

Unit 9: Prenatal, Infancy & Childhood Practice Questions

Name: _____ Block: _____ Date: _____

1. Developmental psychologists study physical, cognitive, and _____ changes throughout the human life cycle.
 - A) cross-sectional
 - B) embryonic
 - C) genetic
 - D) social
 - E) longitudinal

2. What is a fertilized egg cell called?
 - A) zygote
 - B) fetus
 - C) embryo
 - D) teratogen
 - E) Y chromosome

3. The heart begins to beat during the _____ period of prenatal development.
 - A) embryonic
 - B) fetal
 - C) zygotic
 - D) ovular
 - E) conceptual.

4. The placenta develops from the outer cells of the
 - A) genome.
 - B) zygote.
 - C) fetus.
 - D) embryo.
 - E) egg.

5. Newborn infants typically prefer their mother's voice over their father's voice because
- A) their rooting reflex is naturally triggered by higher-pitched sounds.
 - B) they rapidly habituate to lower-pitched male voices.
 - C) they become familiar with their mother's voice before they are born.
 - D) they form an emotional attachment to their mother during breast-feeding.
 - E) they have difficulty hearing lower-pitched voices during the first few days after birth.
6. Harmful chemicals or viruses that can be transferred from a mother to her developing fetus are called
- A) schemas.
 - B) attachments.
 - C) teratogens.
 - D) zygotes.
 - E) menarche.
7. One of the most consistently damaging teratogens is
- A) epinephrine.
 - B) testosterone.
 - C) serotonin.
 - D) dopamine.
 - E) alcohol.
8. The "rooting reflex" refers to a baby's tendency to
- A) withdraw a limb to escape pain.
 - B) turn the head away from a cloth placed over the face.
 - C) open the mouth in search of a nipple when touched on the cheek.
 - D) be startled by a loud noise.
 - E) look longer at human faces than at inanimate objects.
9. Infant novelty preferences have been discovered by assessing infants'
- A) conservation.
 - B) habituation.
 - C) accommodation.
 - D) imprinting.
 - E) reflexes.

10. Three-month-old Andrew was obviously startled by the first ring of the telephone, but with each subsequent ring he seemed to become less reactive. This best illustrates the process of
- A) accommodation.
 - B) conservation.
 - C) imprinting.
 - D) habituation.
 - E) attachment.
11. Biological growth processes that are relatively uninfluenced by experience and that enable orderly changes in behavior are referred to as
- A) continuity.
 - B) imprinting.
 - C) generativity.
 - D) maturation.
 - E) attachment.
12. Maturation is to education as _____ is to _____.
- A) accommodation; assimilation
 - B) learning; experience
 - C) nature; nurture
 - D) imprinting; critical period
 - E) environment; learning
13. Putting babies to sleep on their backs to reduce the risk of crib death has been associated with a slight delay in children's
- A) walking.
 - B) crawling.
 - C) bladder control.
 - D) stranger anxiety.
 - E) rooting.
14. Three-year-olds who experienced a fire evacuation caused by a burning popcorn maker were unable to remember the cause of this vivid event when they were 10-year-olds. This best illustrates
- A) habituation.
 - B) assimilation.
 - C) infantile amnesia.
 - D) crystallized intelligence.
 - E) fluid intelligence.

15. Four-year-old Karen can't remember anything of the first few months of her life. This is best explained by the fact that
- A) the trauma of birth interfered with the subsequent formation of memories.
 - B) most brain cells do not yet exist at the time of birth.
 - C) experiences shortly after birth are a meaningless blur of darkness and light.
 - D) she lacked language skills for organizing her early life experiences.
 - E) babies lack the hippocampus in the brain needed for memory development.
16. According to Piaget, schemas are
- A) fixed sequences of cognitive developmental stages.
 - B) children's ways of coming to terms with their sexuality.
 - C) people's conceptual frameworks for understanding their experiences.
 - D) problem-solving strategies that are typically not developed until the formal operational stage.
 - E) moral ideas children use to understand right and wrong.
17. According to Piaget, assimilation involves
- A) the absorption of nutrients into the body for growth and development.
 - B) training children to behave in a socially acceptable manner.
 - C) interpreting new experiences in terms of one's current understanding.
 - D) altering existing schemas in order to incorporate new information.
 - E) resolving social dilemmas in productive ways.
18. Three-year-old Zara calls all four-legged animals "kitties." Her tendency to fit all four-legged animals into her existing conception of a kitten illustrates the process of
- A) conservation.
 - B) assimilation.
 - C) accommodation.
 - D) egocentrism.
 - E) habituation.
19. Nageeb thought all nurses were young females until a middle-aged male nurse took care of him. Nageeb's altered conception of a "nurse" illustrates the process of
- A) habituation.
 - B) assimilation.
 - C) accommodation.
 - D) attachment.
 - E) imprinting.

