
From: Noam Chomsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 4:30 PM
To: Jeffrey E.; Valeria Chomsky
Subject: Re:

On vision, I know of some evidence that social interaction=(mother-neonate) facilitates depth perception, but it's years ago. ♦=AO Maybe there is more now. But the experimental work has been with =solated individuals (kittens, mainly, I think), and seems to yield normal =ision with early patterned stimulation. Let's talk about it some=day.

I've thought about your suggestion. I th=ink it's better to do it step by step, not bringing up issues of legal =implications unless it's necessary. I'll write them renewing =he request to replace Max by Richard Kahn, along the lines that we discuss=d by phone: that I simply can't trust Max and want someone trustworthy= I'd also like to give the gist of the memo, in particular that =he marital trust is designed for those who established it, the IRA as back=p.

Noam

On Thu, Dec 7, 2017 at 4:03 AM, Jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com>> wrote:

=div dir="ltr">

like the military, can be goo= for an individual . but needs a group. ♦=AO I think "understanding" might be similar as a gro=p function as the visual system is for the individual. . =it needs collective input and then with a recursive interations focu=es on a concept

you should have the call w=th your children asap. feel free to send them debras mem= so they see what you see. her privlege argument m=kes no sense. you WANT the other side to see your =ustifications for your position. she is just trying to s=say out of the mix. as she has done virtually nothing to =et you what you clearly are entitled to. shameful

</=iv>

On T=u, Dec 7, 2017 at 1:52 AM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrote:

If done prop=erly, like offering free and creative opportunities for kids, I think it ca= be good for the individual.

And with your immense help= for which I can't express enough gratitude, we're working our way=through it I think

On Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 9:09 PM,=jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com>> wrote:

no question in my mind that it is a h=ge benefit for the group. but my conjecture is that it i= not necessarily good for the individual. . like b=ing a hero (throwing yourself on a grenade) . good for=the group not so good for the hero. . =s writing forces a linear slow pace. I wonder if in a large po=ulation , handwriting will be

correlated with G . =C2◆ anyway , I need to get my mind off the way y=u have been getting screwed. drives me crazy. ◆=A0

On Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 10:51 PM, Noam Chomsky
[REDACTED] > wrote:

<=iv dir="ltr">Good to have a fun note.

I suspect that =orcing children to do anything is probably harmful. But it's pos=ible to introduce writing and (secondarily) reading in a way that seems to=enhance thinking. That's the idea behind "invented spelling=quot; (here's a link to some of the work:

https://pages.wustl.edu/files/ages/imce/treiman/Read%20%26%20Treiman_Childrens_Invented_Spelling_final.pdf
<https://page=.wustl.edu/files/pages/imce/treiman/Read%20%26%20Treiman_Childrens_Invented_Spelling_final.pdf>). Back in the early '50s, a philosopher friend o= mine (Israel Scheffler) brought me some pages on which his two-year old s=n had written things that he thought were gibberish, wondering if I could =ake something of it. It was immediately obvious that the kind had le=rned the names of the letters and was spontaneously stringing them togethe= to express himself in writing. And making interesting generalizatio=s. Thus the letter "A", pronounced /ey/, he used for the w=rds "came," "pet", "pat"; the letter "i=quot;, pronounced /ay/, he used for "pie", "pot," &quo=;but/" . And so on. It all made sense. Our kids did the s=me thing. Carol wrote some papers about it, Charles Read and others =arried it forward. Turns out to be a great way to teach reading too.=Kids spontaneously express themselves, often in creative way, and the tran=ition to official orthography is not that difficult now that they have the=general idea.

There's a debate about it in ed=cational circles, and though I haven't followed it, my impression is t=at old-fashioned forcing into a mold probably wins out, undermining the jo= of self-expression and possibly reading.

As you may know, G=lileo regarded invention of the alphabet as among the greatest of all huma= inventions. Can do no better than quote his own words. He regarded =he invention of the alphabet as "surpassing all stupendous inventions," asking =E2◆◆what sublimity of mind was his who dreamed of finding means to communicate his deepest though=s to any other person, though distant by mighty intervals of place and time! =f talking with those who are in India; of speaking to those who are not yet b=rn and will not be born for a thousand or ten thousand years; and with what facility, by the different arrangements of twenty characters upon a page!=E2◆◆?

Shortly after, the same observati=n was made about the more fundamental matter of sounds (Port Royal Grammar= 1660). I discovered all of this about 50 years ago and wrote about =t. Unknown then, still unknown, in my view some of the most profound=insights in the human sciences.

Smart guys, the f=unders of modern science.

On Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 5:48 AM, jeffrey E. &=t;jeevacation@g=ail.com
<mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

on a more fun note. is is pos=ible that learning how to write and read, in fact slows down your th=nking process. forcing children to write and organize th=ir thoughts in a medium that does not lend itself to speed. is=not natural?

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