Study Guide for Test 1 in Child Psychology (Psyc 102)

The nature of development

Preformationism, predeterminism, and empiricism

Heinz Werner: differentiation and hierarchic integration, spiral pattern

Qualitative versus Quantitative change

Normative versus individual

Heredity and Environment (nature/nurture issue)

Piaget’s theory (mechanisms and major periods)

Information-Processing theories (sensory, short-term, and long-term memory)

Lev Vygosky and Sociocultural theories

Psychoanalytic theories (including Freud’s and Erkson’s stages)

Social Learning theory

Bowlby’s adaptational theory

Major issue: Gradual versus stage, Early versus current experience

Specificity versus generality

Methods of Developmental Psychology: Experiments, Natural experiments

Naturalistic observation, Longitudinal versus cross-sectional versus cross-sequential (accelerated longitudinal design)

Challenges of doing research with children of different ages

Challenges of doing research with children from different cultures

Bidirectional effects

Effects of daycare

Contexts of Development

Marasmus, hospitalism, failure to thrive, institutionalization

Urie Bronfrenbrenner’s model: Biological environment, Immediate environment

Social and economic environment, Cultural environment, and interactions among the levels

Cell Division: mitosis and meiosis

Gene and Environment Interaction

Conception

Prenatal Development

Stages from conception to birth

Mother’s Experience of Pregnancy

Problems in Prenatal Development

Ultrasound, amniocentesis, chorionic villus sampling, MRI, blood tests

Genetic Defects

Environmental Influences (teratogens)

Detection and Treatment of Disorders

Birth & its complications

The Apgar Scale

Cultural variations in Childbirth

Concept of critical periods and their importance in prenatal development

Brain development and timing of capabilities

Cycle of poverty

Brain development in first year

Infant states

Reflexes

Habituation/dishabituation

Infant learning (including imitation)

Concept of preparedness

Motor skill development in first year

Sensory systems in the first year

Depth perception: monocular and binocular cues

Visual cliff experiments

Size and shape constancy