Behavior Rating Scales and Children with Language Disorders

Rating scales may over-identify children with language disorders as having behavioral disorders.

CBCL
- Acts too young
- Fails to finish things
- Poor school work
- Refuses to talk
- Speech problems

TRF
- Acts too young
- Fails to finish things
- Difficulty following directions
- Has difficulty learning
- Talks out of turn
- Poor school work
- Messy work
- Refuses to talk
- Speech Problem
- Talks too much
- Fails to carry out assigned tasks

Behavior Rating Scales Include Items That Overlap With Language Problems

BASC-3
- Responds appropriately when asked a question
- Listens to directions
- Has difficulty explaining rules of games to others
- Communicates clearly
- Listens carefully
- Likes to talk about his or her day
- Starts conversations
- Says things that make no sense (among others)

Connors-3
- Spelling is poor
- Does not understand what he/she reads
- Does not seem to listen to what is being said to him/her
- Needs extra explanation of instructions
- Fails to complete schoolwork
- Needs extra explanation of instructions (among others)