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**Department of Health (DOH) -Speech-Language Pathology
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Question: 1

Which of the following is Not an example of an idiosyncratic phonological process?

- A. Apicalization.
- B. Backing of fricatives.
- C. Devoicing stops.
- D. Atypical cluster reduction.
- E. Final consonant deletion.

Answer: E

Explanation:

Final consonant deletion is a typical phonological deviation. The other answers are not typical. They are idiosyncratic phonological process.

Question: 2

Damage to the right hemisphere of the brain will result in which problem?

- A. Difficulty appreciating humor or figures of speech.
- B. Inability repeating what others say.
- C. Inability to articulate.
- D. Difficult expressing complex ideas (speech).
- E. Difficulty with auditory comprehension.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Right hemisphere damage can result in language difficulties just as damage to the left hemisphere of the brain. However, the right side damage will manifest somewhat different problems. For instance, subtle language comprehension may be a result. The person may understand individual sentences, but have difficulty appreciating humor or figures of speech.

Question: 3

Upon assessment by a speech-language pathologist, the speech of a voluble five-year-old Caucasian child from Atlanta is shown to be characterized by the following phonological processes: weak syllable deletion, cluster reduction, vowelization of postvocalic /r/, liquid gliding, diphthongization, and stopping interdental fricatives. Based on this assessment, the most appropriate recommendation the speech-language pathologist could make with respect to this child is

- A. to initiate treatment targeting interdentals, glides, and /r/
- B. to do nothing as the child's speech will become more intelligible naturally without intervention
- C. to suggest that the child's parents read aloud to the child using mainstream American English pronunciation
- D. to do nothing as all of the child's phonological processes are likely due to dialect variation
- E. to initiate treatment targeting stop-glide and fricative-stop clusters and two- and three-syllable spondees

Answer: E

Explanation:

The child shows developmental delay in terms of the processes of weak syllable deletion and cluster reduction. Thus, treatment should target these processes.

Question: 4

A young man has a brain tumor which has resulted in severe impairment of motor control for speech. He has lost all ability to articulate words. What is his condition called?

- A. Aphasia
- B. Paraphasia.
- C. Apraxia.
- D. Anarthria.
- E. Ataxia.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The term anarthria means loss of articulation. A person with this condition will have trouble speaking because of severe motor dysfunction.

Question: 5

The American Speech Language Hearing Association estimates the number of individuals in the U.S. who are unable to communicate using speech or who have severe communication disorders to be about:

- A. Two million.
- B. Five million.
- C. Five hundred thousand.
- D. Three million.
- E. One million.

Answer: A

Explanation:

This number continues to increase on a yearly basis. These individuals use other methods of communication in order to interact with their environment.

Question: 6

In general, a clinician cannot be found liable for malpractice

- A. if damage was caused by accident
- B. if there was no intent to harm
- C. if negligence was unintentional
- D. if negligence was due to overwork
- E. if breach of duty cannot be proved

Answer: E

Explanation:

Even if causation can be proved, as long as the clinician cannot be shown to have failed in his or legal and medical duties, there can be no legal proof of malpractice. However, as duty and breach are the first two elements of a malpractice suit, if breach of duty is not proved by the plaintiff, there is no reason to look for cause.

Question: 7

The number of genes linked to hearing loss has been estimated at:

- A. One hundred fifty genes.
- B. Three hundred genes.
- C. Two hundred fifty genes.
- D. Four hundred genes.
- E. Six hundred genes.

Answer: D

Explanation:

As genetics research continues to provide valuable information on disease, disorders and disabilities in communication disorders, it will be increasingly important that speech language pathologists and audiologists understand the principles of genetics, genetic testing, and genetic counseling. With enhanced information regarding genetic principles and testing, important strides can be made in the area of clinical management of hearing loss.

Question: 8

How did theorist, Piaget view cognitive development?

- A. He believed it lead to the decline of language.
- B. He believed it lead to the growth of language.
- C. He believed it had nothing to do with language.
- D. He believed cognitive development is a negative thing.
- E. He believed cognitive development only occurred in a low percentage of the population.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Piaget viewed cognitive development as a platform for the growth of language. Piaget believed that language development is due to not one, but two things. He believes a child develops language based off of social development and cognitive development.

Question: 9

The palatoglossus, one of the extrinsic muscles of the tongue, functions in swallowing and in speech production. Which of the following best describes the role of the palatoglossus in speech production?

- A. Assists in the production of back vowels
- B. Assists in the production of front vowels
- C. Assists in the production of bilabial consonants
- D. Assists in the production of rounded vowels
- E. Assists in the production of palatal stops

Answer: A

Explanation:

Various electromyographic studies from the late 1960s on have demonstrated that the palatoglossus is involved in the production of back vowels and velar consonants in some speakers of English. This is because the muscle is used to raise the back of the tongue. In addition, speakers of languages such as Swedish and Hindi, bring into play the palatoglossus's function of lowering the soft palate when producing nasalized vowels. The best answer therefore is A.

Question: 10

If a child cannot master English speech and phonology after years of study, what is possible?

- A. Dialect.
- B. Accent modification.
- C. Linguistic interference.
- D. Dyspraxia.
- E. Speech disorder.

Answer: E

Explanation:

Linguistic interference or accents are common when someone acquires a new language. An accent does show some mastery of English phonemes. If a child cannot use English phonemes and remains unintelligible after years, there may be an indication of a speech disorder.

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