

12. Developmental Psychopathology

12.1 Chronic Illnesses and Physical Disabilities

12.2 Intellectual Disability

12.3 Cognitive Disorders, Including Dementia

12.4 Trauma-Based Syndromes

12.5 Autism Spectrum Disorders

12.6 Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorders

12.7 Learning Disabilities

12.8 Asocial Behavior, Phobias, and Obsessions

12.9 Antisocial Behavior

12.10 Anxiety and Mood Disorders

12.1 Chronic Illnesses and Physical Disabilities



Chronic illness

- **Long-term condition affecting development**
- **Asthma**
- **Arthritis**
- **Diabetes**
- **Cardiovascular disease**
- **Cancers**

Chronic illness

- **Influenced by lifestyle, SES, genetics**

Physical disability

Long-term impairment

- **Prenatal (teratogens, etc.)**
- **Perinatal (complications at birth, premature delivery)**
- **Post-natal (accident, infection, illness)**

Types of impairments

- **Visual**
- **Hearing**
- **Mobility**
- **Physical defects**
- **Organ/structural damage**

12.2 Intellectual Disability



Cognitive component

- **IQ under 70**

Adaptive component

- **Daily function problems**

Early symptoms

- **Delays in motor skills**
- **Delays in speech**
- **Self-help difficulties**

12.3 Cognitive Disorders, Including Dementia



Cognitive dysfunction

- **Prenatal or brain injury**
- **Types**
 - **Memory processing**
 - **Perception (e.g. dyslexia)**
 - **Problem solving**
 - **Language**

Cognitive dysfunction

- **Oliver Sacks: “The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat”**

Dementia

- **Progressive memory loss, usually late adulthood**

Dementia

- **Special case: Alzheimer's starts with dementia, progresses to**
- **Loss of self-identity and relationships**
- **Wandering**
- **Memory loss of object names and functions**

12.4 Trauma-Based Syndromes



Psychological trauma

- **Natural disaster victims**
- **Victims of hate,
violence, war, abuse**

Psychological trauma

- **Symptoms of PTSD**
 - **Re-experience by trigger**
 - **Anxiety/panics**
 - **Nightmares/insomnia**
 - **Detachment/”numbing”**
 - **Depression**

12.5 Autism Spectrum Disorders



Autism

- **Range mild to severe**
- **Unresponsive to people and social cues**
- **Difficulty making eye contact**

Autism

- **Other symptoms:**
- **Obsessive interests**
- **Compulsive repetitive behaviors**

