Student name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TRUE/FALSE - Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.**

1. Psychosocial development is defined as the pattern of change in mental abilities, such as learning, attention, memory, and creativity.
* true
* false
1. Maturation refers to differences among children in characteristics, influences, or developmental outcomes.
* true
* false
1. Polygamy refers to a family structure in which the children are half-siblings who share only one biological parent.
* true
* false
1. The United States is an example of a collectivistic culture.
* true
* false
1. Ethnic minorities are those ethnic groups that have national or cultural traditions different from the majority of the population.
* true
* false
1. Because ethnic minorities in the United States are expected to become the majority by around 2044, the term *minorities*, traditionally used to refer to these populations, may no longer be appropriate.
* true
* false
1. An ethnic gloss is a characteristic that clarifies variations within heterogenous groups.
* true
* false
1. Black Lives Matter (BLM) is a political and social movement focused on eliminating racially-based violence against Black people through nonviolent protest and activism.
* true
* false
1. The abbreviation BIPOC (Black, indigenous, and people of color) has been adopted to refer to these groups, rather than the outdated term "minorities."
* true
* false
1. The composition of a neighborhood affects the way children develop.
* true
* false
1. Poverty is lower in children from immigrant families.
* true
* false
1. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the "new poor" living in extreme poverty are likely to be young, poorly educated, and living in rural areas with limited access to health care facilities.
* true
* false
1. The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to further exacerbate inequities and existing disparities, especially between immigrant and native-born populations.
* true
* false
1. Normative influences are unusual events that have a major impact on individual lives because they disturb the expected sequence of the life cycle.
* true
* false
1. According to Konrad Lorenz, imprinting is automatic and irreversible.
* true
* false
1. A sensitive period is a period when a developing person is especially responsive to certain kinds of experiences.
* true
* false
1. Plasticity refers to the hardening of the brain through experience.
* true
* false
1. A baby who can say 3 words at 12 months and then 20 words at 15 months experiences a qualitative change.
* true
* false
1. Qualitative change is viewed as continuous development.
* true
* false
1. The change from a nonverbal child to one who understands words and can communicate verbally is a qualitative change.
* true
* false
1. Newborns are governed by the superego.
* true
* false
1. The ego mediates between the impulses of the id and the demands of the superego.
* true
* false
1. Erik Erikson argued that the entire life span is marked by change and development.
* true
* false
1. Operant conditioning is a type of learning in which a response to a stimulus is elicited after repeated association with a stimulus that normally elicits the response.
* true
* false
1. Reciprocal determinism is Albert Bandura's term for bidirectional forces that affect development.
* true
* false
1. The zone of proximal development (ZPD) is the location within DNA where certain inherited traits like intelligence, creativity (such as musical aptitude), and athletic ability are housed.
* true
* false
1. Ethologists suggest that for each species, certain innate behaviors, such as squirrels burying nuts in the fall and spiders spinning webs, have evolved to increase the odds of survival.
* true
* false
1. An ethnographic study uses a combination of methods, including informal, unstructured interviewing and participant observation.
* true
* false
1. Two inversely correlated variables increase or decrease together.
* true
* false
1. Field experiments are controlled studies conducted in an everyday setting, such as the home or school.
* true
* false
1. The sequential study is a complex strategy designed to overcome the drawbacks of longitudinal and cross-sectional research.
* true
* false

**MULTIPLE CHOICE - Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.**

1. Division of the life span into periods of development is a social construction. This indicates that

it remains constant across all cultures and societies.

it is a concept invented by a particular culture.

it is nonnormative.

it is biologically determined.

1. The period of development from conception to birth is referred to as

the prenatal period.

infancy.

puberty.

the neonatal period.

1. Which of the following characterizes infants and toddlers?

The abilities to learn and remember are absent.

The use of symbols develops by the end of the second year.

Handedness appears.

Play becomes imaginative, elaborate, and social.

1. Which of the following is a characteristic of early childhood?

Basic body structures and organs begin to form.

Children begin to think logically but concretely.

Handedness appears, and fine and gross motor skills improve.

Peers assume greater importance than family.

1. During\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thinking is egocentric but understanding of other people's perspectives grows.

toddlerhood

early childhood

the prenatal period

middle childhood

1. Health is generally better than at any other time in the life span during

toddlerhood.

early childhood.

middle childhood.

adolescence.

