**Language Development**

Student’s Name:

Institution’s Affiliation:

**Language development theory**

**Behavioral theory**

The behavioral theory explains that humans learn verbal language through operant conditioning (Choi et al., 2013). (Choi et al., 2013) further explains that in operant conditioning, people change their behavior to immediately place their desired behavior. Behavioral theory is applied to speech and language; hence, children learn speech and language as conditioned by their environment and the communication reinforcement they receive (Faretta-Stutenberg et al., 2018). Further, the behavioral theory explains that language is developed from imitating and copying an adult's language and receiving reinforcement from the adult's language. In the behavioral theory, we develop our language from imitating and receiving reinforcements from the language of our peers and family members and not by experimenting or self-discovery. The central concepts in behavioral theory are imitation and practice, which are essential in our language development. We can imitate other people's language and practice it, and that's how we end up learning new languages every day (Krasnegor et al., 2013).

**Behavioral theory in relation to my language development**

As a child, I learned most of the language from listening to what my parents talked to me, and I could also imitate some of the words they used as they spoke to me. I imitated their language and practiced speaking their language, and that's how I got to develop my language as a child apart from the one I got in school. Therefore, I can confidently state that the behavioral theory adequately explains my language development. Through imitation and practice, I got to develop my language as a child. Not only did I apply the concepts of imitation and practice as a child, but I have continued to apply them in my school and at work and in my other interactions with other people. It has helped me learn new words and languages every day.

**Behavioral theory in relation to my workplace**

At my workplace, we interact with people from different parts of the world who speak different languages. As part of our job, we must understand each and everyone's language for more successful interactions and create good working relations (Faretta-Stutenberg et al., 2013). Behavioral theory has greatly influenced our understanding and development of language because we can receive reinforcements from other's languages, and we can imitate and copy the languages. That way, we can develop our language knowledge more than what we are taught in schools. Imitating and practicing the language we hear from others highly contributes to improving our behaviors at the workplace since we can understand each other more and respect each other despite having different languages. Moreover, we can have good working relations at work.

**References**

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