

## **Chapter 1**

### **A Connection of Brains**

#### **Multiple Choice Questions**

1. In Hockett's 1960 essay, he wrote about the 13 \_\_\_\_\_ of language, which have been used to compare animal and human communication.
  - a. Channels
  - b. Transmissions
  - c. Design features
  - d. Recursions
  - e. Speech chains
2. Which characteristic of communication indicates that the communicator has the capacity to monitor what and how something is said?
  - a. Total feedback
  - b. Displacement
  - c. Reflexivity
  - d. Specialization
  - e. Rapid fading
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the term used to indicate that the communicator can talk about things that are distant in time and/or space.
  - a. Discreteness
  - b. Arbitrariness
  - c. Productivity
  - d. Rapid fading
  - e. Displacement
4. \_\_\_\_\_ includes using language according to socially-established standards and the appropriate use of nonverbal behaviors.
  - a. Pragmatics
  - b. Indexicality
  - c. Semantics
  - d. Duality of patterning
  - e. Syntax
5. The primary advantage of the vocal-auditory channel is that it:
  - a. Allows specific messages can be sent
  - b. Allows communication through creative combinations of symbols
  - c. Leaves our hands free to do other things while communicating
  - d. Is the only possible channel that humans can use to communicate
  - e. Allows for the learning of language via the environment, cognitive abilities and social contexts

6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the use of syllable, word and phrasal stress, along with pitch and loudness variations in our speech.
- a. Specialization
  - b. Rapid fading
  - c. Syntax
  - d. Morphology
  - e. Suprasegmentals
7. Specialization of communication is:
- a. Observed in humans
  - b. Observed in non-human species
  - c. Observed in non-human species, but only in rare and limited circumstances
  - d. A and B
  - e. A and C
8. The first step in the speech chain is when...
- a. Movements of the speech mechanism produces disturbances in the air called sound waves
  - b. The speaker sorts through his/her thoughts to decide what he/she wants to express, and creates a message
  - c. Sounds waves are received by the listener's hearing mechanism
  - d. The speaker puts a message into language form
  - e. Neural impulses are sent to the speech mechanism to trigger speech movements
9. This characteristic of communication removes communication barriers and is largely responsible for the unlimited exchange of information for both sexes and all ages.
- a. Echolalia
  - b. Pragmatics
  - c. Morphology
  - d. Interchangeability
  - e. Learnability
10. Prevarication is
- a. Observed in humans
  - b. Observed in non-human species
  - c. Observed in non-human species, but only in rare and limited circumstances
  - d. A and B
  - e. A and C
11. \_\_\_\_\_ is a term used to describe presemantic, semantic, postsemantic and extrasemantic information present in communication.
- a. Semanticity
  - b. Indexicality
  - c. Semantics
  - d. Language
  - e. Communication

12. Another way to describe “grammar” or the grammatical rules and structures of language is:
- Pragmatics
  - Morphemes
  - Semantics
  - Expressive Language
  - Syntax
13. The human’s ability to produce a specific number of sounds, as well as a dog’s ability to produce different types of barks, is called:
- Broadcast Transmission
  - Discreteness
  - Speech
  - Expressive communication
  - Articulation
14. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a unit of meaning.
- Noun
  - Verb
  - Morpheme
  - Phoneme
  - Semantic
15. \_\_\_\_\_ steps of the speech chain occur exclusively in the brain.
- All
  - The first 5 steps
  - The last 3 steps
  - The first 2 steps
  - None

### Short Answer & Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

- Receptive language is \_\_\_\_\_
- Expressive language is \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ refers to how language can be used to convey meaning, including the use of vocabulary.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is one characteristic of human communication that is not seen in non-human species and is limited to humans.
- The *speech chain* is \_\_\_\_\_

### Essay Questions

- Define *communication*, *language* and *speech*.
- Give an example of a scenario in which a child uses receptive language and expressive language.
- Select one of the Hockett’s characteristics and discuss how it can be observed in communication between animals and/or humans.