1. Reproductive maturity occurs during

toddlerhood.

early childhood.

middle childhood.

adolescence.

1. Which of the following describes psychosocial development occurring during the adolescent stage of development?

The shift from dependence to autonomy begins.

Physical growth and other changes become very slow.

The search for identity becomes central.

Handedness appears.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is defined as the growth of the body and brain, sensory capacities, motor skills, and health.

Physical development

Cognitive development

Psychosocial development

Ego development

1. Annette, who is a toddler, first started crawling, then started standing, and is now taking her first steps. This aspect of Annette's development is best categorized as

physical development.

cognitive development.

psychosocial development.

ego development.

1. Cognitive development primarily refers to

the growth of sensory capacities and motor skills.

the pattern of change in mental abilities.

the pattern of change in emotions.

the development of social relationships.

1. Dr. Dunn studies the way children of different ages organize information in their memory. Her research focus is primarily on

physical development.

normative development.

cognitive development.

psychosocial development.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is defined as the pattern of change in emotions, personality, and relationships.

Physical development

Cognitive development

Psychosocial development

Normative development

1. Dr. Ortiz, a child psychologist, is conducting research on peer interactions among middle school children. His aim is to understand the impact of peer interactions on emotional development. Dr. Ortiz is focusing on

cognitive development.

normative development.

physical development.

psychosocial development.

1. In the context of the three major domains of development, which of the following is an aspect of psychosocial development?

attachment

culture

fidelity

personality

1. Variations among children in characteristics, influences, or developmental outcomes are referred to as

individual differences.

internalizing behaviors.

identity schemas.

representational mappings.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ refers to the unfolding of a universal, natural sequence of physical changes and behavior patterns.

Heredity

Social construction

Maturation

Imprinting

1. A two-generational household unit generally consisting of one or two parents and their biological children, adopted children, or stepchildren is called a(n)

joint family.

nuclear family.

extended family.

polyandrous family.

1. Natalia's family consists of her biological parents and her younger sibling, Sam. Their family also has a pet dog. Given the information, Natalia's family is most likely to be categorized as a(n)

extended family.

nuclear family.

stepfamily.

blended family.

1. Shari is a 9-year-old girl who lives in California. She lives with her parents, her younger sister, and her grandparents. Her maternal uncle, who recently emigrated from India to the United States, also lives with them. Shari's family is most likely to be categorized as a(n)

conjugal family.

nuclear family.

extended family.

blended family.

1. The most common family structure worldwide is the

extended family.

polygamous family.

nuclear family.

single-parent family.

1. Where are polygamous families primarily found?

in Utah, the center of Mormon cultural influence

in South Africa

in Hindu countries

in Muslim countries

1. A society's or group's total way of life, including customs, traditions, beliefs, values, language, and physical products—all learned behavior passed on from adults to children—is referred to as its

exosystem.

ethnicity.

culture.

microsystem.

1. According to the Census Bureau, by the year 2060, non-white children under age 18 are expected to make up\_\_\_ percent of the child population.

48.9

63.6

77.3

39.5

1. A group consisting of people united by ancestry, race, religion, language, or national origin that contributes to a sense of shared identity is known as a(n)

out-group.

ethnic group.

clique.

extended family.

1. Which of the following is true of poverty in the United States?

In 2018, approximately 36 percent of all children in the United States lived in poverty.

Hispanic children are less likely to live in poverty than their white counterparts.

The child tax credits benefits provision to lower- and middle-income families in the American Rescue Plan legislation is projected to reduce child poverty by 25 percent.

During the second half of 2020, almost 2 million Americans fell below the poverty line.

1. Where is the COVID-19 pandemic likely to have the greatest effect on poverty rates?

the most densely populated countries, such as China

Western countries, such as the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Italy

the middle-income countries that recently made gains, such as Nigeria and India

the developing countries, such as Afghanistan, Uruguay, and Belarus

1. Today, the largest numbers of U.S. immigrants come from

Southern Asia and Northern Africa.

China and India.

Mexico.

the Caribbean.

1. In the context of influences on development, risk factors refer to

conditions that increase the likelihood of a negative developmental outcome.

environmental factors that influence the impact of heredity on an individual.

conditions that have no impact on developmental outcomes.

social factors that are likely to impact a society's way of life.

1. In the context of influences on development, normative influences are

events that affect many or most people in a society in similar ways.

information that shapes the accumulated perceptions of the self.

acquired interpretive perceptions stored in long-term memory.

temporary support provided to help a child master a task.

