

1. understanding of what is developed during the language acquisition process

- (1) the desire and ability to respond to interactional attempts
- (2) the ability to initiate interactions through the use of increasingly conventional forms of behavior
- (3) the ability to efficiently indicate, or signal the desired topic, or focus of an interaction
- (4) the ability to sustain interactions through the use of precisely timed, turn taking behaviors.
- (5) the ability to effectively convey communicative intent through the use of precisely timed, constituent patterns of goal directed visual, gestural, and verbal behaviors
- (6) the ability to regulate, or control when interactions began and end

2. understanding of why that developmental process occurs

- (1) to cause desired changes within the environment, i.e. to get what they want as quickly and as easily as possible
- (2) to explore, understand, and gain control over the environment

3. understanding of how the language developmental process occurs

- (1) individual as an active learner
- (2) exploration & interaction with the environment
- (3) observation of the environmental response to that interaction
- (4) development of expectations of what will happen if a given behavioral strategy is used
- (5) through observation of the expected, vs. the actual response a feedback system is established and learning occurs
- (6) assisted in this learning by the caregiver
- (7) the frequency, consistency and immediacy of caregivers responsive behavior
- (8) caregivers recognition and use of the infant's/child's topic
- (9) the caregivers use of specialized communicative behavior

4. . understanding of the essential context in which language is developed

- (1) the interactional/conversational exchange is the basic context in which language is both developed and used
- (2) the interactional exchange is composed of three main parts or components, i.e. before, during, and following
- (3) the sequence of interactional tasks that must be accomplished during those parts is as follows:
 - (a) initiation
 - (b) mark the onset
 - (c) establish the topic
 - (d) exchange information on those topics
 - (e) recognize/repair communication breakdowns
 - (f) end the interaction
- (4) the types of behaviors that are used to accomplish these tasks are: reflexive, signal, and symbolic
- (5) the channels of behaviors that are used to accomplish these tasks are: visual, motorical, and verbal