

# Open Forum 3

## Web Site Worksheet

### Chapter 8

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. Preparing to Listen

**You are going to listen to a class debate about personality development. Before you listen, think about the following question.**

Do you think your personality is more influenced by your genes or by your experiences, family and environment?

#### 2. Listening for Main Ideas

**Read questions 1 and 2. Listen to the debate. Then choose the correct answer for each question.**

1. Which of the following statements is the best summary of the “nature” side of the debate?
  - a. Our personality is influenced by both genes and environment.
  - b. Our personality is defined and limited by our DNA.
  - c. Personality changes and develops over our lifetime.
2. Which of the following statements is the best summary of the “nurture” side of the debate?
  - a. Genes have absolutely no influence over our personality.
  - b. It is impossible to predict how an individual’s personality will develop.
  - c. Experiences and environment help the personality to develop over time.

#### 3. Listening for More Detail

**Read questions 3–11. Listen to the debate again and choose the correct answer for each question.**

3. Why does the student who argues in favor of “nature” use the example of the star basketball player?
  - a. to show that genes control ability in sports
  - b. to explain the meaning of DNA
  - c. to show that genes limit the individual’s potential

4. What happened to the Romanian orphans after they were adopted?
  - a. They recovered physically and emotionally.
  - b. They recovered physically but not emotionally.
  - c. They did not recover at all from their experience.
5. Why does the student who argues in favor of “nurture” use the example of the Romanian orphans?
  - a. to show how bad can experiences have long-term effects on personality
  - b. to show that there is no gene for love and affection
  - c. to criticize the conditions in Romanian orphanages
6. What is the student’s reason for using music as an example?
  - a. to prove that there is a music gene
  - b. to say that good musicians don’t need to practice
  - c. to show that some people don’t reach their genetic potential
7. What example does the student on the nature side of the debate give to show how genes can influence the environment?
  - a. When a parent gets angry with a child, it is because they have a bad parenting gene.
  - b. When a child has a naughty gene, parents respond to their bad behavior.
  - c. When a parent is strict with their child, they change the child’s personality.
8. When a child is hungry, what do developmental psychologists recommend that parents do?
  - a. They should feed the child quickly in order to develop a feeling of trust.
  - b. They should wait to give food in order to teach the child patience.
  - c. They should not give the child food unless it is a mealtime.

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9. When a child has the “crime gene” and is abused, they are likely to commit crimes as an adult. What does this prove for a geneticist?
  - a. that the crime gene always produces criminals
  - b. that early experiences have no affect on personality
  - c. that genetics are more important than early experiences
10. What does the nurture theory of development suggest?
  - a. that our personality is fixed in the early years of life
  - b. that our personality develops in stages during our lives
  - c. that childhood is not important in the development of personality
11. What does the professor conclude about nature and nurture?
  - a. That nature is more important than nurture.
  - b. That nurture is more important than nature.
  - c. That both nature and nurture are important.