1. In the context of influences on development, nonnormative influences are

acquired interpretive perceptions stored in long-term memory.

events that touch only certain individuals.

inborn traits or characteristics inherited from a child's biological parents.

temporary support provided to help a child master a task.

1. Events that occur at about the same age for people around the world, such as starting school, are called

normative age-graded influences.

socially constructed events.

nonnormative influences.

normative history-graded influences.

1. Which of the following is an example of a normative history-graded influence?

Shania experiences menopause at the age of 45.

Caroline, who is part of the baby boomer generation, is independent and self-assured like the other members of her generation.

Devon lost his spouse to cancer at the age of 27.

Emily, a software developer, decides to quit her job and join an art school to learn painting at the age of 55.

1. All the individuals who were middle school students in the United States when the COVID-19 pandemic caused emergency nationwide public health policies, including quarantines and lockdowns, shared a common experience at a formative time in their lives. This group of individuals is referred to as a(n)

ethnic group.

historical generation.

conjugal group.

kinship network.

1. A group of people born at about the same time who experience similar influences is referred to as a(n)

cohort.

kinship network.

ethnic group.

historical generation.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a form of learning in which, during a critical period in early development, a young animal forms an attachment to the first moving object it sees, usually the mother.

Classical conditioning

Imprinting

Operant conditioning

Scaffolding

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a specific time during development when a given event, or its absence, has the greatest impact.

A behavioral cusp

A nonnormative period

A critical period

The zone of proximal development

1. The concept of critical periods in humans is controversial because

human development is primarily influenced by heredity.

human development is primarily passive.

the aspects of human development are subject to only normative influences.

many aspects of human development have been found to show plasticity.

1. Modifiability of performance is also referred to as

plasticity.

fidelity.

generativity.

resiliency.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is defined as inborn traits or characteristics inherited from a child's biological parents.

Heredity

Heritability

Eugenics

Ethnicity

1. Totality of nonhereditary, or experiential, influences on development is referred to as

the mesosystem.

the scaffold.

the environment.

the microsystem.

1. Identify a true statement about the mechanistic model of development.

This model holds that children do not just react; they initiate events.

This model views development as passive.

This model endorses discontinuous change.

This model holds that the driving force for change is internal.

1. Psychologists who agree with the organismic model of development are most likely to believe that

children's behaviors result from the operation of biological parts in response to external or internal stimuli.

a child is like a hungry sponge, eagerly soaking up and responding to the world.

all aspects of children's learning and development are shaped by environmental influences.

children are active, growing organisms that are the architects of their own development.

1. Identify a fundamental point of child development that developmental theorists agree on.

As long as people live, they have the potential to change in both positive and negative directions.

Influences on development are unidirectional.

Environmental influences do not cause human development, though they can speed or slow it.

Normal development typically occurs in distinct stages.

1. Which of the following fundamental points of child development is FALSE?

Influences on development are bidirectional.

Only physical and cognitive development are interrelated.

Typical development includes a wide range of individual differences.

Historical and cultural contexts strongly influence development.

1. The\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective on human development focuses on the lasting effects of childhood experiences and unconscious drives and motivations.

psychoanalytic

evolutionary

learning

cognitive

1. According to psychoanalytic theory, the\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ operates under the pleasure principle.

conscience

id

superego

ego

1. According to Sigmund Freud, which of the following is true of the id?

It is absent in newborns.

It represents reason.

It includes the conscience.

It seeks immediate satisfaction of needs.

1. According to Sigmund Freud, the\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ represents reason and operates under the reality principle.

id

ego

superego

conscience

1. The\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ includes the conscience and incorporates socially approved "shoulds" and "should nots" into a child's own value system.

id

ego

superego

libido

1. Which of the following is true of the theory of psychosexual development proposed by Sigmund Freud?

It describes eight stages of development across the life span.

It states that sensual pleasure shifts from one body zone to another.

It includes four stages, namely sensorimotor, preoperational, concrete operations, and formal operations.

It states that each stage involves a "crisis" in personality.

1. In the context of the stages of psychosocial development explained by Erik Erikson, who among the following is in the industry versus inferiority stage?

