

University of Biskra

Course: Linguistics

Section of English

Level: 3rd Year

Lecturer: Dr. Ahmed C. Hoadjli

Groups: All

In-Take Home Test (6)

Theme 7: Language Acquisition

PART ONE: Just Remember it!

Activity 1: Choose the best answer _____

- Behaviourism began its rise in the _____ of the twentieth century.
a. 1950's **b.** 1930's **c.** first half
- Watson believed that all individuals have _____ in behaviour.
a. similarities **b.** differences **c.** mechanisms
- behaviourists believed that free is an/a _____ .
a. reality **b.** fact **c.** illusion
- The behavioural approach considers first language acquisition a matter of the establishment of _____ .
a. reinforcement **b.** habits **c.** response

Activity 2: Decide whether these statements are *True* or *False* _____

- The cognitive approach to language acquisition ignored the biological make-up of humans.
- Introspection is the process by which one examines his/her own thoughts and feelings.
- Cognitivism emphasises scientific methods.
- According to Chomsky, humans are predisposed to acquire their mother tongue.

1

2

3

4

Activity 3: Match the concepts with their respective definitions _____

1. Replication

a. Responses from the environment that neither increase nor decrease the probability of behaviour being repeated.

2. Reinforcers

b. It refers to whether a particular method and finding can be repeated with different/same people on different occasions.

3. Classical Conditioning

c. Responses from the environment that increase or decrease behaviour being repeated. They can be either positive or negative.

4. Neutral Operant

d. It consisted in the idea that an unconditioned stimulus produces an unconditioned response.

PART TWO: In-between!

Activity 1: Fill in the gaps _____

According to behaviourism, the process of acquiring our first language is a theory of _____ **1** _____ psychology. It is based on the _____ **2** _____ process in which _____ **3** _____ language is reinforced through reward. Whereas, _____ **4** _____ language is eliminated through punishment.

1	2	3	4
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Activity 2: Briefly, answer the following questions _____

1. What are the similarities between a first language and a second language?

1. In what way was the behavioural approach to language acquisition criticised?
