

# Instructional Practices in Education and Training

## Sample Assessment Questions

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## 25 Recall/Reproduction Assessment Questions

1. A teacher who does not intervene to stop a fight in which a student is seriously injured may be liable for:
  - a. nonfeasance
  - b. misfeasance
  - c. malfeasance
  - d. malpractice
2. The Family Rights and Privacy Act is also known as:
  - a. The Buckley Amendment
  - b. In loco parentis
  - c. Due process
  - d. Title VII
3. Teachers should begin to develop units of instruction and lesson plans \_\_\_\_\_ reviewing the curricula for the school district.
  - a. prior to
  - b. after
  - c. none of the above
  - d. while
4. The lesson plan model has four major parts: an objective, strategies, materials, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. flexibility
  - b. collaboration
  - c. evaluation
  - d. none of the above
5. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are planned together.
  - a. Scope, sequence
  - b. Instruction, assessment
  - c. Strategies, assessment
  - d. All of the above
6. \_\_\_\_\_ should be inserted into the lesson plan to ensure all students are able to learn what is being taught.
  - a. Preplanned quizzes
  - b. Technology time
  - c. Interventions
  - d. Grouping
7. Use pauses or moments of silence to\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. signal students to prepare for the next teacher action
  - b. prevent teachers from unconsciously dominating the discussion
  - c. be used to show disapproval of undesired student behavior
  - d. all of the above

8. On the subject of appropriate standards of teacher behavior, the courts have ruled that teachers should not be terminated for:
  - a. sexual contact with a minor
  - b. adultery
  - c. excessive drinking
  - d. using profanity toward students
  
9. In the current view of classroom management, the teacher is best viewed as which of the following?
  - a. A guide
  - b. A leader
  - c. A director
  - d. A dictator
  
10. Classroom management principles sometimes are applied differently in elementary and secondary schools because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. teachers are trained differently
  - b. of the differing school structures
  - c. of different administrative organization
  - d. they are not applied differently across elementary and secondary schools
  
11. Students will most likely become self-reliant in classrooms that are managed with which management strategy?
  - a. Authoritarian
  - b. Authoritative
  - c. Permissive
  - d. Punitive
  
12. Of the following traits, this is most typical of students when teachers adopt the authoritative strategy of classroom management?
  - a. High self-esteem
  - b. Insecure
  - c. Easily distracted
  - d. Passive learners
  
13. Rules and procedures should be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. firm, punitive
  - b. flexible, subjective
  - c. reasonable, necessary
  - d. clear, short
  
14. For communicating with parents of students, all of the following strategies are recommended except which one?
  - a. Be an active listener
  - b. Use of manipulative mode of communication
  - c. Make eye contact
  - d. Use "I" messages

15. Focusing on the use of nonverbal cues, maintaining momentum of activity, and redirecting behavior are strategies of which type of intervention?
- Minor
  - Moderate
  - Severe
  - Acute
16. The Head Start program provided \_\_\_\_\_ for low-income families.
- job training
  - federally funded insurance
  - preschool education
  - urban renewal
17. Which of these is not an essential component of classroom assessment?
- authenticity
  - evaluation
  - purpose
  - measurement
18. The term used to refer to the full range of information gathered and synthesized by teachers about their students and classrooms is called \_\_\_\_\_.
- assessment
  - evaluation
  - formative evaluation
  - summative evaluation
19. Who established the first school of education in the United States?
- Linda Darling-Hammond
  - Reverend Samuel Hall
  - Horace Mann
  - The Holmes Group
20. Which leader founded a vocational training institution in the late 1800s to improve economic opportunities for African Americans?
- George Washington Carver
  - Frederick Douglass
  - W. E. B. Du Bois
  - Booker T. Washington
21. Effective teachers typically exhibit \_\_\_\_\_.
- rigidity in their teaching methods
  - solid professional knowledge and skills
  - predictability in their lesson plans and curriculum
  - control over every aspect of the classroom
22. Approximately what percentage of children from three to twenty-one years of age in the United States receive special education or related services?
- 3 percent
  - 14 percent
  - 23 percent
  - 31 percent

