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Craik published only one complete work of any length, this essay on The Nature of Explanation. Here he considers thought as a term for the conscious working of a highly complex machine, viewing the brain as a calculating machine which can model or parallel external events, a process that is the basic feature of thought and explanation.

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The Nature of Explanation "Explanation" is the specification of the ancillary factors necessary and/or sufficient for the cause-effect relationship and how that relationship will change with changes in the context. Explanations enable the productive use of knowledge.

The Nature of Explanation - JSU

So the nature of an explanation is to understand something – to have a working model of it. All explanations are incomplete because at some point they all must take something for granted. When you explain something to another person, “what is conveyed is a blueprint for the construction of a working model.”

The Nature of Explanation - Farnam Street

There are two kinds of explanation of phenomena — scientific explanation in terms of laws of nature and initial conditions, or (on a preferable analysis of laws of nature) in terms of objects and their powers and liabilities; and personal explanation in terms of persons, their powers, intentions, and beliefs.

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There are two kinds of explanation of phenomena – the scientific explanation in terms of laws of nature and initial conditions, or better in terms of things and their process as bio?; and personal explanation in terms of pe?. their capacities, intentions, and beliefs.

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A purported explanation of something may not be a true or actual explanation of that thing. An explanation that turns out to be false in its premises or conclusions may not actually explain whatever it is purported to explain. Explanation may in some cases be a condition for understanding.

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Offering a new approach to scientific explanation, this book focuses initially on the explaining act itself. From that act, a "product" emerges: an explanation. To understand what that product is, as well as how it can be evaluated in the sciences, reference must be made to the concept of the explaining act.

The Nature Of Explanation by Peter Achinstein

In 1943 he wrote The Nature of Explanation. In this book he first laid the foundation for the concept of mental models, that the mind forms models of reality and uses them to predict similar future events. He was thus one of the earliest practitioners of cognitive science.

Kenneth Craik - Wikipedia

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The notion of explanation has figured centrally in most contemporary accounts of scientific knowledge and rational belief. Explanation is usually cited, along with prediction, as one of the two principal functions of our factual beliefs.

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Mechanical Explanation of Nature and its Limits in Kant's Critique of Judgment. Angela Breitenbach - 2006 - Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences 37 (4):694-711.

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