Nine-year-old Mandy, who feels incompetent as she is the only student in her class who cannot swim

Fourteen-year-old Leah, who feels a strong attraction to another girl in her school

Five-month-old Noah, who depends on his single mother to meet all his needs

Two-year-old David, who feels a sense of independence when he uses the toilet instead of wetting himself at night

1. Which of the following is true of Erik Erikson's theory of psychosocial development?

It states that if children receive too little or too much gratification in any of the developmental stages, they are at risk of fixation.

It states that the critical theme of infancy is initiative versus guilt.

It ignores the influence of society on the developing personality of children.

It states that each developmental stage requires the balancing of a positive trait and a corresponding negative one.

1. Which of the following is true of the learning perspective on human development?

It focuses on the lasting effects of childhood experiences and unconscious drives and motivations.

It holds that the mind is a tabula rasa, a blank slate upon which experience could write.

It states that people can access cognitive processes, even though they are internal.

It holds that an individual is not a separate entity interacting with the environment but an inseparable part of it.

1. Which of the following is a type of associative learning studied by behaviorists?

assimilation

imprinting

operant conditioning

accommodation

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a type of learning in which a response to a stimulus is elicited after repeated association with a stimulus that normally elicits the response.

Classical conditioning

Imprinting

Social learning

Intermittent reinforcement

1. Learning based on association of behavior with its consequences is called

classical conditioning.

operant conditioning.

modeling.

imprinting.

1. In operant conditioning,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a process that increases the likelihood that a behavior will be repeated.

canalization

reinforcement

adaptation

habituation

1. In operant conditioning,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the process by which a behavior is weakened, decreasing the likelihood of repetition.

conservation

adaptation

punishment

centration

1. In the context of Skinnerian psychology, identify a true statement about reinforcement.

It is used to decrease the likelihood that a behavior will be repeated.

It refers to the tendency to seek a balance among cognitive elements.

It refers to the creation of categories or systems of knowledge.

It is most effective when it immediately follows a behavior.

1. Albert Bandura's social learning theory differs from the behaviorist approach in that his theory

states that the impetus for development is bidirectional.

states that the environment is the chief impetus for development.

focuses on associative learning.

focuses on psychosexual development.

1. People learn appropriate social behavior by watching other people and learning both about what potential behaviors might be as well as the likely consequences of such behaviors. This process is referred to as

classical conditioning.

assimilation.

reciprocal determinism.

observational learning.

1. Identify a true statement about Jean Piaget's cognitive-stage theory.

It holds that people learn about the world by reacting to aspects of their environment that they find pleasing.

It states that children learn appropriate social behavior chiefly by observing and imitating models.

It maintains that children come equipped with a few basic capacities that allow them to begin learning.

It proposes that development occurs through interaction between a developing person and the surrounding contextual systems.

1. According to Jean Piaget, people create increasingly complex cognitive structures called\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or ways of organizing information about the world.

schemes

scaffolds

associations

memes

1. In the context of cognitive-stage theory, assimilation is Jean Piaget's term for

the act of observing and imitating models.

incorporating new information into an existing cognitive structure.

changes in a cognitive structure to include new information.

the tendency to seek a stable balance among cognitive elements.

1. In the context of cognitive-stage theory, Jean Piaget used the term\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to describe the process of adjusting one's cognitive structure to include new information.

"assimilation"

"conservation"

"accommodation"

"organization"

1. According to Jean Piaget's cognitive-stage theory,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ motivates the shift from assimilation to accommodation.

adaptation

equilibration

organization

conservation

1. Which of the following is true of Lev Vygotsky's sociocultural theory?

Cognitive development occurs in four qualitative stages.

Adaptation occurs through assimilation and accommodation.

Cognitive growth is a collaborative process.

Cognitive development is independent of social and cultural processes.

1. Ten-year-old Justin finds it difficult to solve a simple mathematical problem on his own. When his tutor helps him solve the problem, he understands the method and finds it easy. This fills the gap between what he can do alone and what he can do with help. In the context of Lev Vygotsky's sociocultural theory, which of the following concepts is exemplified in this scenario?

analysis of free associations

authoritative parenting

classical conditioning

zone of proximal development

1. While teaching his son cycling, Mark initially held the bicycle to help his son maintain his balance. Once his son was able to balance himself, Mark gradually let go of the bicycle. In the context of Lev Vygotsky's sociocultural theory, the temporary support Mark provided to his son is known as

rote learning.

scaffolding.

mentoring.

active learning.

