Guideposts for Study

Capítulo 1

1. What does it mean to be an adult? What factors affect the timing of entrance to adulthood?
2. In what physical condition is the typical young adult? What factors affect health and well being?
3. What are some sexual and reproductive issues at this time of life?
4. What is distinctive about adult thought?
5. How does moral reasoning develop?
6. How do emerging adults make the transitions to higher education and work? How do these experiences affect cognitive development?

Capítulo 2

1. What purposes do theories serve? What are two basic theoretical issues on which developmental scientists differ?
2. What are five theoretical perspectives on human development? What are some theories representative of each?
3. How do developmental scientists study people? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each research method?
4. What ethical problems may arise in research on humans?

Capítulo 3

1. How does conception normally occur? What causes multiple births?
2. How does heredity operate in determining sex and transmitting normal and abnormal traits?
3. How do scientists study the relative influences of heredity and environment? How do heredity and environment work together?
4. What roles do heredity and environment play in physical health, intelligence, and personality?
5. What are the three stages of prenatal development? What happens during each stage?
6. What environmental influences can affect prenatal development?
7. What techniques can assess a fetus's health? Why is prenatal care important?

Capítulo 4

1. How has childbirth changed in developed countries?
2. How does labor begin, what happens during each of the three stages of childbirth, and what alternative methods of delivery are available?
3. How do newborn infants adjust to life outside the womb, and how can we tell whether a new baby is healthy and is developing normally?
4. What complications of childbirth can endanger newborn babies? What are the prospects for infants with complicated births?
5. What factors affect babies' chances of survival and health?
6. What influences growth? How do the brain and senses develop?
7. What are some early milestones in motor development? What are some influences on it?

Capítulo 5

1. What are six approaches to the study of cognitive development?
2. How do infants learn? For how long can they remember?
3. Can infants' and toddlers' intelligence be measured? Can it be improved?
4. How did Piaget explain early cognitive development? Have his claims remained popular?
5. How can we measure infants' abilities to process information? When do infants begin to understand characteristics of the physical world?
6. What can brain research reveal about the development of cognitive skills?
7. How does social interaction with adults advance cognitive competence?
8. How do babies develop language? What influences contribute to linguistic progress?

Capítulo 6

1. When and how do emotions develop? How do babies show them?
2. How do infants show temperamental differences? How enduring are those differences?
3. What roles do mothers and fathers play in early personality development?
4. When and how do gender differences appear?
5. How do infants gain trust in their world and form attachments? How do infants and caregivers "read" each other's nonverbal signals?
6. When and how does the sense of self arise? How do toddlers develop autonomy and standards for socially acceptable behavior?
7. How do infants and toddlers interact with siblings and other children?
8. How do parental employment and early child care affect infants' and toddlers' development?
9. What are the causes and consequences of child abuse and neglect? What can be done about it?

Capítulo 7

1. How do children's and brains change between ages 3 and 6? What sleep problems and motor achievements are common?
2. What are the major health and safety risks for young children?
3. What are typical cognitive advances and immature aspects of preschool children's thinking?
4. What memory abilities expand in early childhood?
5. How is preschoolers' intelligence measured? What are some influences on it?
6. How does language improve during early childhood? What happens when its development is delayed?
7. What purposes does early childhood education serve? How do children make the transition to kindergarten?
Capítulo 8

2. How do boys and girls become aware of the meaning of gender? What explains differences in behavior between the sexes?
3. How do preschoolers play? How does play contribute to and reflect development?
4. How do parenting practices influence development?
5. Why do young children help or hurt others? Why do they develop fears?
6. How do young children get along with or without siblings, playmates, and friends?

Capítulo 9

1. What gains in growth, brain development, and motor development occur in school-age children? What are their nutritional and sleep needs?
2. What are the principal health and fitness concerns for school-age children? What can be done to make these years healthier and safer?
3. How do school-age children's thinking and moral reasoning differ from those of younger children?
4. What advances in memory and other information-processing skills occur during middle childhood?
5. How accurately can school-age children's intelligence be measured?
7. How do children adjust to school? What influences school achievement?
8. How do schools meet special needs?