23. An enrichment program is a standard option for teaching which of the following groups of children?
- Children with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder
  - Children with autism
  - Children who are gifted
  - Children who are mentally retarded
24. An important goal of which program is to improve outcomes not only for gifted students, but also for all students?
- School-wide Enrichment Model
  - Individualized Education Plan
  - “Pullout” Enrichment Class
  - Inclusion
25. Research on effective teachers reveals that they share three characteristics: knowledge, warmth, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- motivation
  - clarity
  - charity
  - expertise

### Recall/Reproduction Assessment Key

- a
- a
- b
- c
- b
- c
- d
- b
- a
- b
- b
- a
- c
- b
- a
- c
- a
- a
- b
- d
- b
- b
- c
- a
- b

## 25 Skill/Concept Assessment Questions

1. A teacher offers students praise whenever they show that they are on task. The teacher is using what classroom management strategy?
  - a. Shaping
  - b. Controlling the student's behavior
  - c. Reinforcement
  - d. Prompting
2. Which of the following is the best strategy for developing active listening skills?
  - a. Practice paraphrasing other people's comments
  - b. Practice criticizing people with different points of view
  - c. Practice offering advice to people who need it
  - d. Practice interrupting politely
3. Of the following modes of communication, which most accurately depicts one that is manipulative?
  - a. Making demands in a hostile tone
  - b. Allowing others to have their way while keeping your own feelings to yourself
  - c. Trying to make someone else feel sorry for you
  - d. Stating your opinion directly and without apology
4. Which of these is the best definition of assessment?
  - a. Gathering information about students to make decisions
  - b. Reporting what students have learned or not learned
  - c. Judging the quality of student performance
  - d. Specifying what students should know and be able to do
5. Which of these best explains the purpose of pre-instructional assessment?
  - a. To guide learning targets and activities for a unit of instruction
  - b. To monitor student learning during a unit of instruction
  - c. To establish baseline grades for a unit of instruction
  - d. To determine what students learned as a result of instruction
6. Which of the following statements about assessment and evaluation is true?
  - a. Ten to thirty percent of a teacher's time is spent on assessment and evaluation
  - b. Standardized tests are used to diagnose and evaluate student academic progress
  - c. Classroom teachers are responsible for developing and administering standardized tests
  - d. Formative evaluation plays a key role in determining students' grades
7. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS):
  - a. trains entry level teachers in professional conduct
  - b. works to recognize highly competent teachers
  - c. was criticized by the Holmes group for inadequately preparing teachers
  - d. None of these answers is correct
8. Teachers in colonial times:
  - a. were highly regarded for their public service
  - b. worked hard to earn their teaching credentials
  - c. often had no formal preparation for teaching
  - d. belonged to one of two professional teaching organizations: one labor oriented, the other more professional in nature

9. In the history of teacher education in the United States, Horace Mann:
  - a. chaired the faculty of the first normal school, in Concord, Vermont
  - b. was a member of the influential Holmes Group
  - c. worked to establish a board certification process for highly competent teachers
  - d. helped establish the first state supported normal school
  
10. Which of the following is true of teacher's salaries?
  - a. In order to attract individuals to teaching, federal income tax is no longer assessed on teacher's salaries
  - b. Teacher's salaries vary widely from region to region, even district to district
  - c. Teacher salaries have stagnated in the last two decades
  - d. California boasts the highest teacher salaries and has been a national leader in educational funding for more than two decades
  
11. In the colonial era, teachers:
  - a. earned as much as farmers, and even a bit more than merchants, enjoying relatively high status
  - b. were trained in teaching academies and focused particularly on maintaining good discipline and promoting Christian values
  - c. at the elementary level, typically had not even attended secondary school
  - d. attended "normal schools" whose rising status enabled them to compete successfully for the scarce teaching positions
  
12. Which of the following traits is characteristic of "best" teachers?
  - a. Having knowledge of the subject
  - b. Expecting too much from students
  - c. Showing favoritism toward some students
  - d. Assigning excessive amounts of homework
  
13. Effective teachers tend to display which of the following traits?
  - a. They are knowledgeable about people from different cultural backgrounds
  - b. They do not allow students to ask questions about political issues
  - c. They discourage students from discussing ethnic issues
  - d. They encourage students to work alone
  
14. Mr. Chavez taught world history. The day that he began his Egyptian unit, he came wrapped in strips of cloth as a mummy. What element of an effective teacher was he displaying?
  - a. Humor
  - b. Flexibility
  - c. Goal orientation
  - d. Warmth
  
15. When effective classroom managers are compared to ineffective managers, which behavior was not observed?
  - a. Effective managers had procedures that governed student talk, participation, and turning in work
  - b. Misbehaviors were handled after class to prevent disruption of the lesson
  - c. Effective managers gave clear presentations and explanations
  - d. All of the above

16. An individual who implements differentiated instruction would most likely \_\_\_\_\_.
- generate 20 to 30 different lesson plans to meet the needs of each student
  - provide three or four levels of instruction to meet students' needs
  - present lessons in the students' native language
  - present a single lesson that is graded on a curve
17. When teaching a child who is mentally retarded, a teacher should do which of the following?
- The teacher should repeat directions many times
  - The teacher should provide abstract examples
  - The teacher should set lower expectations
  - The teacher should give instructions only once to improve the child's focus
18. Sandra wants to conduct research about dolphins. Which tool should she use to find reliable information on the Internet?
- A search engine like Google or Yahoo!
  - A wireless network
  - Instant messenger
  - E-mail
19. Which statement best describes an effective teaching strategy for delivering lectures?
- Simplify the lecture focus and present a single point of view
  - Make the lecture interesting and motivate students' interest in a topic
  - Ask students to save their questions until after the conclusion of the lecture
  - Avoid using visual aids as they distract students from the lecture focus
20. Which of the following best describes the Internet?
- A core of computer-mediated communication
  - Hypermedia information retrieval system
  - E-mail
  - Ubiquitous computing
21. During a parent conference, the teacher is expected to \_\_\_\_\_.
- talk plainly using the most recent educational jargon
  - listen
  - use "I" messages
  - both b and c
22. Which of the following are forms of communication?
- Gestures and signs
  - Vocalizations and speech
  - Facial expressions
  - All of the above
23. When communicating with students it is important to \_\_\_\_\_.
- stand over the students to command respect
  - sit down behind a desk to encourage some distance
  - try to mirror students in height, posture, and behavior
  - require them to make eye contact

24. Strategies for communicating with students and staff include:
- a. establishing a common vocabulary
  - b. having a plan for communicating
  - c. thinking positively about others intentions
  - d. all of the above
25. Which of the following statements is not a benefit of including children in the parent conference?
- a. Children can talk about their progress and behavior and discuss their interests
  - b. The focus of control is centered in the child
  - c. Children's self-esteem is enhanced because they are viewed as an important part of the conference
  - d. Children learn that education is a function of the school

### Skills/Concepts Assessment Key

- 1. c
- 2. a
- 3. c
- 4. a
- 5. a
- 6. a
- 7. b
- 8. c
- 9. d
- 10. b
- 11. c
- 12. a
- 13. a
- 14. a
- 15. b
- 16. b
- 17. a
- 18. a
- 19. b
- 20. a
- 21. d
- 22. d
- 23. c
- 24. d
- 25. d

