PSYCHOLOGY 105

TOPIC LIST

Week 1 – Introduction

Week 2 – Developmental psychology

Week 3 – Developmental continued

Week 4 – Social psychology

Week 5 – Social continued

Week 6 & 7 – Perception

Week 8 & 9 – Organisational

Week 10 & 11 - Cognitive

Week 12 & 13 - Health

Lecture 1

Things that can go wrong → genes, chromosomes, teratogens (smoking, alcohol, drugs), placental failure and premature/ traumatic birth

Major theories of development (peanuts can save emus)

- **Psychoanalytic theory** → freud and erikson
- **Cognitive developmental theory** → piaget and Kohlberg
- **Social cognitive thory** → early behaviourist theories through to bandura's social cognitive theory – kay bussey
- **Ethological theory** → attachment theories of ainsworth and Bowlby.

Nature and nurture

- Universal genetically determined capacities for language, motor development
- But expression influenced by environment- what babies need to know to survive and what is valued

Maturation → unfolding of genetically programmed behaviour patterns but environment has an impact : swadding, carrying on body, baby containers

KEY THEORIES OF COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

Piaget	**Vygotsky**	**Sense of self and theory of mind**
constructivist theory, stages, classic discoveries (the child is active not passive. Constucts an understanding of the world through exploration and experience. Childrens minds are not miniature versions of the adult mind.. there are profound differences – qualitative as well as quantitative)	social and cultural influences on learning	classical discoveries, false belief task

Strengths and limitations of piaget's theory

Strengths	Limitations
♦ landmark theory, not just minature adults, fascinating aspects of pre logical thinking. ♦ Learning as an active process – influences on education	♦ stages too rigid ♦ Under estimated childrens abilities

Methodological issues

Vygotsky- sociocultural → learning collaborative, social (role of siblings, peers), zone of proximal development

Information processing approach → increased capacity of neural systems, processing of info, effortul to automatic, more sophisticated memory strategies.

THE BROCHOLI EXPERIMENT

Influences on developing a theory of mind : nature and nurture

- Brain maturation – age threshold
- Relations with language development
- Pretend play

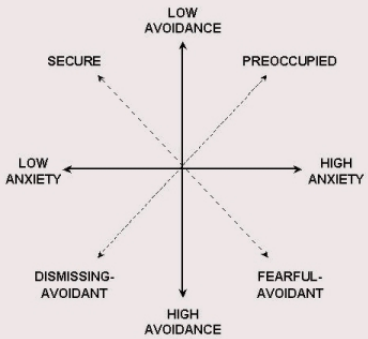
Social interactions

- Parental use of mental state language
- Quality of parent child relationship
- Presence of older sibling

ATTACHMENT

An ethological basis →

- Based on work of lorenze harlow – evolutionary biology
- Primary functions – proectivion of young
- Species specific attachment behaviour systems with proximity to the caregiver
- Balance between childs ability to move away from parent to explore the environment and their need to seek proximity in order to remain safe.
- Safe haven and a secure base



The strange situation procedure

1. Parent and baby
2. Parent, baby and stranger
3. Separation 1
4. Reunion
5. Separation 2 – baby alone
6. Baby and stranger
7. Reunion – parent and baby

- Proximity and contact seeking
- Contact maintaining
- Resistance
- Avoidance

- Search
- Distance interaction