****DPSY 6114/8227: Language and Cognitive Development****

**Week 4 Assignment: Examining Vocabulary Development**

In this assignment, you will be looking at the expressive vocabulary of a young child. After viewing the language sample, use the following guiding questions to complete your Assignment.

**Vocabulary Size:**

1. How many total words did the child use in the sample?
2. How many different words?
3. How many sentences?
4. What was the average length of the sentences (mean length utterance [MLU])?

**Complexity of vocabulary child uses:**

1. How many nouns (car, ball, block, tree) did the child use?
2. How many verbs (go, ride, is talking, eating)?
3. How many personal pronouns (he, they, it, you)?
4. How many comparatives (bigger, higher)?
5. How many descriptors (red, pretty)?
6. How many prepositions (of, in)?
7. How many conjunctions (and, but)?
8. How many articles (a, an, the)?

The Assignment (2–3 pages):

* Calculate the MLU of the child in the video using the guiding questions in this document and the MLU normative chart.
* Explain how this data informs the language development of this child.
* Based on what you have learned so far, how does this child’s vocabulary development correspond with normative development?

**DATA RECORDING FORM**

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

Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Child’s Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Child’s Sex: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other noteworthy characteristics:

**ORAL LANGUAGE RECORD**

**Expressive vocabulary record**:

1. Number of words spoken\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Number of different words spoken\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Number of sentences used\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Average length of sentences (MLU)\_\_\_\_\_

**Complexity of vocabulary used**:

1. Nouns:

2. Verbs:

3. Personal pronouns:

4. Comparatives:

5. Descriptors:

1. Prepositions:
2. Conjunctions:
3. Articles:

**General Comments on Language:**

1. Size of vocabulary:

2. Sentence length:

3. Different words used:

4. Number of sentences used: