I. The Study of Child Development: Then and Now

Chapter 1

- **Child development**: Scientific study of ____________________ from conception through ____________________.
- **Stability**: Consistent behaviors or characteristics that persist across time and situations.

A. Early Approaches
   - *Baby biographies*: ______________ kept to record the early development of a single child.
   - *Charles Darwin*

B. Developmental Psychology Becomes a Science
   - *G. Stanley Hall*: A pioneer in child study, published a popular ________ called ____________.

C. Studying the Life Span
   - *Human development*:

D. New Frontiers
   - *Basic research*: The kind of research undertaken purely in a spirit of intellectual inquiry.
   - *Applied research*: This type of research addresses a practical problem.

II. The Study of Child Development: Basic Concepts

A. Domains of Development
   - *Physical development*:

       - *Cognitive development*:

       - *Psychosocial development*:
B. Periods of Development
• Social construction: Concept about the nature of reality, based on shared __________ or __________.

III. Influences on Development
• Individual differences: Differences among children in __________, influences, or __________ outcomes.

A. Heredity, Environment, and Maturation
• Heredity: ___________________________ inherited from biological parents.
• Environment:

• Maturation: Unfolding of a natural sequence of __________ and __________ changes, including readiness to master new abilities.

• Inherited characteristics: Innate characteristics that __________ a special start in life.
• Environmental factors: Include __________, __________, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, and culture.

B. Contexts of Development
1. Family
• _________________: Two-generational kinship, economic, and household unit consisting of one or two parents and their biological children, adopted children, or stepchildren.

• _________________: Multigenerational kinship network of parents, children, and other relatives. Many or most people who are part of an extended family live in extended-family households, where they have daily contact with kin.

2. Socioeconomic Status and Neighborhood
• Socioeconomic status (SES): Combination of economic and social factors describing an individual or family, including income, education, and occupation.
• **Risk factors**: Conditions that increase the likelihood of a negative developmental outcome.

3. **Culture and Race/Ethnicity**
   • **Culture**: A society’s or group’s total way of life, including__________, traditions, __________, values, __________, and physical products—all learned behavior passed on from parents to children.
   • **Ethnic group**: Group united by ancestry, race, religion, language, and/or national origins, all of which contribute to______________________.
   • **Ethnic gloss**: Overgeneralization about an ethnic or cultural group that obscures_______ within the group.

4. **The Historical Context**
   • Children of Immigrant families often have different contextual backgrounds
   • Examples of these differences are described in the text-box on page 13.

C. **Normative and Nonnormative Influences**
   • **Normative**:
     • *Normative age-graded influences*: Highly ______ for people of a particular age group.
     • *Normative history-graded influences*: Common to a particular__________.
     • **Historical generation**: Group of people strongly influenced by a major historical ______ during their formative_______.
     • **Cohort**: Group of people born at about the same__________.
   • **Nonnormative**:

D. **Timing of influences: Critical or Sensitive Periods**
   • **Imprinting**: Instinctive form of learning in which, during a ____________ in early development, a young animal forms an attachment to the first moving object it sees, usually the mother.
   • **Critical periods**: Specific __________ when a given event, or its absence, has the greatest impact on________________.
Plasticity:
Sensitive periods: Times in development when a child is particular ____________ to certain kinds of ____________.

IV. An Emerging Consensus
- All domains of development are ____________.
- Normal development includes a wide range of ____________ differences.
- Children help shape their own ____________ and influence others’ responses to them.
- Historical and cultural contexts strongly ____________ development.
- Early experience is ____________, but children can be remarkably ____________.
- Development in childhood is ____________ to development throughout the rest of the ____________.