## Chapter 2

### Language Acquisition: A Theoretical Journey

#### Multiple Choice Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ suggest that children have an innate ability to talk that is realized with minimal assistance from the environment.
  - a. Social Interactionists
  - b. Cognitivists
  - c. Behaviorists
  - d. Nativists
  - e. None of the above
2. According to the behaviorist view, \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important factor in language acquisition.
  - a. Cognitive development
  - b. Biological maturation
  - c. The LAD
  - d. Language acquisition support structure (LASS)
  - e. The environment
3. You observe a child reaching for his juice cup on the counter. When his grandmother approaches, he looks at her and reaches again for the juice, saying “juice!” The behaviorist would deem his utterance a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Autoclitic
  - b. Mand
  - c. Tact
  - d. Intraverbal
  - e. Echoic
4. The theorist most closely associated with the behaviorist view of language development is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Skinner
  - b. Chomsky
  - c. Staats
  - d. Searle
  - e. Piaget
5. Any behavior whose frequency of occurrence can be affected by the responses that follow it is a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Discriminative stimulus
  - b. Tact
  - c. Reinforcement
  - d. Mand
  - e. Operant

6. You observe a child say “car!” His mother immediately responds with, “blue car!” The mother’s response would be considered \_\_\_\_\_.
- Shaping
  - An expansion
  - Parenting
  - An operant
  - Positive reinforcement
7. If you were to observe a mother using motherese or parentese, what would it sound like?
- She speaks in a soft voice and at a low pitch
  - She emphasizes verbs with an exaggerated intonation pattern
  - She emphasizes the function words in sentences at a higher pitch
  - She speaks quieter than normal and at a consistent pitch
  - She uses a slightly higher pitch and an exaggerated intonation pattern
8. \_\_\_\_\_ was/were devised by nativists to account for the production of an unlimited number of grammatically acceptable sentences.
- Parallel distributed processes
  - Language acquisition apparatus
  - Case grammar
  - Passive transformation
  - Transformational generative grammar
9. Interactionists explain that variations in the acquisition of morphology are directly related to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the inflections of the language they’re learning.
- Emphasis
  - Functions
  - Semantics
  - Saliency
  - Pitch
10. According to the interactionist view, the child is \_\_\_\_\_ in the process of acquiring language, whereas in the behaviorist view, the child is \_\_\_\_\_ in the process of acquiring language.
- Passive, active
  - Reflexive, passive
  - Active, passive
  - Active, reflexive
  - Reflexive, active
11. Research shows that \_\_\_\_\_ exist(s) in both humans and monkeys and fire when one is engaged in activity, as well as when one observes another engaged in activity.
- Mirror neurons
  - Plastic brain cells
  - Arcuate fasciculus
  - Primary motor strip
  - Wernicke’s area

12. According to Chomsky, phrase structure rules \_\_\_\_\_.
- Add, rearrange or delete elements of the deep structure
  - Operate on deep structure to derive surface structure
  - Describe the underlying relationships of words and phrases in the deep structure
  - Revise the word order of a sentence
  - Transform the active sentence into the passive sentence.
13. The basic assertion of the information processing theory is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Acquisition can best be explained by principles of learning
  - Function, not abstract grammar, generates language structure
  - In order to process information, children develop language structures
  - A child is born with innate abilities to learn grammar
  - Human beings are limited in their capacity to process information
14. The competition model is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Parallel processing system
  - Language acquisition device
  - Language acquisition support structure
  - Serial pattern processing
  - Nativism theory
15. The self-organizing neural network is the result of the brain's \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mirror neurons
  - Arcuate fasciculus
  - Wernicke's area
  - Broca's area
  - None of the above

### Short Answer & Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

Please **do not** use abbreviations to answer the following questions.

- The innate language reservoir in the brain that is filled with information about the rules of language structure is called \_\_\_\_\_.
- On the continuum of the *nature-vs.-nurture* debate, the theory that would be most on the "nature" end is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ technique can be used to reinforce small steps that gradually approximate a target behavior.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ act is concerned with the motive or purpose underlying an utterance.
- On the continuum of the *nature-vs.-nurture* debate, the theory that would be most on the "nurture" side is \_\_\_\_\_.

## Essay Questions

1. Pick one of the following pairs of theories to compare and contrast:
  - a. Nativism vs. Behaviorism
  - b. Social interactionism vs. Cognitive interactionism
2. Describe how operant and classical conditioning are used to explain language acquisition using examples.
3. Select the language development theory with which you are most closely aligned. Describe the basic tenets of the theory, explain why you selected it, and describe how your interactions with children in a therapy/educational setting could be influenced by this theory.

