

Chapter 1: Beginnings of Communication

TRUE/FALSE

1. Many mothers notice a definite fetal response to environmental sounds during the third trimester of pregnancy.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

2. It is believed that babies are able to hear maternal speech sounds before birth.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

3. It is important that parents believe their babies may try to imitate parent actions or sounds as early as the second or third month of age.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

4. By age seven to twelve months, infants usually respond to their own name.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

5. By the age of six months, infants react to changes in their adult caregivers' tone of voice.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

6. Mothers who know more about what abilities their infants possess at any given age are usually more skilled at providing interactions and activities that might promote growth.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

7. Allowing babies to explore their environment safely is a necessary condition of good care.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

8. An infant's emotional well being is usually not observable before its first birthday.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

9. At birth, each infant's brain has an equal number of neurons and synapses.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

10. The human brain can be accurately described as a flexible, sensitive, and plastic part of the human central nervous system.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

11. The text recommends that parents provide special, extraordinary experiences to their infants to promote advanced skills in very early infancy.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

12. The idea that “critical periods” exist during brain growth and development is accepted rather than debated by neuroscientists.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

13. Commercial infant videos are recommended for they enhance an infant’s intellectual development.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

14. The reactions or feedback a baby receives from others shapes the infant’s feelings about himself.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

15. The text recommends that families obtain products and learn techniques that will speed their infant’s brain development.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

16. Speaking in a low, soothing voice may help an agitated infant attend and listen.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

17. Adults often use a “lyrical” or “musical” speech when interacting with babies.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

18. Babies may learn to wait for an adult response before they utter their next sound-making attempt.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

19. The appearance of reduplicated babbles like “ba ba ba” is typical during an infant’s third month.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

20. Researchers believe that baby sign language may promote communication skills.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

21. If a young child calls a horse a dog, he has made a logical error.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

22. Caregivers and mothers should be aware of what infants are looking at and, when possible, comment on it.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

23. It is a good idea to hesitate briefly after you have said something to an infant.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

24. Deprivation can affect infant brain function.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

25. An attuned adult working with infants uses infant cues to modify adult actions and behaviors.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy.

26. Building infant IQ isn't possible at 3 months of age.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

27. Boys are slightly advanced during infancy in their ability to gesture and sign.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

28. The acronym NAEYC stands for the National Association for the Education of Young Children

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

29. The acronym IRA stands for the International Reading Advancement Association.

ANS: F PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

30. There probably isn't any caregiver routine in which the adult should remain silent except nap time.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

31. By the end of the first year an infant should be pointing at things he wants.

ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Easy

32. Educators suspect an infant's signing ability is reflected in his IQ scores.

ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

33. Phonation concerns the flow of exhaled air over the larynx (throat).

ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

34. A secure emotional relationship in infancy is characterized by an individual helping another to increase his/her balance and well being.

ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

35. Being able to explore ones environment promotes even more exploration and joy, it is believed.

ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

36. Musical experiences for infants may have a strong possible connection to young children's ability to process words.

ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

37. Some researchers believe that an adult's attempts to calm and sooth a distressed infant may actually sharpen the infant's ability to calm himself and also better attend to stimuli when faced with future stressful situations.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
38. Whether infants reach developmental milestones early or are on the late side of normal has little predictive value concerning future proficiency or cognitive skills.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
39. At birth or shortly thereafter, an infant may be able to recognize subtle differences between his native language sounds and another world language sounds.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
40. Bonding is described as the adaptation an infant develops only in his home environment.
- ANS: F PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
41. Cognitive science, an evolving field of study, unites psychology, philosophy, linguistics, computer science, and neuroscience.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
42. Infants living in neglectful and/or chaotic home environments may display certain behaviors because of over-activated brain and body systems.
- ANS: T PTS: 1 DIF: Moderate
43. Researchers suspect that learning a second language early in life may affect the brain's capacity for all sorts of future learning.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
44. Most researchers suggest that thinking, cognition, and emotion take place in separate brain areas and have no relationship with one another.
- ANS: F PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate
45. Adults speaking "motherese" may affect their infant's heart rate.
- ANS: T PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Infants a few days old may prefer familiar
- a. faces. c. voices.
- b. smells. d. all of these answers
- ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

2. Parents' and caregivers' attitudes and expectations about infants' awareness and sensory abilities may be predictive of
- a. height and weight.
 - b. future musical abilities.
 - c. developmental growth.
 - d. speech growth.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

3. One of the best predictors of infant development is his mother's or caregiver's
- a. ability to be playful.
 - b. ideas concerning the baby's awareness and competence.
 - c. ability to be verbal during caretaking interactions.
 - d. ability to feed, bathe, and mimic baby noisemaking.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

4. The critical time to diagnose and treat hearing impairment so that the child's speech develops normally is at
- a. one month of age.
 - b. six months of age.
 - c. eight months of age.
 - d. eleven months of age.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

5. A mother's special speech to her baby, sometimes referred to as "parentese," may
- a. limit infant speech growth.
 - b. help the infant become aware and hold his attention.
 - c. produce a musically talented toddler.
 - d. promote infant behaviors that are unsociable.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