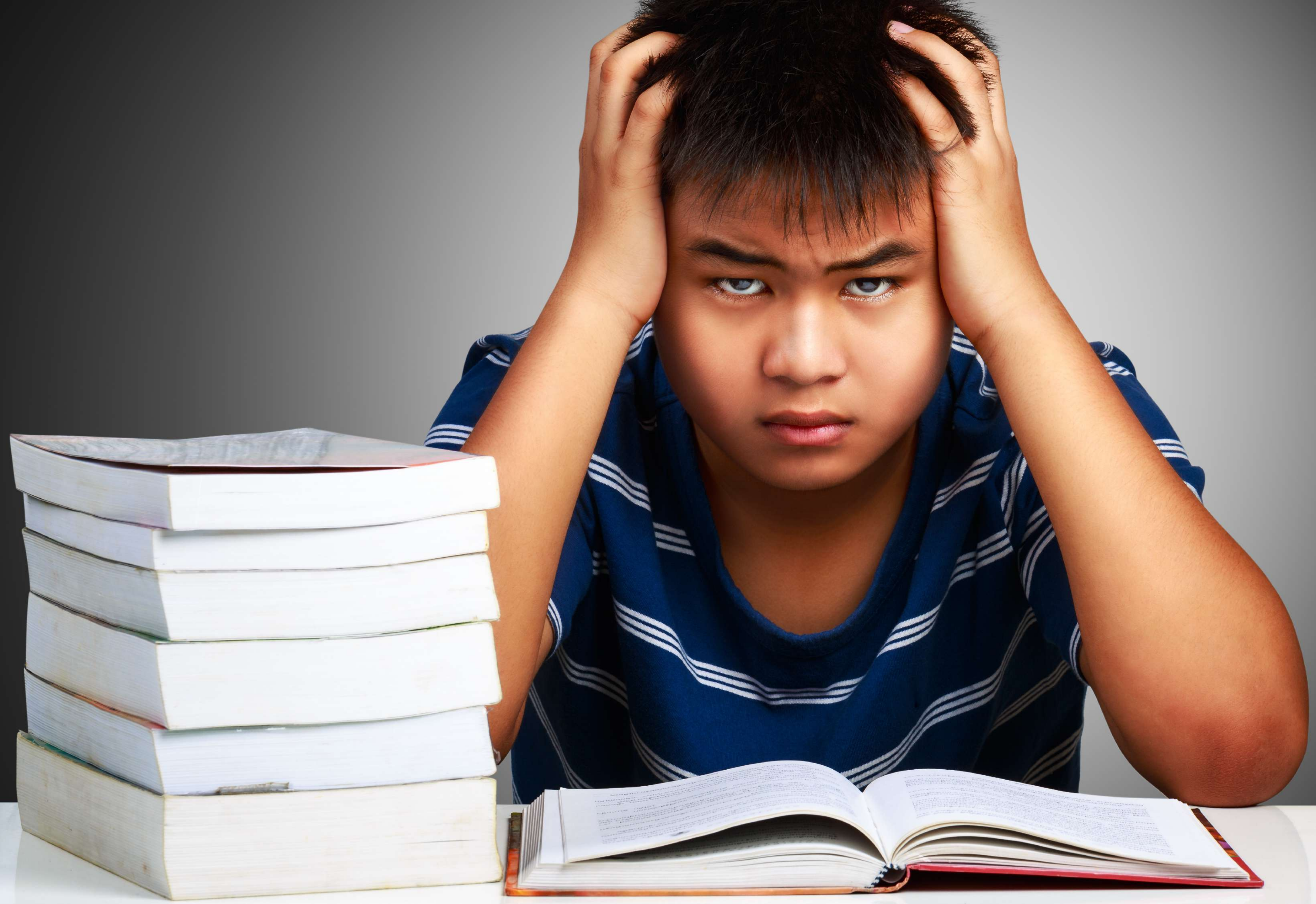
12.6 Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders



Attention-deficit/ hyperactivity (ADHD)

- **Distractible → focus difficulty**
- **Impulsive → behavior difficulty**
- **Fidgety → needs to move**
- **May show 1-2 symptoms**
- **Learning disabilities likely**

12.7 Learning Disabilities



Learning disabilities

- **Discovered in elementary grades**
- **Subject-area difficulties**
 - **Reading/language**
 - **Writing/communication**
 - **Math (computing/solving)**

Learning disabilities

- **Emotional problems likely**
- **Coping/compensation, not cure**

12.8 Asocial Behavior, Phobias, and Obsessions



Can't/won't relate

- **Mild: introversion**
- **Enjoy own mental self**
- **Prefer solitude, not shy or lonely**
- **Extreme: schizophrenia**
- **Caught in delusions, not able to relate consistently**

Can't/won't relate

- **In-between: personality disorders**
- **May avoid social contact**
- **May be uncomfortable in social settings**
- **May be secretive or “cold”**

Phobias

- **Fear that overwhelms**
- **May cause panics (e.g. agoraphobia)**
- **May cause fainting (e.g. blood phobia)**
- **Begin middle childhood or adolescence**
- **Females more affected**

Obsessions (OCD)

- **Obsession: thoughts that don't go away**
- **Compulsion: behaviors that can't be stopped**
- **Example: “I am dirty” → excessive handwashing**
- **Example: “I am being watched” → excessive checking doors, windows**

12.9 Antisocial Behavior



Mad at the world

- **Aggression, vandalism, racism, sexism**
- **Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD)**
- **Angry, resentful**
- **Argumentative, defy rules/authority**
- **Blames others**

12.10 Anxiety and Mood Disorders





Anxiety

- **Feeling of worry, dread, expecting something bad**
- **Physical symptoms: tightness, fatigue**

Anxiety

- **Types**
 - **Existential/crisis**
 - **Performance/test**
 - **Social/stranger**
 - **Choice/decision**

Mood disorders

- **Depression: sadness, sleep excess, comfort eating, feel rejected**
- **Bipolar disorder: cycles of high and low mood/energy**
- **Substance-induced, e.g. stimulants, alcohol leading to depression**