20. Piaget claimed that children understand the world primarily by observing the effects of their own actions on other people, objects, and events during the _____ stage.
- A) concrete operational
 - B) sensorimotor
 - C) formal operational
 - D) preoperational
 - E) preconventional
21. Infants accustomed to a puppet jumping three times on stage show surprise if the puppet jumps only twice. This suggests that Piaget
- A) overestimated the continuity of cognitive development.
 - B) underestimated the cognitive capacities of infants.
 - C) overestimated the impact of culture on infant intelligence.
 - D) underestimated the impact of object permanence on infant attachment.
 - E) overestimated the prediction and estimation abilities of children.
22. According to Piaget, a child can represent things with words and images but cannot reason with logic during the _____ stage.
- A) concrete operational
 - B) sensorimotor
 - C) formal operational
 - D) preoperational
 - E) postconventional
23. The principle that properties such as mass, volume, and number remain the same despite changes in the forms of objects is called
- A) perceptual constancy.
 - B) object equivalence.
 - C) conservation.
 - D) object permanence.
 - E) accommodation.
24. The egocentrism of preschoolers was most strongly emphasized by
- A) Harlow's attachment theory.
 - B) Kohlberg's moral development theory.
 - C) Piaget's cognitive development theory.
 - D) Erikson's psychosocial development theory.
 - E) Lorenz's imprinting theory.

25. Although Mr. Tong was obviously busy reading an absorbing novel, his 5-year-old daughter kept interrupting him with comments and questions about the TV cartoons she was watching. Before Mr. Tong becomes irritated with his daughter for being inconsiderate, he should be alerted to Piaget's concept of
- A) object permanence.
 - B) habituation.
 - C) conservation.
 - D) egocentrism.
 - E) accommodation.
26. Preschoolers' acquisition of a theory of mind suggests that Piaget overestimated young children's
- A) egocentrism.
 - B) habituation.
 - C) stranger anxiety.
 - D) sense of object permanence.
 - E) attachment.
27. The Russian psychologist Lev Vygotsky suggested that children's ability to solve problems is enhanced by
- A) basic trust.
 - B) egocentrism.
 - C) inner speech.
 - D) conservation.
 - E) imprinting.
28. According to Piaget, children come to understand that the volume of a substance remains constant despite changes in its shape during the _____ stage.
- A) sensorimotor
 - B) preoperational
 - C) concrete operational
 - D) formal operational
 - E) postconventional
29. According to Piaget, during the formal operational stage people begin to
- A) reason abstractly.
 - B) adhere to social norms.
 - C) distinguish between good and bad behaviors.
 - D) become aware of the positive and negative consequences of their own behaviors.
 - E) understand mathematical operations involving sets.

30. Gilbert notices that his sausage is sliced into six pieces, whereas his brother's is sliced into nine pieces. He understands, however, that his brother's sausage is not actually any larger than his own. This indicates that Gilbert has by now reached the _____ stage of development.
- A) concrete operational
 - B) sensorimotor
 - C) formal operational
 - D) preoperational
 - E) conventional
31. Infant monkeys raised with a nourishing wire mother and a nonnourishing cloth mother
- A) preferred the nourishing wire mother.
 - B) preferred the nonnourishing cloth mother.
 - C) showed no preference for one mother over the other.
 - D) shifted their initial preference for the wire mother to the cloth mother as they matured.
 - E) did not become attached to either mother.
32. A critical period is a phase during which
- A) children frequently disobey and resist their parents.
 - B) children become able to think hypothetically and reason abstractly.
 - C) parents frequently show impatience with a child's slowness in becoming toilet trained.
 - D) certain events have a particularly strong impact on development.
 - E) parents form important attachments with caregivers.
33. Unlike ducklings, children do not imprint. Their fondness for certain people, however, is fostered by
- A) conservation.
 - B) egocentrism.
 - C) mere exposure.
 - D) infantile amnesia.
 - E) a critical period.
34. In a pleasant but unfamiliar setting, infants with a secure maternal attachment are most likely to
- A) act as though their mothers are of little importance to them.
 - B) use their mothers as a base from which to explore the new surroundings.
 - C) cling to their mothers and ignore the new surroundings.
 - D) show hostility when their mothers approach them after a brief absence.
 - E) cry for their mothers but then reject their comfort when it is offered.

35. A mother who is slow in responding to her infant's cries of distress is most likely to encourage
- A) habituation.
 - B) conservation.
 - C) insecure attachment.
 - D) object permanence.
 - E) egocentrism.
36. When 1-year-old Andrea tries to talk, her mother talks back; when she smiles, her mother smiles in return. These maternal reactions are most relevant to Andrea's development of
- A) secure attachment.
 - B) conservation.
 - C) accommodation.
 - D) habituation.
 - E) object permanence.
37. Nature is to nurture as _____ is to _____.
- A) secure attachment; imprinting
 - B) heredity; maturation
 - C) accommodation; assimilation
 - D) temperament; responsive parenting
 - E) gender identity; gender typing
38. Securely attached people exhibit less
- A) habituation.
 - B) object permanence.
 - C) authoritative parenting.
 - D) fear of failure.
 - E) gender typing.
39. The labels "easy," "difficult," and "slow-to-warm-up," are used to refer to differences in an infant's
- A) gender schema.
 - B) assimilation.
 - C) temperament.
 - D) gender typing.
 - E) genotype.

40. Erik Erikson suggested that children with a secure attachment to their parents are especially likely to experience
- A) stranger anxiety.
 - B) egocentrism.
 - C) basic trust.
 - D) object permanence.
 - E) habituation.

Answer Key

1. D
2. A
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. C
7. E
8. C
9. B
10. D
11. D
12. C
13. B
14. C
15. D
16. C
17. C
18. B
19. C
20. B
21. B
22. D
23. C
24. C
25. D
26. A
27. C
28. C
29. A
30. A
31. B
32. D
33. C
34. B
35. C
36. A
37. D
38. D
39. C
40. C

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