6. Infants react to the speech sounds they hear and
- a. learn to speak by remembering words.
 - b. build a vocabulary of 20 to 25 sounds.
 - c. decode and divide them into abstract categories.
 - d. watch how the people around them form their vowel sounds.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

7. Musical activities are offered to infants because
- a. they enhance children's thinking abilities.
 - b. they are enjoyable.
 - c. music stimulates speech growth.
 - d. musical experiences may promote unknown growth and development.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

8. The reading of picture books to children younger than one year of age
- a. may create intelligent preschoolers.
 - b. is probably of limited benefit.
 - c. may create positive or negative attitudes about book reading.
 - d. increases most infants alertness.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

9. New technology used to study infant's brain function and developing language ability suggests that
- a. infants are smarter and display more emotions than previously believed.

- b. the ability of many American infants has declined.
- c. much of what was suspected about language growth has been disproven.
- d. fine distinctions between speech sounds is rarely recognized by babies during the first months of life.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

10. Highly repetitive and simplified “mother talk” is
- a. typical in all cultures.
 - b. not recommended in the text.
 - c. inappropriate in some cultures.
 - d. appropriate, but most mothers need training to do it.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

11. New findings in infant’s language growth suggest that it is critical to discover
- a. how many synapses are present.
 - b. early eye and ear acuity.
 - c. brain size.
 - d. whether parents are providing appropriate activities.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

12. Books that infants and young toddlers seem to prefer and that are recommended in the text include
- a. oversized books.
 - b. books with large print.
 - c. colorful touch-and-feel books.
 - d. those without contrasting backgrounds.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

13. An infant’s early ability to recognize subtle differences among sounds in all world languages
- a. disappears with age.
 - b. confirms most theories of child language development.
 - c. increases with age.
 - d. remains constant if good child care is provided.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

14. Providing infants with soft, safe writing tools
- a. is necessary for early drawing experience increases intelligence.
 - b. speeds motor development.
 - c. is thought not to be developmentally appropriate.
 - d. will require adult supervision.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

15. Identify the mother who would best promote her infant’s language growth.
- a. one who talked baby talk and listened
 - b. one who was animated, expressive, and liked to sing
 - c. one who was confident in her infant’s abilities, watchful, warm, and responsive
 - d. one who spent lots of time with her infant and provided many educational toys

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

16. The number of brain synapses is believed to peak at
- a. 6 months.
 - b. 12 months.
 - c. 18 months.
 - d. 24 to 36 months.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

17. Every time an infant communicates successfully by using a nonverbal baby sign, it is believed that this
- a. makes subsequent efforts easier.
 - b. weakens brain connections.
 - c. impedes his efforts to speak.
 - d. displays superior intelligence.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

18. Neurolinguistics is best defined as
- a. the study of language complexity.
 - b. a branch of speech theory.
 - c. the study of linguistics and brain structure and function.
 - d. the study of language acquisition.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

19. Infant care staff members are trained to
- a. treat all infants alike.
 - b. make sure their tone of voice is high-pitched.
 - c. overlook nonverbal communication and focus on verbalizations.
 - d. read infants' individual characteristics.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

20. Moderation level is maintained in an infant center when infants are
- a. somewhere between boredom and excitement.
 - b. between relaxed and withdrawn.
 - c. energetic and are exploring the environment.
 - d. able to sleep or cry.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

21. "Motherese" is often used to
- a. quiet an infant or gain his attention.
 - b. influence an infant's sense of well-being.
 - c. communicate by using exaggerated voice inflections.
 - d. all these answers.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

22. By the last half of an infant's first year, he reaches the milestone of
- a. gaze coupling.
 - b. tracing objects with his eyes.
 - c. sharing attention given to objects with another person.
 - d. turning toward voices or a sound.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

23. Listening to music in infancy improves children's communication ability. This statement is
- a. supported by scientific evidence.
 - b. not supported by scientific evidence.
 - c. partially true.
 - d. discounted by most professional educators.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

24. Some research studies indicate that infants
- may remember and give greater attention to rhymes or stories read to them before their birth.
 - may not remember or react to literature read to them before their birth.
 - as adults select English majors in college because they were read to before their birth.
 - may be more intelligent if they were read to before their birth.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

25. Newborn's auditory systems
- regress shortly after birth.
 - may have developed so well that an unborn child can hear his mother's voice.
 - are better developed than his sight systems.
 - are rarely affected prenatally by a mother's health.

ANS: C PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

26. An infant at 3 to 6 months of age can be expected to
- turn to look at the families pet dog barking.
 - make vocal sounds including consonant-like babbles.
 - react to changes in a primary caregiver's tone of voice.
 - all the above.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

27. Probably the most critical area of an infant's life that affects language growth is
- intellectual experiences.
 - certified and degreed caregivers.
 - an environment full of sensory experience and developmentally appropriate activities.
 - emotional relationships and attachment.