1. Which of the following is true of Urie Bronfenbrenner's bioecological theory?

It identifies five levels of environmental influence, ranging from very intimate to very broad.

It states that parental guidance is most effective in helping children cross the zone of proximal development.

It identifies three hypothetical parts of personality: the id, the ego, and the superego.

It states that an individual learns from the consequences of operating on the environment.

1. The information-processing approach views cognitive development as being like a(n)

sponge.

mirror.

computer.

tabula rasa (or blank slate).

1. Melissa, a second-grade student, lives with her parents and her brother. In the context of Urie Bronfenbrenner's bioecological theory, which of the following is primarily part of Melissa's microsystem?

the relationship between Melissa's father and his colleagues

the relationship between Melissa and her parents and her brother

the relationship between Melissa's parents and her teachers

the relationship between Melissa's brother and his friends

1. Which of the following branches of psychology applies Darwinian principles to the study of human behavior?

cognitive psychology

behavioral psychology

evolutionary psychology

cultural psychology

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the study of animal species' distinctive adaptive behaviors.

Ethology

Bionics

Biopsychology‎

Ecology

1. Which of the following is true of qualitative research?

Qualitative research on human development is primarily based on the scientific method.

It deals with objectively measurable numerical data that can answer questions such as "how much?" or "how many?" and that is amenable to statistical analysis.

The goal of qualitative research is to generate hypotheses from previous research.

It commonly involves verbal or pictorial descriptions of participants' subjective understanding, feelings, or beliefs about their experiences.

1. Self-report measures are said to be reliable when

the tests measure the abilities they claim to measure.

the results are reasonably consistent from one time to another.

the sample size is very large.

the researcher who has developed the measure is highly qualified.

1. A team of psychologists collects data for a study by observing preschool teachers' classroom interactions without the knowledge of the teachers. The psychologists do so by observing the teachers through a one-way mirror. In this scenario, which of the following is conducted by the psychologists?

laboratory observation

a case study

naturalistic observation

a clinical study

1. An ethnographic study is

the study of animal species' distinctive adaptive behaviors.

a case study of a culture.

an in-depth study of a single individual.

the study of the evolution of human behavior.

1. The acronym WEIRD refers to psychological data that are collected on samples that are

Western, educated, industrialized, racially diverse, and democratic.

Western, experimental, industrialized, rich, and democratic.

Western, educated, intergenerational, rich, and democratic.

Western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic.

1. Jeremy is conducting a study on the stressors faced by firefighters. He collects data by joining a team of firefighters and observing them while they are at work. For his research, he is using the

case study method.

laboratory observation method.

self-report method.

participant observation method.

1. Which of the following statements about correlational studies is FALSE?

Correlational studies are useful for discovering the statistical relationship between two variables.

Correlation equals causation.

Correlations are reported as numbers ranging from +1.0 (a perfect positive relationship) to -1.0 (a perfect negative relationship).

Correlations are expressed in terms of direction (positive or negative) and magnitude (how strong they are).

1. Which of the following is true of a correlational study?

This research design is primarily used to prove cause-and-effect relationships.

This research design is best suited for an in-depth study of a single case or individual.

This research design is often used by researchers to observe people in their natural environment.

This research design is useful for discovering the statistical relationship between two variables.

1. In scientific research, the only way to show with certainty that one variable causes another is through

a case study.

surveys.

a correlational study.

experimentation.

1. In an experimental study, the subjects who do not receive the treatment under study are referred to as the

experimental group.

control group.

extraneous group.

independent group.

1. Amina, a psychology researcher, conducts a study to find out whether having breakfast has an impact on people's performance at work. She chooses a sample of 100 participants and categorizes them into two equal groups: group A and group B. She asks group A to go to work after having breakfast and group B to go to work without having breakfast for 10 days. In the context of research designs, which of the following is true about this study?

Group A is the control group, while group B is the experimental group.

This study is classified as an ethnographic study.

This study is classified as a case study.

Group A is the experimental group, while group B is the control group.

1. Katianna is conducting an experiment to test the impact of mindfulness training on adolescents' memory. She divides her research participants into two groups. One group is provided with mindfulness training, while the other group does not receive this training. She measures their performance on memory and attention tests at the beginning and at the end of the training. In this experiment, the group that did not receive the mindfulness training is called the

experimental group.

control group.

independent variable.

dependent variable.

