

EXAM 1 – STUDY GUIDE
PSY 207-Developmental Psychology
Professor Jennings

The exam will be 75 multiple-choice questions. Most of the questions will be based on material covered in lecture. It is also important that you read the chapters in the textbook – there will be question that will come directly from the textbook (material not covered in lecture). If you can answer the questions on this study guide... you should have no problem with the exam. I am going to focus on the big concepts. If want you to be able to understand and apply the material ... not just spit back the facts.

Methods for Studying Development across the Lifespan

1. What is the scientific method?
 - a. What are the five steps?
 - b. What is a hypothesis? What are the important features of a hypothesis?
2. There are four main ways to collect data... what are they?
 - a. What is a survey? What are interviews? What are the strengths and weaknesses of surveys?
 - b. What is a case study? What are the two main reasons researchers do case studies?
 - c. What is a scientific observation? What are the types of observations? What are the strengths and weaknesses of observations?
 - d. What are experiments? What are the strengths and weaknesses of experiments?
 - i. What is an independent variable? What is a dependent variable? Be able to identify from an experiment.
 - ii. What is the difference between a correlational study and an experiment?
 1. What is the direction of causation problem?
 2. What is the third variable problem?
3. What are the designs researchers use to study changes over time?
 - a. Be able to distinguish between longitudinal, cross-sectional, and cross-sequential designs.

Prenatal Development

1. What are the three periods of prenatal development?
 - a. What is conception?
 - b. What are a zygote, an embryo, and a fetus?
 - c. What is implantation?
2. What makes up the support system for the developing organism?
 - a. What is the yolk sac? When does the developing organism stop relying on the yolk sac?
 - b. What is the purpose of the placenta?
 - c. What is the purpose of the umbilical cord?
 - d. What is the purpose of the amniotic sac and amniotic fluid?
 - i. How does the infant protect its delicate skin while in the womb?
3. What types of behaviors does the fetus engage in?
4. When is the fetus viable outside the womb?
 - a. When is it viable with and without medical intervention?
 - b. What organ is underdeveloped at the age of viability?
5. What are teratogens? Be able to give examples – drugs, environmental pollutants, maternal diseases, and stress.
 - a. The harm of teratogens can range from easily correctable problems to death – why? What is a critical period?
 - b. What are some of the potential consequences of smoking during pregnancy?

- c. What are some of the potential consequences of consuming alcohol during pregnancy? What is FAS? What is FAE? When during pregnancy does alcohol seem to cause more of the clinical effects of FAS?

You do not need to know what the embryo or fetus is doing at every week during gestation. Understand the general picture. You do not need to know about the genetic disorders.

The Newborn

1. When the baby is born, it is critical that a nurse or a doctor check to ensure that the baby is healthy. What is the Apgar scale? What does it measure? When is it performed?
2. What are reflexes?
 - a. What is the babinski reflex? What is the moro reflex? What is the rooting reflex? What is the palmar reflex? What is the stepping reflex? What is the asymmetric tonic neck reflex?

Early Physical and Motor Development

1. How does development progress? What is cephalocaudal development? What is proximodistal development?
 - a. How does this progression influence development – do fine motor skills develop before or after gross motor skills? Why?
 - b. What are gross motor skills? Be able to give an example.
 - i. How do infants learn to crawl?
 - ii. How do infants learn to walk? What skills are necessary for self-locomotion?
 - c. What are fine motor skills? Be able to give an example.
 - i. How do infants learn to grasp?
 - d. What changes occur in fine and gross motor skills through late adulthood?
2. Are there gender differences in the rate of physical development? Be able to explain.
- 3.
4. Nutrition is a very important for the developing infant. Why? How are infants fed?
 - a. Why is breast-milk considered best for babies?
 - b. How do factors such as malnutrition and obesity effect physical development?
 - i. What factors contribute to childhood obesity in the US?
 - c. What health problems are associated with late adulthood?
 - i. Review and identify differences among chronic disorders, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease

Reminder!

The exam format has been changed and the exam will be held in class, NOT in the testing center. Please check your Mercer Mail for details.