ANS: D PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

28. If you are reading a book about faces to an older infant make sure,
- he can help turn pages.
 - you use your face and his face as examples.
 - you finish the book so he can explore it.
 - to add some sensory features to the experience.

ANS: B PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate

29. If you noticed an infant wanted a ball but couldn't reach it and you were interested in developing a sign for ball, you would
- form a ball-like hand sign, say ball, and give it to him.
 - watch to see if he could reach or give him a toy rake to use.
 - wait until he made a sign before giving the ball.
 - ask his parents if he has a sign for ball.

ANS: A PTS: 2 DIF: Moderate.

SHORT ANSWER

- "Critical" or "plastic" time periods in brain growth refer to

ANS:

specific windows of time that may occur from birth to around age 10 or 12, when certain stimuli or environmental experiences may have the opportunity to change the brain's anatomy or make it more efficient.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

2. It used to be thought that all infants experienced sensations and environmental stimuli in similar ways, but now it is believed that infants

ANS:

Infants are born with unique, individual differences and that a stimulus that may delight one infant may irritate or distress another.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

3. Briefly discuss "parentese" and how it affects most infants.

ANS:

Because it is high-pitched and sing-song, it may hold the infant's attention and aid the infant's focus on speech or it may soothe. A few infants prefer lower speech sounds. The practice can be frowned upon in some cultures.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

4. Why is infant imitation developmentally significant?

ANS:

The human infant's ability to imitate is a human characteristic that promotes problem-solving skills, gains the attention of caretakers, and usually has a pleasant payoff. It can amuse and promote attempts to study others, thus to learn a new behavior.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

5. By six to twelve months of age, an infant is a specialist in his own native language. Explain.

ANS:

The infant has a brain specifically structured to emphasize the distinctions in the language the infant has heard since birth.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

6. The term *photoword* can be defined as

ANS:

a word the child invents.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult

7. Describe children's first words.

ANS:

They are usually familiar and personal words naming people or objects encountered daily. They can also be words such as *gone*, *more*, *dat*, and others used frequently in home conversation or social phrases used in greetings, farewells, or interactive play such as Peek-a-boo.

PTS: 3 DIF: Difficult

8. To promote infant (six to twelve months) speech growth, name five useful adult techniques.

ANS:

Highly intonating speech; using a high pitch; using a slow pace; speaking distinctly; emphasizing certain words; repeating comments in a relaxed fashion; promoting conversational turns; speaking face to face; giving feedback; commenting on what the infant is focused on; naming adult or child actions as they happen; pausing after adult comments; rewarding child vocalization with smiles, attention, touching, appropriate encouragement; and providing opportunities to explore with supervision. Other correct answers are possible.

PTS: 3 DIF: Difficult

9. The largest group of children at risk for school failure and learning disabilities are

ANS:

Children who live in poor economic circumstances and who represent a disproportional percentage of African-American and Hispanic children, and those infants and young children with limited access to health care. Other factors are premature birth, poor nutrition, lack of immunizations, chronic ear infections, neural damage, physical limitations and home environments that may be crowded, provide limited language interactions, and have families that are unaware that they are contributing to their children's problems.

PTS: 3 DIF: Difficult

10. List five characteristics of an 'attuned' infant care provider.

ANS:

Responsive, sensitive, understands or guesses the meaning of infant cues, reacts appropriately to infant cues, notices infant actions, facial expressions, body gestures or movements, and uses eye contact, displays affection and admiration, smiles, provides verbal and nonverbal communication, matches adult actions to cues, attempts to maintain and extended eye contact. Other correct answers are possible.

PTS: 3 DIF: Difficult

11. Why might it be easier for an infant to first make vowel sounds rather than consonant sounds?

ANS:

Because vowel sounds are made with an open mouth in a relaxed state early in the child's life but consonant sounds require using the lips, tongue, and the ridge of either the upper or lower jaw.

PTS: 3 DIF: Difficult

12. Inherited genes contribute to children's abilities and talents but are they the sole factor?

ANS:

Genes alone will not determine a child's future abilities and talents or any other human trait.

A child's appearance and temperament may influence how others provide or withhold attention and opportunities. Life experiences and life circumstances also may include intellect-building interactions with the world around him and the people in his/her life who care and supply items for his basic social, emotional, physical and other basic and 'extra basic' needs will be instrumental in his growth and development.

PTS: 3

DIF: Difficult.

13. Individual infants in group care vary significantly. Caregivers might tend to spend more time with what types of infant? How do you feel about this human tendency?

ANS:

The easy going, happy, good tempered, good looking ones, or ones that look most like the caregiver and smile a lot might have an edge. Or infants that seemed to need attention the most. Or infants with particular characteristics and manners that are admired by the caregiver. If so this should bother you, a caregiver has a limited amount of time each day to spend with all infants in their care to promote their well being and growth potential so fairness and equal time should be a priority. If a 'squeaky wheel' or an overly needy child gets more staff time and energy, this should be discussed with caregivers and supervisors. All children are special and have an equal right to caregiver attention.

PTS: 1