

Vygotsky – Questions by Topic

Q1.

Briefly explain how Vygotsky's approach to children's cognition might be applied in a science lesson.

(Total 2 marks)

Q2.

A psychologist studying scaffolding decides to carry out an experiment to test the following hypothesis:

'Children who receive scaffolding perform significantly better on jigsaw puzzles than children who do not receive scaffolding.'

Choose an experimental design that the psychologist could use to test this hypothesis. Explain how this design would be used. You should also identify the independent variable and the dependent variable.

(Total 3 marks)

Q3.

Describe and evaluate Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development.

(Total 16 marks)

Q4.

Read the item and then answer the questions that follow.

Two school inspectors are writing reports of their recent primary school observations. Mrs McLean writes, 'Students worked alone. They were given tasks and materials then had to solve problems by trial and error'.

Mrs Watt writes, 'Students worked in pairs of differing ability so they could help each other and talk through each stage. The teacher demonstrated and advised them until they could manage on their own.'

Discuss Piaget's and Vygotsky's views on the development of cognition. Refer to the inspectors' comments in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)

Q5.

Using your knowledge of psychology, discuss the view that other people play an important role in a child's cognitive development.

(Total 16 marks)

Q6.

Discuss applications of **one or more** theories of cognitive development to education.

(Total 16 marks)