## 25 Strategic Thinking Assessment Questions

- Recent research on factors shaping effective schools reveals that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - for every dollar invested in technology, schools save six dollars on remedial instruction
  - students in large schools offering many options learn more and are less prone to become violent
  - investments in teacher training show positive effects on student achievement
  - students in large classes perform as well as students in smaller classes, at least when the teacher's aide is present
- Researchers studying schools initially identified five relevant factors linked to school effectiveness. Which of the following is not part of the five factor theory of effective schools?
  - School leaders articulate a clear school mission
  - Student progress is carefully monitored
  - School personnel hold high expectations for students
  - Principals maintain a low profile and let teachers and students find their own educational paths
- Which of the following is one of the features of the social organization of effective schools?
  - Relationships among the staff are characterized by collegiality
  - Students receive high academic learning time
  - A wide variety of learning styles is represented in the student population
  - The superintendent hosts many social functions
- Which of the following is one of the features of instruction and curriculum in effective schools?
  - The principal exerts strong leadership
  - School goals are clearly stated
  - Students enjoy coming to school
  - Foreign language forms a strong component of the curriculum at all levels
- Which of the following attributes would least likely be found in an effective school?
  - Teachers hold high expectations for students
  - Teachers acknowledge student weaknesses and realize that they cannot reach every child
  - Teachers and other adults in the school develop and work in interdependent and collaborative ways
  - All of the above.
- Based on the Supreme Court ruling in \_\_\_\_\_, teachers are protected under the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment when making public statements about their school; even if those statements are in conflict with the opinions or positions of the school administration;
  - Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District
  - Pickering v. Board of Education
  - Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeir
  - Bethel School District v. Fraser
- Which Supreme Court decision upheld a student's right to freedom of speech in symbolic form?
  - Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District
  - Pickering v. Board of Education
  - Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeir
  - Bethel School District v. Fraser

8. Which of the following is something general education teachers and special education teachers should do while working together in lesson planning?
  - a. Realize the interventions to the general class lesson plan may be necessary
  - b. Be specific in listing what will occur during each component of the lesson plan, including an objective, strategies, resources, and evaluation
  - c. Be flexible when an adaptation or intervention does not work
  - d. All of the above
9. When getting students to share and assume responsibility in the classroom, what should teachers do?
  - a. Involve students in the planning and implementation of classroom initiatives
  - b. Accept reasonable excuses infrequently
  - c. Emphasize teacher control
  - d. Have students develop the classroom management plan
10. Which of these is not a characteristic of recent trends in assessment?
  - a. On-going gathering of information throughout instruction
  - b. Gathering performance information about isolated skills or facts
  - c. Variety of methods used to gather information about performance
  - d. Publicly known criteria for evaluating performance
11. Which of these factors is least likely to create tension for teachers who strive to implement sound classroom assessment practices?
  - a. Parents request for frequent assessments and grades
  - b. District standardized assessment programs
  - c. Efforts to match assessment methods to learning objectives
  - d. Requirements for following an instructional pacing schedule
12. Which of these is not considered one of the seven areas of assessment knowledge or skills that a teacher should possess?
  - a. Develop appropriate and valid grading procedures
  - b. Develop appropriate assessment methods to suit instructional decisions
  - c. Calculate a variety of statistics for test items and tests
  - d. Recognize ethical and inappropriate uses of assessment information
13. Which of the following best describes the status of teaching?
  - a. Teaching today is finally accepted as a true profession by teachers, the public, and the media
  - b. While the public views teaching as a profession, the media continue to cast doubt on its professional status
  - c. Most people believe that teaching has not reached the status of a profession
  - d. Teachers have abandoned the effort to be treated as professionals and have focused their energies almost entirely on improving their salaries
14. Which of the following statements about Teach for America is false?
  - a. Despite being relatively large in size, it has had only medium success in recruiting highly motivated and talented recruits
  - b. It is criticized by educators such as Linda Darling-Hammond who believe it is unprofessional and irresponsible
  - c. It attracts a greater proportion of teachers of color than traditional, university based teacher education programs
  - d. It is a “Fast Track” training program for motivated college graduates to become teachers and serve in some of America’s most difficult classrooms

15. Effective teachers normally involve their students in identifying classroom rewards and privileges for which of the following reasons?
- Rewards and privileges are not always perceived the same by all students
  - It is important to involve students in all aspects of classroom management
  - External rewards and privileges interfere with more important intrinsic rewards
  - It is important for students to vote on the rewards and privileges used in classrooms
16. In order to provide developmentally appropriate instruction to students, teachers must remember which of the following?
- Grade level and age are always good predictors of children's development
  - At any grade level, there is usually a two- or three-year span of ages with an even wider span of skills, abilities, and developmental stages
  - At any grade level, children demonstrate a homogenous set of skills, abilities, and developmental stages
  - Understanding developmental stages and progressions is critical for early childhood educators only
17. Diversity is an important aspect of teaching and learning in current and future classrooms because:
- parents avoid teaching children about other cultures, languages, and diversity issues
  - by 2040, 50 percent of U.S. children are expected to be from an immigrant family
  - one-fifth of U.S. children are from an immigrant family
  - it is not necessary to integrate diversity into curriculum because students are more successful when they accept the "majority culture"
18. The National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) standards include all of the following except:
- how technology should be used for job training and computer-based vocational skills
  - what students should know about technology and be able to do with technology
  - how technology should be used throughout the curriculum for teaching, learning, and instructional management
  - various methods for assessing student progress and evaluating the use of technology in teaching and learning
19. Which of the following would constitute a violation of students' First Amendment rights?
- School administrators censor an article on teenage homosexuality in a student newspaper written by the journalism class
  - The school librarian restricts student access to the Internet using a software filter program
  - The faculty decides not to include *Of Mice and Men* and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* in the ninth-grade curriculum because these books deal with age-inappropriate issues
  - A student is suspended for wearing a Pepsi T-shirt on "Coke Day" to protest the corporate sponsorship of the school by the Coca-Cola Company
20. A teacher who wishes to use technology resources to transform and improve learning in an innovative way would most likely have students do which of the following?
- The teacher would instruct the students to use computers to type a report
  - The teacher would instruct the students to play a game that drills basic math facts
  - The teacher would instruct the students from a West Coast school to collaborate with students from an East Coast school on a water pollution project
  - The teacher would instruct the students read stories on the Internet

21. Which of the following is not a potential drawback to using the Internet as a valuable learning tool?
- Some information on the Internet is inaccurate and misleading
  - Students may gain access to pornographic or other inappropriate content
  - Many teachers are not comfortable enough with the technology themselves in order to use it effectively in the classroom
  - Most schools that are connected to the Internet serve non-Latino white students and exacerbate the social inequities associated with technology
22. Which grade level should be able to use keyboards and other common input; discuss common uses of technology in daily life; use technology tools (such as Web tools and scanners), and use telecommunications and online resources?
- Prekindergarten–second grade
  - Grades 3–5
  - Grades 6–8
  - Grades 9–12
23. Which of the following is not a reason for the strengthening of the relationship between families and schools?
- The accountability and reform movements
  - Education professionals and families agree that mutual cooperation is in everyone’s best interest
  - Families have become more militant in their demand for quality education
  - Families have become less concerned about the quality of education for their children
24. Research supports the positive benefits that parent involvement has for children and families. Which of the following is not one of the results identified in the research?
- The earlier in a child’s educational process parent involvement begins, the more powerful the effects
  - Parents of high achieving students set the same standards for their children’s educational activities as parents of low achieving students
  - The most effective forms of parent involvement are those that engage parents in working directly with their children on learning activities at home
  - The most consistent predictors of children’s academic achievement are the parents’ expectations of the child’s academic attainment and satisfaction with their child’s education at school
25. Schools and teachers cannot address the many issues facing children and youth without the partnership and collaboration of community agencies, businesses, and industry. Which of the following is not an example of a way to use your community in your teaching?
- Know your community
  - Ask your local businesses for financial support
  - Develop a directory of community agencies
  - Develop a list of possible guest speakers

## Strategic Thinking Assessment Key

1. c
2. d
3. a
4. b
5. b
6. b
7. a
8. d
9. a
10. b
11. c
12. c
13. c
14. a
15. a
16. b
17. c
18. a
19. d
20. c
21. d
22. b
23. d
24. b
25. b

