in experiencing time and a positive attitude towards its three dimensions):

- orientation toward the good of others, on striving for goals and achieving successes as well as power (in the form of efforts made to gain a personal influence on one's own life and its course),
- determines a specific attitude towards oneself (self-acceptance and autonomy), others and the surrounding world (the ability to establish mutual and authentic relationships with others), work and tasks (effective completion of tasks),
- creative and developmental style of activity, oriented toward adequate participation and cooperation with other tasks in actualizing one's own and others' potential.

The overall comparative characteristics of characterological orientations in the four identified types of temporal competences are presented in Tables 6.4 and 6.4.

Table 6.3: Characterological orientation (*ChTPI*) of types of temporal competence (*QTC*): REACTIVE (II) and CAREFUL (III) comparison.

REACTIVE (II) lack of temporal competence <i>N</i> = 30; 19%	CAREFUL (III) lack of openness to what is “here and now” <i>N</i> = 42; 26%
CHOSEN SUPERIOR GOALS (VALUES) OF ACTION:	
→ identification with OWN EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES (tendencies to deep and dramatic experiences of himself)	→ MASTERY AND POWER (revealed by tendency to domination over surrounding world)
	→ SUCCESS (revealed by a tendency to be perceived as a winner and a successful person)
→ lack of openness for the good of other people	→ lack of openness for the good of other people
ATTITUDE TO ONESELF:	
■ lack of self-confidence enlarge by tendencies to high self-criticism and lack of ability to accept one’s own weaknesses	■ dependence, self-confidence on own achievements and appreciation of them by other people
■ impulsiveness , tendencies to feel sad, anxious	■ satisfying self-esteem and self-confidence coincident with strong need and admiration
■ hypersensitivity, self-centered the base for tendencies to be CLOSED IN THE WORLD OF ONE’S OWN NEGATIVE EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES	the base for AVOIDING DEFEAT and CRITICISM
ATTITUDE TO THE WORLD AND OTHER PEOPLE:	
■ tendencies to perceive the surrounding world as a potential menace	■ ability to take leadership appearing with the lack of ability to compromise
■ low ability to establish interpersonal relations	■ self-centering, rivalry attitude
■ idealism	■ low sensitivity to other people’s needs appearing with ability to understand expectations of others and conforming to them
■ difficulty in disclosing own emotions, thoughts	

Table 6.3: Characterological orientation (*ChTPI*) of types of temporal competence (*QTC*): REACTIVE (II) and CAREFUL (III) comparison.

<p>■ feeling of loneliness</p>	
<p>the base for tendencies to ISOLATION</p>	<p>the base for HOSTILITY and MANIPULATION</p>
<p>ATTITUDE TO WORK AND TASK-LIKE SITUATIONS:</p>	
<p>■ lack of openness for challenges of world and people</p> <p>■ lack of autonomy and initiative</p> <p>■ tendencies to compulsive self-comparison to other people</p>	<p>■ strong tendencies to decide about own life and outer events</p> <p>■ initiative, determination, independence</p> <p>■ strong sense of responsibility, orderliness</p> <p>■ strong identification with task</p>
<p>the base for DIFFICULTY WITH ENGAGING ACTIVITY AIMING TO CHANGE OWN DISCONTENTING SITUATION</p>	<p>the base for POTENTIAL FOR LOOSING CONTACT WITH OWN INNER LIFE</p>
<p>INDIVIDUAL STYLE OF ACTION IN THE SURROUNDING WORLD:</p> <p>Oriented toward SELF-PROTECTION:</p>	
<p>PASSIVE</p>	<p>ACTIVE</p>
<p>RETREAT AND ISOLATION</p>	<p>HOSTILE, DOMINANT AND MANIPULATIVE</p>

Table 6.4: Characterological orientation (*ChTPI*) of types of temporal competence (*TCI*): SYNERGIC (IV) and RESOURCEFUL (I) comparison.

<p>SYNERGIC (IV) the most cohesive way of experiencing time <i>N</i> = 37; 23%</p>	<p>RESOURCEFUL (I) openness to the present <i>N</i> = 51; 32%</p>
<p>CHOSEN SUPERIOR GOALS (VALUES) OF ACTION:</p>	
<p>→ good of OTHER PERSON (need and ability to be open for mutual and authentic relationships with other people)</p> <p>→ SUCCESS (motivating other</p>	<p>→ good of OTHER PERSON (expectation of gratitude)</p> <p>→ HARMONY in all spheres of</p>

Table 6.4: Characterological orientation (*ChTPI*) of types of temporal competence (*TCI*): SYNERGIC (IV) and RESOURCEFUL (I) comparison.

people to constructive activity

life (tendencies toward **resignation from own choices and** tendencies toward **subordination to group**)

MASTERY AND POWER
(tendencies to **decide about own life**)