Capítulo 10

1. How do school-aged children develop a healthy, realistic self-concept? How do they show emotional growth?
3. How do relationships with peers change in middle childhood? What influences popularity and choice of friends?
4. What are the most common forms of aggressive behavior in middle childhood? What influences contribute to it?
5. What emotional disorders may develop in childhood? How are they treated?
6. How do the stresses of modern life affect children? Why are some children more resilient than others?

Capítulo 11

1. What is adolescence? When does it begin and end? What opportunities and risks does it entail?
2. What physical changes do adolescents experience? How do these changes affect them psychologically?
3. What brain developments occur during adolescence? How do they affect adolescent behavior?
4. What are some common health problems in adolescence? How can they be prevented?
5. How does adolescents' thinking and use of language differ from younger children's?
6. On what basis do adolescents make moral judgments?
7. What influences affect school success and students' educational and vocational planning and preparation?

Capítulo 12

1. How do adolescents form an identity? What roles do gender and ethnicity play?
2. What determines sexual orientation? What sexual practices are common among adolescents? What leads some teenagers to engage in risky sexual behavior?
3. How do adolescents relate to parents, siblings, and peers?
4. What are the root causes of antisocial behavior and juvenile delinquency? What can be done to reduce these risks of adolescence?

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Capítulo 14

1. What influences today's varied paths to adulthood? How do emerging adults develop a sense of adult identity and an autonomous relationship with parents?
2. Does personality change during adulthood, and if so, how?
3. How is intimacy expressed in friendship, love, and sexuality?
4. Why do some young adults choose to remain single, form gay or lesbian relationships, cohabit, or marry? How satisfying and stable are these lifestyles?
5. When do most adults become parents? How does parenthood affect a marriage?
6. What are the trends in divorce rates? How do adults adjust to divorce, remarriage, and stepparenthood?

Capítulo 15

1. What are the distinguishing features of middle age?
2. What physical changes generally occur during the middle years? What are their psychological impacts?
3. What factors affect health and mental health at mid-life?
4. What cognitive gains and losses occur during middle age?
5. Do mature adults think differently than younger people do?
6. What accounts for creative achievement? How does it change with age?
7. How are patterns of work and education changing? How does work contribute to cognitive development?

Capítulo 16

1. How do developmental scientists approach the study of psychosocial development in middle adulthood?
2. What do theorists have to say about psychosocial change in middle age?
3. What issues concerning the self come to the forefront during middle adulthood?
4. What role do social relationships play in the lives of middle-aged people?
5. How do marriages, cohabitations, and gay and lesbian relationships fare during the middle years? How common is divorce at this time of life?
6. How do friendships fare during middle age?
7. How do parent-child relationships change as children approach and reach adulthood?
8. How do middle-aged people get along with parents and siblings?
9. What roles do today's grandparents play?

Capítulo 17

1. How is today's older population changing?
2. How has life expectancy changed? What theories have been advanced for causes of aging? What does research suggest about possibilities for extending the life span?
3. What physical changes occur during old age? How do these changes vary among individuals?
4. What health problems are common in late adulthood? What factors influence health at that time? What mental and behavioral disorders do some older people experience?
5. What gains and losses in cognitive abilities tend to occur in late adulthood? Are there ways to improve older people's cognitive performance?
6. What educational opportunities can older adults pursue?

Capítulo 18

1. Does personality change in old age? What special issues and tasks do older people need to deal with?
2. How strategies and resources contribute to older adults' well-being and mental health?
3. How do older adults handle work and retirement decisions, financial resources, and living arrangements?
4. How do personal relationships change in old age? What is their effect on well-being?
5. What are the characteristics of long-term marriages in late life? What impact do widowhood, divorce, and remarriage have at this time?
6. How do unmarried older people and those in cohabiting and gay and lesbian relationships fare? How does friendship change in old age?
7. How do older adults get along with—or without—grown children and with siblings? How do they adjust to great-grandparenthood?

Capítulo 19

1. How do attitudes and customs concerning death differ across cultures? What are the implications of the "mortality revolution" in developed countries?
2. How do people deal with dying? How do they grieve for a loss?
3. What special challenges are involved in surviving a spouse, a parent, or a child, or in mourning a miscarriage?
4. How are attitudes toward hastening death changing? What concerns do such practices raise?
5. How can people overcome fear of dying and come to terms with death?