## 25 Extended Thinking Assessment Questions/Tasks

1. Home visits are becoming more commonplace for teachers. Discuss the guidelines for preparing and conducting successful home visits.
2. Grandparents acting as parents for their grandchildren are a growing reality in the United States today. Describe some of the reasons children do not have either parent living with them or have grandparents as guardians. What are ways teachers can support and involve grandparents?
3. List and describe techniques teachers can use to help children learn through modeling.
4. The widespread availability of technology has enabled parents to have more resources for participating in, supervising, and directing their children's education. How has technology increased parent participation?
5. The school effectiveness research has illustrated that some schools are more effective than others in producing positive student behavior and achievement. List and discuss four key features of effective schools supported by this research. Finally, discuss the limitations of this research.
6. Develop and describe a classroom management plan appropriate to the grade level and/or subject area in which you plan to teach. What rules and procedures will you establish? At what point in the school year will you teach them? How will you teach them? How much will you involve students in setting rules and procedures? How will you deal with misbehavior? How will you enhance student accountability? Describe your rationale for these decisions.
7. One strategy for becoming an effective teacher is to "engage in perspective taking." What does this mean to you? How will your perceptions of students, your classroom, and your world impact your teaching? How will your students' perceptions of you impact their learning? What can you do to ensure that their perceptions are as positive as possible?
8. Think about today's employment opportunities and the types of jobs the children in your classroom will be applying for in the future. What skills will these students need to be successful as adults?
9. Explore the impact of an individual's culture and background on brain development and learning. Identify ways that an individual's background fosters brain development and academic achievement. Similarly, can one's culture/background inhibit optimal growth? Describe how families and schools can overcome the challenges posed by deficits such as low socioeconomic status or dangerous surroundings.
10. Imagine that you have a student in your classroom that is field-dependent and impulsive in his or her learning styles. How would you address each of these characteristics in a way that would encourage the student to become more field-independent and reflective?
11. You are a teacher who has a student with dyslexia, a student with ADHD, and a gifted student in your classroom. What are the similarities and differences between these students? How would you change your curriculum to better meet the needs of each student? Think of one way in which each of these three students could help the other two.

12. Discuss the technology landscape. Many schools offer computer labs and/or classrooms with computers as well as other technology equipment, such as digital cameras or scanners. For your particular grade level and subject area, how do you plan to integrate technology into your regular curriculum? In what areas do you most desire professional development and training?
13. Devise an instructional lesson plan using the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains of Bloom's taxonomy. Since the learning context differs across students, how will you plan for students that need extra support as well as students who may desire more challenging work?
14. One strategy for effective classroom management is to foster communication among teachers and students. Being an "active listener" is one way for teachers to become good communicators. Reflect upon your education experiences. To what degree were you encouraged to discuss ideas and speak out in class? Describe a classroom environment and the kinds of activities that would support open communication in class. What are the challenges to implementing this kind of classroom?
15. What is the general purpose of classroom management? Beyond the content and curriculum taught in a class, what does a student learn from a well-managed classroom that he or she does not learn from a poorly managed classroom?
16. Summarize the primary aims of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. What do critics say about this act? Discuss where you stand on the issue of statewide standards and high-stakes testing. Can legislation such as NCLB improve the nation's schools? Why or why not?
17. Many states have implemented a set curriculum that is assessed using a state-mandated standardized test. The results of these standardized tests are often used in decisions related to student retention, teacher performance, and school accreditation. How might the use of these standardized tests affect how and what the teacher teaches?
18. There has been a recent trend in education away from traditional assessments and toward authentic and performance-based assessments. How might this trend affect the way that teachers teach their students? Is this trend compatible with the move to standard curricula and high-stakes, state standards-based testing?
19. Imagine that as a high school teacher you want students to learn how to conduct themselves during a job interview. You decide to model the behaviors you want your students to learn (looking the interviewer in the eye, describing one's job related experience and capabilities with confidence). Explain how, as you model effective interviewing techniques, you would take into account the four essential processes involved in modeling.
20. Describe the ways in which students are affected by having several effective or ineffective teachers in a row.
21. What are the concerns of beginning teachers? What kind of support do you think should be provided for beginning teachers to assist them with their most serious challenges and help them handle the "reality shock" they experience when they take their first job?
22. Describe the possible effects a learning disability might have on a student's academic achievement.

23. Discuss the issues surrounding effective teaching strategies in inclusive classrooms with respect to the kinds of teaching skills that you would need.
24. For effective teachers, the very first days in the classroom are important. Discuss the activities that effective teachers use to get the first weeks of class off to a positive start.
25. Effective classroom managers establish procedures and rules for handling various routines and transitions between activities in the classroom. Identify and discuss some of these procedures and provide examples.

### **Extended Thinking Assessment Key**

1 – 25 Student responses will vary