**BLANK’S ‘Language for Learning’**

**Normal Development based on Blank, Rose and Berlin [1978]**

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| Level 1 | Naming things | 60% of 3 year olds understand level 1 and level 2 questions |
| Level 2 | Describing things – Answering Who? What? Where? |
| Level 3  Level 4 | Talking about stories and events | 65% of 5 year olds understand level 3 and level 4 questions |
| Solving problems and answering Why? questions |

**Level 1 – Matching Perception**

**“RIGHT THERE – the answer is in front of you”**

*Apply language to what is seen. Includes matching, identifying, and naming objects*

1. Matching objects *“Find one like this”*
2. Naming objects *“What is this?”*
3. Imitating a simple sentence *“Say this”*
4. Recalling objects or information *“What did you see? (frog)”*

**Level 2 – Selective Analysis of Perception**

**THINK AND SEARCH – the answer is in front of you but you need to look for it”**

*Focussing on specific aspects of the question. Includes identifying objects by function, describing and making basic classifications*

1. Identifying an object by function *“Find something that cuts (scissors)”*
2. Describing a scene *“What is happening?”*
3. Recalling information from a statement *“What things……….?”*
4. Completing a sentence *“Finish this: I like…”*
5. Attending to 2 characteristics *“Find something that is sweet and red (apple)”*
6. Identifying differences *“How are these different?”*
7. Giving an example within a category *“Find a fruit (orange)”*

**Level 3 – Reordering Perception**

**“THE AUTHOR AND YOU – the answer is not in front of you, use clues from the book and form your own answer”**

*Restructuring and reordering ideas. Includes assuming the role of another, formulating generalisations and making basic predictions*

1. Predicting *“What will happen next?”*
2. Taking on the role of another *“How would he fix it?”*
3. Following a set of directions *“Get the cup and bring it to mummy”*
4. Retell a routine sequence *“Tell me how to make a sandwich”*
5. Identifying similarities *“How are these the same? (both hot)”*
6. Understanding negatives *“Find one that is not red”*
7. Defining words *“What is a….”*

**Level 4 – Reasoning About Perception**

**“IN YOUR HEAD – the answer is not in the book – it is your own opinion”**

*Problem solving at a higher level. Includes predictions, explanations and logical solutions.*

1. Predicting changes *“What will happen if…”*
2. Justifying *“Why can’t you use a spoon to row a boat?”*
3. Identifying causes “*What made it happen”*
4. Formulating a solution *“What could you do?”*
5. Problem solving *“How could we fix it?”*
6. Explanations *“How can you tell he is sad? (because he is crying)*