

PSYCHOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD | REVIEW QUESTIONS

These review questions are designed to help you assess your grasp of the facts and definitions covered in your textbook. Knowing facts and definitions is necessary (but not sufficient) for success on formal exams, which assess your ability to conceptualize and analyze the material covered in textbook and lecture. An answer key is provided at the end of these review questions so you can check your answers.

1. Understanding that the behavior of others is purposive and goal-directed is an aspect of:
 - A) social knowledge.
 - B) observational learning.
 - C) object permanence.
 - D) physical knowledge.

2. An infant learning the association between tone of voice and facial expression is an example of:
 - A) affordance.
 - B) continuity.
 - C) differentiation.
 - D) unconditioned stimulus.

3. An infant coming to appreciate that a flat surface is suitable for walking is an example of the discovery of:
 - A) intermodal coordination.
 - B) an affordance.
 - C) conditioning.
 - D) habituation.

4. Research by Meltzoff and colleagues indicates that very young children are able to learn from what kind of models?
 - A) adults but not children
 - B) children but not adults
 - C) both children and adults
 - D) neither children nor adults

5. Piaget developed his concept of object permanence by observing:
- A) young infants' expectation that objects continue to exist even when hidden.
 - B) young infants' failure to search for hidden objects.
 - C) young children's expectation that objects continue to exist even when hidden.
 - D) young children's failure to attempt to move permanently attached objects.
6. When reflexive, unlearned behavior becomes anticipatory in response to a recognized stimulus, _____ has occurred.
- A) classical conditioning
 - B) differentiation
 - C) operant conditioning
 - D) positive reinforcement
7. The violation-of-expectancy procedure is founded on the expectation that infants:
- A) lose interest in events that are familiar.
 - B) look longer at possible events.
 - C) are interested in events that are inconsistent with their knowledge.
 - D) lose interest in events that violate their expectations.
8. At 6 months Ken has learned that if he presses a button on his toy phone it will play a song. This is an example of:
- A) instrumental conditioning.
 - B) classical conditioning.
 - C) habituation.
 - D) observational learning.
9. _____ is the first concept to develop as infants learn about objects being able or not being able to support each other.
- A) Type of contact
 - B) Whether or not there is contact
 - C) The shape of a supported object
 - D) Amount of contact
10. The decrease in response to repeated presentation of the same stimulus is referred to as:
- A) habituation.
 - B) dishabituation.
 - C) operant learning.
 - D) observational learning.

11. What did research by Baillargeon examining infants' attention to a screen that rotated into the space occupied by hidden objects that were either tall or short demonstrate about infants' thinking about objects?
 - A) Infants cannot mentally represent objects that are out of their view.
 - B) Infants know that hidden objects still exist, but they are unable to remember their size.
 - C) Infants are able to reason about some characteristics of unseen objects.
 - D) Infants reach differently for objects depending on their size.

12. Research in which 12- and 15-month-old infants were introduced to a faceless, eyeless blob suggested that infants are willing to attribute intentions and goals to:
 - A) virtually any object, animate or inanimate.
 - B) inanimate objects.
 - C) inanimate objects if they look like animate objects.
 - D) inanimate objects if they behave like animate objects.

13. Piaget believed that young infants' failure to reach for a hidden object indicated that they:
 - A) had lost the desire for the object.
 - B) were unaware of the existence of the object.
 - C) were unable to reach the object.
 - D) were unable to uncover the object.

14. Research demonstrating that young infants reach for objects in the dark is evidence of their:
 - A) conception of object permanence.
 - B) inability to mentally represent objects.
 - C) innate learning mechanism.
 - D) excellent night vision.

15. Infants can learn through instrumental conditioning:
 - A) at birth.
 - B) by 6 months.
 - C) by 10 months.
 - D) by 15 months.

16. Scale errors are thought to be a result of young children's:
 - A) overconfidence in their own abilities.
 - B) underdeveloped depth perception.
 - C) failure to integrate perception and action.
 - D) inexperience with self-locomotion.

17. A 6-month-old infant is trying very hard to reach a colorful rattle that is on the floor in front of her. The infant's mother mistakenly drops a blanket over the rattle, concealing it from the infant. The infant reacts by looking away from the covered rattle and picking up another nearby toy. How would Piaget attribute the infant's reaction?
- A) The infant's reaching behavior is not consistent with her understanding.
 - B) The infant has a short attention span.
 - C) The infant lacks problem-solving skills.
 - D) The infant lacks object permanence.
18. The violation-of-expectancy procedure provides evidence that:
- A) young infants' knowledge is limited to what they know.
 - B) young infants can represent and think about invisible objects.
 - C) when an object disappears from sight, it disappears from a young infant's mind.
 - D) young infants are most influenced by observational learning.
19. An infant's sibling always jumps off his bed with a loud bang when he wakes up from his nap. He then comes downstairs and greets the infant with a tickle, making the infant laugh and cough reflexively. Eventually, the infant begins to laugh and cough reflexively when he hears the bang, even before he sees his brother. In this scenario, the loud bang is a(n):
- A) conditioned stimulus.
 - B) unconditioned stimulus.
 - C) conditioned response.
 - D) unconditioned response.
20. A father puts his 5-month-old infant in his crib and then leaves the room. With which of the following statements would Piaget be MOST likely to agree?
- A) The infant can mentally represent his father.
 - B) The infant fails to comprehend that his father still exists.
 - C) The infant knows that his father still exists but cannot remember what his father looks like.
 - D) The infant knows that his father still exists but does not know how to get his father to come back in her room.
21. Of the following types of learning, which involves imitating the behavior of others?
- A) observational learning
 - B) perceptual learning
 - C) classical conditioning
 - D) unconditioned learning

