VERBAL OPERANTS

Behavior created by social opportunities.
The foundation of developmental skills.

1 MAND

- Asking for something that you want or need
- A request, command, demand for something

Example: Wants candy & says "candy"
Example: Wants a hug & says "hug me"

2 TACT

- Naming or identifying objects, actions, events, etc.
- Identifying something that comes in contact with your senses (touch, smell, taste, hear, see)

Example: Sees an airplane & says "airplane"
Example: Smells breakfast & says "mmm bacon"

3 ECHOIC

- Repeating exactly what is heard
- Echoing what is heard

Example: Hears "cat" & says "cat"
Example: Hears "balloon" & says "balloon"

4 INTRAVERBAL (IV)

- Answering questions from others
- Having conversation with others

Example: Hears "What is a color?" & says "blue"
Example: Hears "How are you?" & says "I'm well"

5 MOTOR IMITATION (MI)

- Copying someone else's actions or movements
- Imitating what others are doing

Example: Someone waves & they wave back
Example: Someone claps & they clap also

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2007). Applied behavior analysis(2nd ed.). Columbus, OH: Merrill Prentice Hall.