

Guided Reading Activity

11-2

Language

For use with textbook pages 304-308

Directions: Recalling the Facts Use the information in your textbook to answer the questions.

- What four rules make up language? **phonemes** - smallest unit of sound (consanants, vowels)
morphemes - unit of meaning (word, letter, prefix, suffix)
syntax - rules for combining words, phrases, and sentences
semantics - understanding the meaning of words or phrases (read us, read)

- p.305*
- How many morphemes are in the words *book*, *love*, and *reason*? one morpheme each

- Eubonies?*
- A complete sentence must have a subject and verb. This is an example of what language rule? syntax

- The word *produce* can be used as a noun or a verb. What language rule allows you to understand the meaning of this word in a sentence? semantics (*Tough time with unknown jokes?*)

- How did B.F. Skinner believe children learn language? through operant conditioning
(smiles / attention = reinforcement)

- According to social learning advocates, how do children learn language? through observation, exploration, imitation

Fill in the pieces

- What did Noam Chomsky believe about children's ability to learn language? infants inherit a mental program that enables them to learn grammar

- At what age do children reach the first stage of language development? 4 months

- What do children learn when babbling? learn to control vocal cords and to make, change, repeat, and imitate sounds of parents

- At around 12 months of age, what language skills does an infant display? able to utter one-word phrases (*holophrases*)

- What is telegraphic speech? (around age 4) - able to form sentences but leaves out articles, prepositions, and parts of verbs

- How is language different from just communicating? involves rules of grammar
(does not include animals)

- What did Benjamin Whorf mean by the term *linguistic relativity*? it's the idea that a person's language influences thoughts