

Session 2 - Learner Characteristics

Differences between children, teenagers and adult language learners

Children	Teenagers	Adults
1. need to move	1. starting to keep still for longer periods but still need to move	1. able to keep still for longer periods
2. can concentrate for shorter periods	2. concentration developing	2. can concentrate for longer periods
3. learn through experience	3. beginning to learn in abstract ways, i.e. through thinking as well as experiencing	3. can learn in more abstract ways
4. are not able to control and plan their own behavior	4. beginning to control and plan their own behavior	4. usually able to control and plan their own behavior
5. are not afraid of making mistakes and taking risks	5. may worry about what others think of them	5. not so willing to make mistakes or take risks
6. are not aware of themselves and/or their actions	6. sometimes uncomfortably aware of themselves and/or their actions	6. aware of themselves and/or their actions
7. pay attention to meaning in language	7. pay attention to meaning and increasingly to form	7. pay attention to form and meaning in language
8. have limited experience in life	8. beginning to increase experience in life	8. have experience in life

Discussion question: How mature are your students in their language learning?

Instructions: Highlight the age group that best describes your students in each of the categories in the table. Then note in the chart your students' maturity level on the scale provided.

1. child / teenager / adult
2. child / teenager / adult
3. child / teenager / adult
4. child / teenager / adult
5. child / teenager / adult
6. child / teenager / adult
7. child / teenager / adult
8. child / teenager / adult

Totals

_____ In their learning, my students are: children - - - - - teenagers - - - - - adults

Session 2 - Learner characteristics

Concept Jigsaw A

Instructions:

Name _____

1) Fill in blanks in your worksheet by asking:

- Concerning point number ____, what information do you have about age differences in learning?

2) Answer your classmates' questions by saying:

- Well, the information I have indicates _____ .

Children	Teenagers	Adults
1.	1.	1. able to keep still for longer periods
2. can concentrate for shorter periods	2. concentration developing	2.
3.	3.	3.
4. are not able to control and plan their own behavior	4.	4.
5.	5. may worry about what others think of them	5.
6. are not aware of themselves and/or their actions	6.	6. aware of themselves and/or their actions
7.	7. pay attention to meaning and increasingly to form	7.
8.	8.	8.

Discussion question: How mature are your students in their language learning?

Instructions: Circle the age group that best describes your students in each of the categories in the table.

Then note in the chart your students' maturity level on the scale provided.

1. child / teenager / adult
2. child / teenager / adult
3. child / teenager / adult
4. child / teenager / adult
5. child / teenager / adult
6. child / teenager / adult
7. child / teenager / adult
8. child / teenager / adult

Totals _____

In their learning, my students are a/an: child - - - - - teenager - - - - - adult

Session 2 - Learner characteristics

Concept Jigsaw B

Instructions:

Name _____

1) Fill in blanks in your worksheet by asking:

- Concerning point number ____, what information do you have about age differences in learning?

2) Answer your classmates' questions by saying:

- Well, the information I have indicates _____ .

Children	Teenagers	Adults
1. need to move	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3. learn through experience	3. beginning to learn in abstract ways, i.e. through thinking as well as experiencing	3.
4.	4.	4. usually able to control and plan their own behavior
5. are not afraid of making mistakes and taking risks	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7. pay attention to meaning in language	7.	7. pay attention to form and meaning in language
8.	8. beginning to increase experience in life	8.

Discussion question: How mature are your students in their language learning?

Instructions: Circle the age group that best describes your students in each of the categories in the table.

Then note in the chart your students' maturity level on the scale provided.

1. child / teenager / adult

2. child / teenager / adult

3. child / teenager / adult

4. child / teenager / adult

5. child / teenager / adult

6. child / teenager / adult

7. child / teenager / adult

8. child / teenager / adult

Totals _____

In their learning, my students are a/an: child - - - - - teenager - - - - - adult

Session 2 - Learner characteristics

Concept Jigsaw C

Instructions:

Name _____

1) Fill in blanks in your worksheet by asking:

- Concerning point number ____, what information do you have about age differences in learning?

2) Answer your classmates' questions by saying:

- Well, the information I have indicates _____ .

Children	Teenagers	Adults
1.	1. starting to keep still for longer periods but still need to move	1.
2.	2.	2. can concentrate for longer periods
3.	3.	3. can learn in more abstract ways
4.	4. beginning to control and plan their own behavior	4.
5.	5.	5. not so willing to make mistakes or take risks
6.	6. sometimes uncomfortably aware of themselves and/or their actions	6.
7.	7.	7.
8. have limited experience in life	8.	8. have experience in life

Discussion question: How mature are your students in their language learning?

Instructions: Circle the age group that best describes your students in each of the categories in the table.

Then note in the chart your students' maturity level on the scale provided.

1. child / teenager / adult

2. child / teenager / adult

3. child / teenager / adult

4. child / teenager / adult

5. child / teenager / adult

6. child / teenager / adult

7. child / teenager / adult

8. child / teenager / adult

Totals _____

In their learning, my students are a/an: child ----- teenager ----- adult