

1st TERM EXAM- Model Answers

❖ Read the following statements carefully, then mark true statements “T” and false ones “F”. Justify your answer if the statement is false (not correcting the original statement or providing a false or irrelevant statement= 00 points).

1/ A key difference between cognitivism and constructivism is that reality according to cognitivists is mind-independent. Constructivists, on the other hand, posit that reality exists separately from consciousness. **False**

A key difference between cognitivism and constructivism is that reality according to cognitivists is mind-independent. Constructivists, on the other hand, contend that what we know of the world stems from our own interpretations of our experiences. Humans create meaning as opposed to acquiring it.

2/ According to Piaget, a child's mind at birth is a blank slate. All types of knowledge and operations are learned through experience. **False**

Piaget claimed that apart from the schemas we are born with schemas and operations are learned through interaction with other people and the environment.

3/ Constructivists believe that development of cognition precedes the acquisition of the sign systems used to express mental content. **False**

Cognitive constructivists believe that development of cognition precedes the acquisition of the sign systems used to express mental content.

4/ According to Sachs et al. (1981), impersonal sources of language such as television or radio alone are not sufficient for a child's proper linguistic development. **True**

5/ The so-called “wug test”, originally designed and introduced by B.F Skinner, is conducted to demonstrate that children learn language only through imitation. **False**

The so-called “wug test”, originally designed and introduced by Gleason (1958), is conducted to demonstrate that children do not learn language only through imitation.

6/ Vygotsky theorized that language and thought exist in the human being as two separate systems. **False**

Vygotsky theorized that thought and language are initially separate systems from the beginning of life, merging at around three years of age.

7/ ‘Object permanence’ involves understanding that the quantity of certain things remains the same in spite of changes in their appearance. **False**

‘Object permanence’ involves knowing that things hidden from sight are still there.

8/ The logical problem of language acquisition means that the samples of language children are exposed to logically account for the attained linguistic competence. **False**

The logical problem of language acquisition means that the samples of language children are exposed to do not logically account for the attained linguistic competence.

9/ Principles, according to Chomsky, are specific linguistic features that can take different values across languages. **False**

Principles, according to Chomsky, unvarying features that apply to all natural languages.

- 10/ A neutral stimulus is one that naturally and automatically triggers an unconditioned stimulus. **False**
A neutral stimulus is one that that neither increases nor decreases the probability of a behavior being repeated.
- 11/ Learning, according to connectionists, is equated with constructing a network of interconnected exemplars and patterns, rather than abstract rules. **True**
- 12/ By the age of two, most children begin to combine words into simple sentences. These sentences are sometimes called “telegraphic” because they leave out content words. **False**
By the age of two, most children begin to combine words into simple sentences. These sentences are sometimes called “telegraphic” because they leave out function words and grammatical morphemes.
- 13/ Empiricism holds that organisms are born with basically no knowledge and anything learned is gained through interactions and associations with the environment. **True**
- 14/ Piaget defined accomodation as the cognitive process of fitting new information into existing cognitive schemas, perceptions, and understanding. **False**
Accommodation is a term developed by Jean Piaget to describe what occurs when new information or experiences cause you to modify your existing schemas.
- 15/ Scientists (such as Kuhl (2001))found that tests showed that very young babies initially can’t hear the subtle differences between speech sounds and only slowly learn to distinguish those that are important in their particular language. **False**
Scientists (such as Kuhl (2001)) found that tests showed that very young babies can initially hear the subtle differences between speech sounds that are used in all the world’s languages.
- 16/ Children diagnosed with Asperger’s Syndrome find it difficult to deal with literal language: They have trouble identifying when a speaker is using literary devices such as hyperbole or metaphors. **False**
Children diagnosed with Asperger’s Syndrome find it difficult to deal with figurative language: They have trouble identifying when a speaker is using literary devices such as hyperbole or metaphors.
- 17/ Negative punishment involves adding something undesirable to increase the probability of a behavior being repeated. **False**
Negative punishment involves taking something desirable away to decrease the probability of a behavior being repeated.
- 18/ Researchers (such as Heath (1983)) have found that the kind of child-directed speech observed in middle-class American homes (where adults often modify the way they speak when talking to little children) is universal. **False**
Researchers (such as Heath (1983)) have found that the kind of child-directed speech observed in middle-class American homes (where adults often modify the way they speak when talking to little children) is not universal.
- 19/ A schema can be defined as a set of linked mental representations of the world, which we use both to understand and to respond to situations. **True**
- 20/ Brown’s 1973 study was one of the studies which proved that children follow different routes while acquiring their first language. **False**
Brown’s 1973 study was one of the studies which proved that children go through remarkably similar developmental sequences while acquiring their first language.