22. Research examining young infants' reaching for small and large objects in a darkened room demonstrated that young infants:
- A) have excellent night vision.
 - B) do not have an innate learning mechanism for object size.
 - C) have poor night vision.
 - D) are able to think about the characteristics of invisible objects.
23. An infant's sibling always jumps off his bed with a loud bang when he wakes up from his nap. He then comes downstairs and greets the infant with a tickle, making the infant laugh and cough reflexively. Eventually, the infant begins to laugh and cough reflexively when he hears the bang, even before he sees his brother. In this scenario, the laugh and cough in response to the bang is a(n):
- A) conditioned stimulus.
 - B) unconditioned stimulus.
 - C) conditioned response.
 - D) unconditioned response.
24. The process of extracting from the environment elements that remain stable is referred to as:
- A) differentiation.
 - B) error scaling.
 - C) statistical learning.
 - D) habituation.
25. _____ is an example of a scale error.
- A) Attempting to put one's own foot into a tiny doll shoe
 - B) Attempting to reach for an object that is too far away
 - C) Misjudging that one can successfully walk down a too-steep incline
 - D) Mistakenly believing that a large sponge is heavier than a large rock
26. The active-child framework is best exemplified by:
- A) perceptual learning.
 - B) classical conditioning.
 - C) statistical learning.
 - D) instrumental conditioning.

27. Which of the following statements about the association between speed of habituation in infancy and general cognitive ability is true?
- A) There is no association between habituation in infancy and general cognitive ability.
 - B) There is a small association between habituation in infancy and general cognitive ability in early childhood, but this association disappears later in life.
 - C) There is a large association between habituation in infancy and general cognitive ability in early childhood, but this association disappears later in life.
 - D) There is a substantial association between habituation in infancy and general cognitive ability even into adulthood.
28. Statistical learning involves:
- A) extracting from the environment those elements that remain stable.
 - B) learning the relationship between one's own behavior and its result.
 - C) decreased response to repeated stimulation.
 - D) forming associations between stimuli that occur in a predictable pattern.
29. An infant learns a new way to climb up on the living room sofa by watching his older sibling through which type of learning?
- A) classical conditioning
 - B) statistical learning
 - C) observational learning
 - D) instrumental conditioning
30. Although Piaget claimed young infants could not mentally represent or think about anything that is not perceptually present, subsequent research has shown that young infants can represent invisible objects. Researchers have shown that infants as young as 3-1/2 to 4-1/2 months old look longer at impossible events than at possible events. This research procedure is known as:
- A) means–end problem solving.
 - B) conditioned response.
 - C) violation-of-expectancy.
 - D) object-permanence testing.
31. Which of the following forms of learning is probably the simplest?
- A) classical conditioning
 - B) habituation
 - C) observational learning
 - D) rehearsal

32. Research by Baillargeon in which 4-month-old infants were shown a screen that apparently rotated through a box and a screen that rotated up and stopped at the top of the box demonstrated that infants:
- A) looked longer at the screen when it rotated the full 180 degrees than when it stopped.
 - B) looked longer at the screen when it stopped than when it rotated the full 180 degrees.
 - C) looked at both events for the same length of time.
 - D) were unable to mentally represent the box when it was out of view.
33. Research by Meltzoff in which 18-month-olds observed either an adult or a mechanical device pull at two ends of a dumbbell demonstrated that children can learn by imitating the:
- A) behavior of adults.
 - B) behavior and intentions of adults.
 - C) behavior of adults and inanimate objects.
 - D) behavior and intentions of adults and inanimate objects.
34. An infant randomly makes many vocalizations throughout the day. Some of her vocalizations elicit no response from her parents, but several elicit laughter and hugging from her parents. Eventually, she learns to make those vocalizations in order to elicit laughter and hugs through which type of learning?
- A) classical conditioning
 - B) perceptual learning
 - C) observational learning
 - D) instrumental conditioning
35. _____ was first discovered by Pavlov in his research with dogs.
- A) Observational learning
 - B) Classical conditioning
 - C) Perceptual learning
 - D) Operant conditioning

Answer Key - Infant Cog Review

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