1. In a research experiment in which children aged 4 to 6 were asked to persist at a boring task during which an attractive video game was available for breaks, the children who were asked to reflect on how hard they were working from\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ persisted the longest at the boring task.

a first-person perspective ("Am I working hard?")

a third-person perspective ("Is Imani working hard?")

the point of view of a character ("Is Batman working hard?")

a collective group perspective ("Are we working hard?"

1. Which of the following is true of a natural experiment?

It is the most effective method for establishing a cause-and-effect relationship.

It is conducted in a laboratory.

It allows random assignment to treatment groups.

It is actually a correlational study.

1. A researcher studies identical twins separated at birth and reared in different environments to determine the influence of heredity on their personality traits. Which of the following is the researcher conducting?

a laboratory experiment

an ethnographic study

a natural experiment

a cross-sectional study

1. Which of the following is true of a cross-sectional study?

It assesses changes in a sample over time.

It assesses children of different ages on one occasion.

It aims to discover whether a statistical relationship between variables exists.

It attempts to study people of different ages over time.

1. Dylan, a psychology professor, conducted a study on the impact of bullying on the self-image of 5-year-old children. He assessed their self-image twice a year for the next 5 years. Which of the following developmental research designs did he conduct?

a cross-sectional study

a longitudinal study

a sequential study

a correlational study

1. A researcher measures the cognitive skills of five children in each of the following age groups: 2–5 years, 8–12 years, and 14–16 years. The researcher measures their cognitive skills several times across a span of 10 years. This is an example of a

cross-sectional study.

longitudinal study.

sequential study.

correlational study.

1. The majority of those who conduct research, including university faculty, authors, editors, and gatekeepers are

Asian.

White.

Black.

Hispanic.

1. The unethical research practice known as "p-hacking" consists of

using phishing technology to steal someone else's research data.

fabricating fictitious data results that predispose readers to a specific interpretation of the findings.

making incomplete, private data results public before they are finalized, resulting in public misinformation.

combing through data until a statistically significant result is found and then developing a post hoc (after the fact) explanation for the finding.

**SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.**

1. Write a note on heredity, environment, and maturation.

1. How do socioeconomic status and neighborhood impact children?

1. Briefly describe the effect the COVID-19 pandemic has had on global poverty rates.

1. Write a note on the emerging consensus on child development.

1. Describe the significance, impact, and limits of Sigmund Freud's psychosexual theory of development.

1. Briefly describe the importance of Erik Erikson's theory of psychosocial development.

1. Briefly describe the information-processing approach.

1. Write a note on the right to informed consent, avoidance of deception, and right to privacy and confidentiality.

**Answer Key**Test name: chapter 1

FALSE

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Short Answer

Scientists have found ways to measure the contributions of nature (heredity and biological processes) and nurture (environmental influences) to the development of specific traits within a population. For example, even though heredity strongly affects intelligence, environmental factors such as parental stimulation, education, and peer influences also affect it. Contemporary theorists and researchers are increasingly interested in explaining how nature and nurture work together rather than in arguing about which factor is more important.
Many typical changes of infancy and early childhood, such as the emergence of the abilities to walk and talk, are tied to maturation of the body and brain—the unfolding of a universal, natural sequence of physical changes and behavior patterns. These maturational processes, which are seen most clearly in the early years, act in concert with the influences of heredity and environment. As children grow into adolescents and adults, individual differences in innate personal characteristics (heredity) and life experience (environment) play an increasing role as they adapt to the internal and external conditions.

Short Answer

A family's socioeconomic status (SES) is based on family income and the educational and occupational levels of the adults in the household. SES affects developmental processes, such as mothers' verbal interactions with their children, and developmental outcomes, such as health and cognitive performance. SES affects these processes and outcomes indirectly through the kinds of homes and neighborhoods people live in and the quality of nutrition, medical care, and schooling available to them. Poverty is stressful and can damage children and families' physical, cognitive, and psychosocial well-being. Poor children are more likely than other children to go hungry, to have frequent illnesses, to lack access to health care, to experience violence and family conflict, and to show emotional or behavioral problems. Their cognitive potential and school performance suffer as well. The harm poverty does is often indirect through its impact on parents' emotional state and parenting practices and on the home environment they create. Threats to well-being multiply if, as often happens, several risk factors, conditions that increase the likelihood of a negative outcome, are present.
The composition of a neighborhood affects the way children develop. Living in a neighborhood with large numbers of poor people has been shown to impact physical health, well-being, and school readiness. Positive development can occur despite serious risk factors, however.

