

## 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. Cephalocaudal development refers to the tendency for development to take place from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) head; body
  - B) body; head
  - C) inside; outside
  - D) outside; inside
2. Approximately how long after conception does the fetus begin to make movements?
  - A) 1 hour
  - B) 5 weeks
  - C) 6 months
  - D) 9 months
3. The fetal behavior of swallowing is thought to:
  - A) continually clean the internal organs as they develop.
  - B) promote the normal development of the palate.
  - C) be somewhat harmful to the development of the intestines.
  - D) be one of the earliest prenatal movements.
4. Which sense is LEAST stimulated in the uterus?
  - A) taste
  - B) sight
  - C) touch
  - D) hearing
  - E) smell

5. Which of the following sounds does the fetus hear?
- A) noises made by the mother's digestive system
  - B) voices of people talking to the mother
  - C) blood pumping through the mother's vascular system
  - D) intonation and pattern of the mother's speech
  - E) All of the answers are correct.
6. A fetus's decreased response to a repeated stimulus is termed:
- A) sensitization.
  - B) desensitization.
  - C) habituation.
  - D) dishabituation.
7. The earliest age at which fetal habituation has been observed is \_\_\_\_\_ weeks' gestation.
- A) 16
  - B) 25
  - C) 32
  - D) 37
  - E) 39
8. Which of the following statements about infant taste preferences is true?
- A) Infant taste preferences are innate.
  - B) Infant taste preferences are learned in the first few weeks of life.
  - C) Infant taste preferences are unlike adult taste preferences.
  - D) Infant taste preferences most likely do not have an evolutionary origin.
9. Breast-fed infants:
- A) show a preference for some flavors, such as vanilla, that their mother has eaten.
  - B) dislike any strong flavor, such as garlic, in their mother's diet.
  - C) are particularly likely to drink more breast milk after their mother has consumed alcohol.
  - D) contrary to popular wisdom, are not affected by what their mother has eaten.
10. Of sensation and perception, \_\_\_\_\_ involves the organization and interpretation of information.
- A) both sensation and perception
  - B) sensation
  - C) perception
  - D) neither sensation nor perception

11. The preferential-looking technique is founded on the expectation that infants:
  - A) look longer at objects they like or find interesting.
  - B) look away from complicated or frightening objects.
  - C) recognize familiar patterns.
  - D) lose interest in objects that are familiar.
  
12. How clearly an individual can see is referred to as her visual:
  - A) contrast.
  - B) scanning ability.
  - C) acuity.
  - D) constancy.
  
13. Light-sensitive neurons located in the central region of the retina are referred to as:
  - A) cones.
  - B) the fovea.
  - C) cubes.
  - D) acuity neurons.
  
14. When young infants (younger than 2 months old) look at complex shapes or pictures, they tend to look at:
  - A) the perimeter.
  - B) the inner detail.
  - C) low-contrast areas.
  - D) large sections simultaneously.
  
15. Which cue is most important for object segregation?
  - A) common movement
  - B) common color
  - C) common texture
  - D) common distance
  
16. The change in retinal image size as a moving object gets closer, causing more and more of the background to be occluded, is referred to as:
  - A) retinal enlargement.
  - B) perceptual constancy.
  - C) optical expansion.
  - D) relative size.

17. Optical expansion is a cue used to perceive:
- A) depth.
  - B) color.
  - C) relative size.
  - D) patterns.
18. Binocular disparity results from:
- A) poor visual memory.
  - B) the distance between a person's two eyes.
  - C) background occlusion.
  - D) the difference between close items and faraway items.
19. Pictorial cues are also referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ depth cues.
- A) perceptive
  - B) binocular
  - C) stereotypical
  - D) monocular
20. Infant Greta hears a bell that she cannot see. She immediately turns toward the sound. This is an indication that Greta has which of the following abilities?
- A) auditory localization
  - B) auditory segregation
  - C) pattern perception
  - D) music perception
21. Newborns prefer which of the following tastes?
- A) bland
  - B) spicy
  - C) sweet
  - D) sour
  - E) None of the answers is correct; newborns have no taste preference
22. Before the age of 4 months, which of the following types of exploration of the environment is most common?
- A) oral
  - B) manual
  - C) self-locomotive
  - D) smell

23. The combining of information from two or more sensory systems is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ perception.
- A) intrasensory
  - B) extrasensory
  - C) intermodal
  - D) multichannel
24. A researcher taking a dynamic-systems approach to motor development would be most likely to examine the impact of \_\_\_\_\_ on the development of crawling.
- A) cortical maturation
  - B) multiple variables
  - C) muscle strength
  - D) vision
25. When reaching for an object, infants must take into account:
- A) direction.
  - B) distance.
  - C) shape.
  - D) trajectory.
  - E) All of the answers are correct.
26. Infants first become capable of self-locomotion at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ months.
- A) 4
  - B) 6
  - C) 8
  - D) 10
27. Which of the following activities is NOT an example of self-locomotion?
- A) crawling
  - B) walking
  - C) reaching
  - D) All the answers are examples of self-locomotion.
28. Which of the following forms of learning is probably the simplest?
- A) classical conditioning
  - B) habituation
  - C) observational learning
  - D) rehearsal

