Unit 4 Exam: Developmental Psychology

MAJOR THEMES
Nature versus Nurture
Continuous vs. Discontinuous (Definitive Stages)
Stability vs. Change
Stage Theory (same order for everybody / not necessarily the same age)

PRENATAL & EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Zygote – embryo – fetus
Infant vision (improves during the first 6 months as children become able to accommodate /focus)
Teratogens
  - effects of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
  - Effects of nicotine
Habituation (we pay less attention to repeated stimuli and more attention to novel stimuli) - How is it used by researchers?
Early memory formation
Infant reflexes:
  - Rooting
  - Grasping
  - Startle
Maturation
Habitation (we pay less attention to repeated stimuli and more attention to novel stimuli) - How is it used by researchers?

PIAGET (kids think differently than adults)
Schema
Assimilation
Accommodation

Piaget’s Stages (you should know the approximate ages as well as the major events associated with each stage):

I. Sensorimotor:
   - Object Permanence
   - Separation Anxiety
   - Stranger Anxiety

II. Preoperational:
   - Egocentrism
   - Representational Thought (using symbols for the purpose of learning language)
   - Theory of Mind

III. Concrete Operational:
   - Law of Conservation

IV. Formal Operations:
   - Abstract and Hypothetical Thinking

PARENTING
Attachment (How does attachment impact children in “strange situations?” – Ainsworth’s study)
Harlow’s Studies of Monkey Attachment
Baumrind’s Parenting Styles
  - Authoritarian
  - Permissive
  - Authoritative – What is the criticism of this type of parenting?

Gender schema theory

THE AGING BRAIN
Memory decline (decline in recall; recognition ability remains unchanged)
Fluid and Crystallized Intelligence
Alzheimer’s disease (memory loss & disorientation – result of deterioration of neurons that produce acetylcholine)

ETC.
Vygotsky: emphasizes the influence of environment on cognitive development
Zone of proximal development
Kohlberg’s Stages of Morality (& Gilligan’s criticism)
  - Preconventional
  - Conventional
  - Post-conventional

Erikson’s stages of psychosocial development
  - STAGE 1: Trust vs. Mistrust
  - STAGE 2: Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt
  - STAGE 3: Initiative vs. Guilt
  - STAGE 4: School Age - Industry vs. Inferiority
  - STAGE 5: Adolescence - Identity vs. Identity Confusion
  - STAGE 6: Intimacy vs. Isolation
  - STAGE 7: Generativity vs. Stagnation
  - STAGE 8: Integrity vs. Despair

UNIT 4 – DEVELOPMENT
PERCENT ON AP EXAM – 7-9%

TERMS YOU MUST KNOW
Object Permanence  Conservation
Formal Operational Stage  Egocentrism
Schemas  Fetus
Accommodation  Embryo
Assimilation  Longitudinal Study
Attachment  Cross Sectional Study
Concrete Operational State  Developmental Psychology
Puberty  Gender Identity
Critical Period  Maturation
Preoperational Stage  Zygote
Sensorimotor State

IMPORTANT PEOPLE TO KNOW
- Mary Ainsworth – study of parenting and attachment “Strange Situations”
- Albert Bandura – Bobo Doll Study – observational learning
- Erik Erikson – psychosocial development
- Sigmund Freud – psychosexual development
- Carol Gilligan – believed that Kohlberg’s theory was male-centered and boys are more likely to apply moral rules to all contexts where girls are more likely to consider relationships when making a decision
- Francis Galton – nature vs. nurture, genetics
- Harry Harlow – study of monkeys and attachment, need for comfort over nutrition
- Lawrence Kohlberg – three moral development stages
- Jean Piaget – cognitive development of children

CONFUSING PAIRS
- Assimilation (what is perceived in the outside world is incorporated into the internal world without changing structure of the internal world) v. Accommodation (internal world has to change itself to the evidence with which it is confronted, and thus adapt to it)
- Concrete Operations (logical thinking) v. Formal Operations (philosophical thinking)

TERMS THAT STUDENTS MAKE MISTAKES ON
- Assimilation - we take in new information or experiences and incorporate them into our existing ideas
- Piaget – Cognitive Development
- Identical Twins – Same Placenta
- Maturation – biological growth process (usually same for everyone)
- Puberty – Reproductive Sex Organs
- Elizabeth Kubler-Ross – stage of death and dying – Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance, not always in that exact order, and not everyone goes through all of them
- Basic Trust – must be met by caregiver
- Natural Selection – Choosing a Partner
- Accommodation – when new information or experiences cause you to modify your existing schemas
- Types of Parenting – Authoritative, Neglectful, Permissive, and Authoritarian
- Lawrence Kohlberg's Stages of Morality – Pre-Conventional, Conventional, Post-Conventional
- Secure Attachment – Basic Trust
- Insecure Attachment – No Basic Trust
- Temperament – aspects of an individual's personality, such as introversion or extroversion, which are often regarded as innate rather than learned