Short Answer

Until the COVID-19 pandemic, global poverty rates had been steadily improving over the last 20 years. In 2020, however, COVID-19 reversed that trend. Preliminary estimates are that an additional 88 to 115 million people will be forced into extreme poverty. Middle-income countries that made recent gains, such as India and Nigeria, are likely to be the most profoundly affected. According to data from the World Bank, while prior to COVID-19 the majority of people living in extreme poverty were young, poorly educated, and lived in rural areas, the “new poor” are likely to be from urban areas most affected by lockdowns and restrictions.

Short Answer

There are many different viewpoints abound in the study of child development. However, as the field has matured, broad agreement has emerged on several fundamental points:

All domains of development are interrelated. Development in each of the different domains—physical, cognitive, and psychosocial—affects the others in a series of complex interactions.

Normal development includes a wide range of individual differences. Each child, from the start, is unlike anyone else in the world. Some of the influences on individual development are inborn; others come from experience. Most often, these influences work together.

Influences are bidirectional. Children affect the environment around them as much as the environment shapes them.

Historical and cultural contexts strongly influence development. Each child develops within a specific environment bounded by time and place.

Early experience is important, but children can be remarkably resilient. A traumatic incident or a severely deprived childhood may have grave emotional consequences, but the effects of painful experience, such as growing up in poverty or the death of a parent, often can be overcome.

Development in childhood affects development throughout the life span. As long as people live, they have the potential to change in both positive and negative directions.

Short Answer

Freud’s theory made historic contributions and inspired a whole generation of followers. Many of Freud’s ideas, however, now are widely considered obsolete, cannot be scientifically tested, or have not been supported in research. Additionally, his ideas, shaped by the context of Victorian society and developed out of his interactions with his psychologically distressed clients, were culturally bound, relatively negative about human development, and often sexist.
However, several of Freud's central themes have stood the test of time. Freud made us aware of the importance of unconscious thoughts, feelings, and motivations; the role of childhood experiences in forming personality; the ambivalence of emotional responses, especially to parents; the role of mental representations of the self and others in establishing intimate relationships; and the path of normal development from an immature, dependent state to a mature, interdependent one.

Short Answer

Erikson’s theory is important for a number of reasons. First, while the crises that Erikson outlined were particular to one place and time, Erikson made clear that social and cultural influences mattered. Erikson highlighted the social clock, the conventional, culturally preferred timing of important life events. Moreover, Erikson held a much more positive view of development than Freud. Freud focused more strongly on the ways in which development could go awry. Erikson, while acknowledging that crises could be resolved poorly, left room for improvement. At any point in the life span, development could shift in a positive direction, and a crisis might be successfully resolved and a new strength developed.

Short Answer

The information-processing approach seeks to explain cognitive development by analyzing the processes involved in making sense of incoming information and performing tasks effectively. It is not a single theory but a framework that undergirds a wide range of theories and research. The most common model for this theory is that of a computer, which has certain inputs (such as sensory impressions) and certain outputs (such as behaviors).
Information-processing theorists view development as continuous. They note age-related increases in the speed, complexity, and efficiency of mental processing and the variety of material that can be stored in memory. The information-processing approach has taught people a great deal about the mechanics of how the mind works. It has also demonstrated that people can access cognitive processes, even though they are internal.

Short Answer

Right to Informed Consent: Informed consent exists when participants voluntarily agree to be in a study, are competent to give consent, are aware of the risks as well as the potential benefits, and are not being exploited. The National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research (1978) recommends that children age 7 or over be asked to give their consent to take part in research and that any children's objections should be overruled only if the research promises direct benefit to the child.
Avoidance of Deception: Ethical guidelines call for withholding information only when it is essential to the study, and then investigators should avoid methods that could cause pain, anxiety, or harm. Participants should be debriefed afterward to let them know the true nature of the study and why deception was necessary and to make sure they have not suffered as a result.
Right to Privacy and Confidentiality: Research participants need to know that their information will be kept private and their responses are confidential. However, there are cases in which researchers are obligated to breach confidentiality—such as when an investigator discovers signs of abuse. Thus, researchers need to inform participants of their legal responsibility to report abuse or neglect or any other illegal activity of which they become aware, and confidentiality must be guarded otherwise.