

Jean Piaget

Jean Piaget was a swiss child psychologist. He developed a 4 stage model of cognitive development and believed that learning took place at the interplay between the agent (child) and his/her environment. The child's schema (existing knowledge) is constantly updated and altered by experiences. Experiences provide new information that enrich and sometimes challenge what the child already knows. Piaget views learning as an "active process" rather than a "passive process".

Please choose one the following topics to discuss...

1. Language
2. Empathy
3. Identity

You may want to consider the following questions for your role-play...

- How would you explain _____ from your perspective?
- How does _____ develop from your perspective?
- What factors would you consider when trying to understand the development of _____?

Notes for your role-play:

Questions for the psychologist:

B.F. Skinner

Burrhus Frederic Skinner is an American psychologist who developed a theory of learning that is centered around operant conditioning. Operant conditioning sees behavior as determined by feedback from the environment. Consequences take the form of reinforcement. Responses makes a behavior more likely to occur again, and punishers, or responses that decrease the likelihood of behavior occurring again. Reinforcers and punishers create associations between that behavior and the consequence. He rejected the study of internal mental processes and only looked at behaviors.

Please choose one the following topics to discuss...

4. Language
5. Empathy
6. Identity

You may want to consider the following questions for your role-play...

- How would you explain _____ from your perspective?
- How does _____ develop from your perspective?
- What factors would you consider when trying to understand the development of _____?

Notes for your role-play:

Questions for the psychologist:

Lev Vygotsky

Lev Vygotsky was a Russian psychologist who believed that learning occurred in the context of social interaction. The “zone of proximal development” describes the distance between the actual developmental level (determined by independent problem solving) and the level of potential development (determined through problem-solving under guidance). This discrepancy is necessary for learning the desired skill or task by the learner. Proper guidance from the individual who has already learned the skill or task facilitates the process.

Please choose one the following topics to discuss...

7. Language
8. Empathy
9. Identity

You may want to consider the following questions for your role-play...

- How would you explain _____ from your perspective?
- How does _____ develop from your perspective?
- What factors would you consider when trying to understand the development of _____?

Notes for your role-play:

Questions for the psychologist:

Ivan Petrovich Pavlov

Ivan Pavlov was a Russian psychologist who studied how animals learned through behavioral conditioning. He found that learning occurred through “classical conditioning” or learning to associate a stimulus with another stimulus, forming a link that produces a new learned response in a person or animal. He viewed learning as merely patterns of stimulus and response and differences in learning came from different experiences that formed unique associations in different people.

Please choose one the following topics to discuss...

10.Language

11.Empathy

12.Identity

You may want to consider the following questions for your role-play...

- How would you explain _____ from your perspective?
- How does _____ develop from your perspective?
- What factors would you consider when trying to understand the development of _____?

Notes for your role-play:

Questions for the psychologist:
