

Unit Reading Guide
Unit Nine: Developmental Psychology

Unit Seven: Cognition

Key Terms:

For key terms, be able to explain the meaning of the term (like with any vocabulary), but also be able to explain what is significant about the term in the context of the unit (i.e., what the book says) and in the larger context of the study of psychology. Your textbook is the first place to start. Online sources, such as Quizlet, are helpful for study and review but should not be your only source of information. Bolded terms correlate to what is shown in the AP Psychology Course Requirements.

| Concepts | (In general order from right to left) →→→→→→ | →→→→→→→→ |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Developmental Psychology | Zygote | Embryo |
| Teratogens | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome | Habituation |
| Cognition | Schema | Assimilation |
| Sensorimotor Stage | Object Permanence | Preoperational Stage |
| Egocentrism | Theory of Mind | Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) |
| Formal Operational Stage | Stranger Anxiety | Attachment |
| Imprinting | Temperament | Basic Trust |
| Gender | Aggression | Gender Role |
| Gender Identity | Social Learning Theory | Gender Typing |
| Adolescence | Identity | Social Identity |
| Emerging Adulthood | X Chromosome | Y Chromosome |
| Puberty | Menarche | Primary Sex Characteristics |
| Sexual Orientation | Menopause | Cross-Sectional Study |
| Social Clock | AIDS →→→→→→ | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome |
| Key Contributors | | |
| Jean Piaget | Lev Vygotsky | Konrad Lorenz |
| Margaret Harlow | Mary Ainsworth | Diana Baumrind |
| Albert Bandura | Lawrence Kohlberg | Erik Erikson |

Unit Nine Essential Questions

These do not represent the entirety of what students must understand. They do, however, point people in the correct direction. Use these questions to see where the concepts above “fit.” Also, use the questions listed as a guide in your reading.

1. What are the 3 issues that have influenced understanding of life-span development? In your own words, how can these issues be explained?
2. What are the stages of prenatal development, and what specific factors affect each stage?
3. How does the brain develop during infancy and childhood?
4. What are the similarities and differences between the theories of Piaget, Kohlberg, and Vygotsky related to cognitive development?
5. How do parents and infants bond and develop attachment?
6. In what various ways do temperament, parenting styles, abuse, family disruption, day care, and neglect affect attachment?
7. What are the ways in which self-concepts develop?
8. What are the gender similarities and differences in relation to aggression, social power, and social connectedness?
9. What are the ways in which gender roles and gender typing influence development?
10. In what ways do peers and parents influence development?
11. What are the physical developments that signal adolescence?
12. What are the social tasks and the challenges that accompany adolescence?
13. In your own words, how do you explain emerging adulthood?
14. How is biological sex (gender) determined and how is it influenced by development?
15. How can sexually transmitted diseases be prevented?
16. What does the research regarding sexual orientation reveal about traditional beliefs and suggested realities?
17. What are the physical and cognitive changes that occur during adulthood?
18. What are the stages and processes of social development in adults?

Advanced Placement Psychology Unit Outline

Developmental Psychology (7–9% of the AP Exam)

Developmental psychology deals with the behavior of organisms from conception to death and examines the processes that contribute to behavioral change throughout the life span. The major areas of emphasis in the course are prenatal development, motor development, socialization, cognitive development, adolescence, and adulthood.

AP students in psychology should be able to do the following:

- Discuss the interaction of nature and nurture (including cultural variations) in the determination of behavior.
- Explain the process of conception and gestation, including factors that influence successful fetal development (e.g., nutrition, illness, substance abuse).
- Discuss maturation of motor skills.
- Describe the influence of temperament and other social factors on attachment and appropriate socialization.
- Explain the maturation of cognitive abilities (e.g., Piaget's stages, information processing).
- Compare and contrast models of moral development (e.g., Kohlberg, Gilligan).
- Discuss maturational challenges in adolescence, including related family conflicts.
- Explain how parenting styles influence development.
- Characterize the development of decisions related to intimacy as people mature.
- Predict the physical and cognitive changes that emerge as people age, including steps that can be taken to maximize function.
- Describe how sex and gender influence socialization and other aspects of development.
- Identify key contributors in developmental psychology (e.g., Mary Ainsworth, Albert Bandura, Diana Baumrind, Erik Erikson, Sigmund Freud, Carol Gilligan, Harry Harlow, Lawrence Kohlberg, Konrad Lorenz, Jean Piaget, Lev Vygotsky).