29. 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.
30. Pioneered by Robert Fantz, this is a method for studying visual attention in infants.
- A) perceptual consistency
  - B) visual acuity
  - C) preferential-looking technique
  - D) auditory localization
31. Which is true of infant vision?
- A) Infants tend to look at the center of any display, regardless of what it is.
  - B) By around 2 or 3 months of age, infants' color vision is similar to that of adults.
  - C) Visual acuity develops very slowly, but by 18 months infants can see nearly as well as adults.
  - D) Because of the sensitivity of their eyes, young infants avoid looking at areas of high contrast.
32. Even very young infants are especially attracted to faces. They look longer at:
- A) faces with the features scrambled.
  - B) faces rated more attractive by adults.
  - C) monkey faces than at human faces.
  - D) faces of their same gender.
33. Which cue is particularly informative to babies for object segregation?
- A) gravity
  - B) color
  - C) movement
  - D) texture
34. Around 4 months of age infants develop \_\_\_\_\_, the process by which the visual cortex combines differing neural signals, resulting in depth perception. Around 7 months of age infants become sensitive to \_\_\_\_\_ depth cues, which can be perceived by one eye alone.
- A) stereopsis; monocular
  - B) monocular; stereopsis
  - C) object segregation; pictorial
  - D) stereopsis; object segregation

35. A young child is touched on the cheek and promptly turns his head to the side that was touched. This is an example of:
- A) intermodal perception.
  - B) contrast sensitivity.
  - C) the rooting reflex.
  - D) the tonic neck reflex.
36. At what age is the average child able to walk alone easily?
- A) 8–10 months
  - B) 15–19 months
  - C) 20–24 months
  - D) 11–14 months
37. Which of the following is correct with respect to the stepping reflex?
- A) It disappears in part because the infant's muscles are not strong enough to lift its increasingly heavy legs.
  - B) It is one of the newborn reflexes that persists throughout life.
  - C) Because it is a reflex, it is impossible to modify it through experience.
  - D) A strong stepping reflex in infancy is related to later athletic ability.
38. Baby Lynn, 2 months old, wants to get her hands on the rattle and other toys; however, all she can do is make very clumsy swiping movements in the general vicinity of the toys. This movement is known as:
- A) self-locomotion.
  - B) rooting reflex.
  - C) optical expansion.
  - D) prereaching movements.
39. Baby Miranda is participating in a visual cliff experiment. What skill must baby Miranda have already developed in order to show wariness of heights?
- A) habituation
  - B) visual expectancy
  - C) self-locomotion
  - D) stepping reflex

40. What best explains the fact that vision has been the predominant focus of research into perception?
- A) Approximately 50% of the cerebral cortex is involved in visual processing.
  - B) Vision is the primary means of sensory perception across the animal kingdom.
  - C) Research into visual processing is easy and cost-effective.
  - D) Improving the visual processing of children is seen as important to society.
41. At about what age are children able to visually track slowly moving objects?
- A) 6 months
  - B) 2 months
  - C) a few days after birth
  - D) 9 months
42. Which is NOT important to the achievement of depth perception?
- A) optical expansion
  - B) binocular disparity
  - C) object segregation
  - D) stereopsis
43. Children's hearing capabilities approach adult levels at:
- A) birth.
  - B) 1 year of age.
  - C) 2 to 3 years of age.
  - D) 5 to 8 years of age.
44. A newborn's first few months of life are dominated by:
- A) a combination of manual and oral exploration.
  - B) intermodal exploration.
  - C) manual exploration.
  - D) oral exploration.
45. Intermodal perception refers to:
- A) infants' basic ability to communicate.
  - B) the transitioning from one form of sensory perception to another.
  - C) the combining of information from two or more sensory systems.
  - D) the use of sensory information by infants to recognize their mothers.

46. The ability of infants to explore an object manually enables:
- A) motor development.
  - B) the integration of a tactile and visual experience.
  - C) oral exploration.
  - D) the integration of a visual and auditory experience.
47. Most neonatal reflexes:
- A) disappear on a regular schedule.
  - B) remain throughout life.
  - C) have no discernible benefit.
  - D) are related to hunger.
48. At what age is the average child able to pull him- or herself up to stand?
- A) 6 to 10 months
  - B) 5 to 6 months
  - C) 11 to 14 months
  - D) 4 to 6 months
49. Which statement best reflects current views on motor development?
- A) Early motor development results from perceptual advances.
  - B) Early motor development is a purely physical phenomenon.
  - C) Early motor development is driven by the maturation of the cerebral cortex.
  - D) Early motor development results from a confluence of numerous factors.
50. Which development has been described as children no longer having “to wait for the world to come to them”?
- A) crawling
  - B) reaching
  - C) walking
  - D) stepping

## Answer Key - Sensorimotor Review

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