ATTITUDE TO ONESELF:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ full self-confidence based on self-estimation ability ■ emotionally balanced, optimism ■ lack of tendencies to redundant self-control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ satisfying self-confidence ■ tendencies toward identification with own emotions ■ tendencies toward self-criticism and self-control
<p>good base for SELF-ACCEPTATION and AUTONOMY</p>	<p>WEAK BASE FOR self-acceptation and autonomy</p>
ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WORLD AND OTHER PEOPLE:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ spontaneity ■ ability to be realistic and make objective estimations of the intentions of other people ■ sense of safety ability of leadership openess to coperation ■ ability to understand the needs of others and readiness to help others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ tendencies to seek approval and confirmation of own value by other people ■ retreating ■ sense of other people's needs
<p>good base for CLOSE, INTIMATE AND AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PEOPLE</p>	<p>the base for EFFECTIVE relations with other people but also tendencies toward CONFORMITY</p>
ATTITUDE TOWARD WORK AND TASK-LIKE SITUATIONS:	

Table 6.4: Characterological orientation (*ChTPI*) of types of temporal competence (*TCI*): SYNERGIC (IV) and RESOURCEFUL (I) comparison.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ tendencies to decide about own life ■ openness to challenges of world and people ■ reasonableness ■ ambitions, enterprising, initiative, good organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ tendencies to conform to outer requirements ■ lower ambitions ■ lower ability for autonomic activity
good base for ACHIEVING GOALS AND SUCCESSES	good base for SEEKING STIMULATION TO ACTION IN SURROUNDING WORLD
INDIVIDUAL STYLE OF ACTION IN THE SURROUNDING WORLD: Oriented toward JOINT ACTION WITH THE SURROUNDING WORLD:	
CREATIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL	ADAPTATION
STRIVING FOR THE SELF-ACTUALIZATION OF THEMSELVES AND OTHER PEOPLE	ADAPTATION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE WORLD AROUND THEM

With reference to these characteristics it can be claimed that:

- a. Deficits in temporal competences is coincident with such a configuration of characterological features (*ChTPI*) which determines the style of activity oriented toward the protection of the *status quo* (Reactive (II) and Careful (III) styles of temporal competence)
- b. A higher level of temporal competences is coincident with such a configuration of characterological features which determines the style of activity oriented toward cooperation (Synergistic (IV) and Resourceful (I) types of temporal competence).

Concluding, it must be emphasized that the types of temporal competences identified in cluster analysis turned out to correspond to the types identified in the study performed in a different sample by K. Tucholska. In this context, the specificities of the research approaches utilized in these studies should be noticed. They become evident through a comparative analysis of the characterological description (*ChTPI*) and trait-theory description (NEO-PI-R) (Table 6.4).

Table 6.5: The description of the types of temporal competence in terms of a traits theory and personal character.

The description of the types of temporal competences (QTC) in the terms of:	
traits theory (NEO-PI-R)	personal character (ChTPI)
The description of the types of temporal	
<i>Traits differentiating people</i>	<i>Specific to man</i>
Generally a set of positive vs. negative forms of behaviors characterized by relative continuity and stability	Capability for organizing one's own activity in the surrounding world in response to the requirements of a particular life situation (adopting attitudes, in the light of possessed experiences, towards one's own possibilities and the possibilities/demands set forth by the environment)
The surrounding world:	
<i>an external factor</i>	<i>a particular's life situation</i>
■ the area of the manifestation of the traits	■ "superdimension" organizing characterological 'gestalt'
The type of temporal competences as:	
'the mean' of mutual links occurring between traits defined:	An unique configuration (qualitative organization) of the characteristics
→ quantitatively (in terms of dominance vs. deficit	within persons as living wholes (particular people perceiving their own possibilities and limitations in a given life situation):
→ unambiguously	→ the result of appraisal, choice and the fulfilling of goals/values offered by the surrounding world
→ determining the mode of their manifestation, usually in behavior	→ determining the person's style of activity in the surrounding world
Research approach	
<i>variable-centered research</i>	<i>person-centered research</i>

On the basis of the above analyses, one can state that the characterological approach (making an effort for a holistic conceptualization of man as a person), the subject of its existence and activity in the surrounding world, can be complementary to contemporary predominant approaches oriented toward establishing elementary qualities (their number, nature and mutual associations) and the descrip-

tion of man in terms of trait theory (variable-centered approach). The description of personality certainly contributes much to accumulating knowledge about man, however it requires complementation by including into research those aspects which had been excluded from this scientific perspective. The issue of temporal competence developed by Z. Uchnast and K. Tucholska (2003), as well as that based on W. Stern's (1923a/1906, 1923b/1918, 1924; 1938/1935) way of conceptualizing and operationalizing personal character, as suggested by Z. Uchnast and A. Celińska, join the stream of search for holistic research methods which will enable the revealing of the complexity and multidimensionality of the specific human reality. At the same time they should fulfill the assumptions of the research approach which tries to conceptualize man holistically as a person (person-centered research). Development of various perspectives within our discipline may contribute to deepening the truth about man and, owing to this, also gain insight into the nature of time as experienced by man.

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