

# Answer Sheet for Diagnostic Test

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# Diagnostic Test

**Directions:** Read each item and select the best response.

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- 1.** On the first day of class, a high school computer science teacher asks the students to complete a questionnaire about their previous computer experience. Which of the following types of assessment is the teacher using to obtain information about the students?

  - A.** formative assessment
  - B.** peer assessment
  - C.** performance assessment
  - D.** summative assessment
- 2.** Which of the following ways would be best for keeping parents regularly informed about class activities?

  - A.** email messages to parents at home or work
  - B.** a monthly class newsletter sent to parents at home
  - C.** a personal note to parents attached to report cards
  - D.** phone calls to parents at home or work
- 3.** A middle school science teacher wants to become more knowledgeable about how to implement the Sunshine State Standards, so the teacher decides to attend a training program on best practices in instruction for the science standards. The teacher's decision best illustrates which of the following principles?

  - A.** The teacher understands the relationship between careful planning and student success in the classroom.
  - B.** The teacher knows how to identify professional development experiences that will enhance the teacher's professional knowledge and skills.
  - C.** The teacher knows how to identify a variety of instructional strategies, materials, and technologies that foster critical thinking.
  - D.** The teacher understands the connection between instruction and the Sunshine State Standards.
- 4.** Which of the following approaches likely would sharpen students' critical thinking skills?

  - A.** engaging them in skills-focused worksheet activities
  - B.** requiring them to give reasons for their opinions about issues
  - C.** having them memorize and drill each other on metacognitive strategies
  - D.** giving them clear instructions on what to do and how to do it
- 5.** A third-grade teacher has a class that includes several students who have learning disabilities. The best time for the exceptional student education (ESE) teacher to come into the third-grade teacher's classroom to provide support services for the ESE students is:

  - A.** when the ESE students are working in a group by themselves.
  - B.** when all the students are engaged in group activities.
  - C.** when the whole class is working silently and individually.
  - D.** when the whole class is engaged in a variety of activities.
- 6.** A fifth-grade physical education teacher has noticed that Sophie frequently has bruises and welts on her arms and legs. When the teacher asks Sophie about the injuries, Sophie is reluctant to respond. Based on this repeated pattern of injuries, the teacher suspects that Sophie is a victim of physical abuse at home. Florida law requires that under these circumstances, the teacher must:

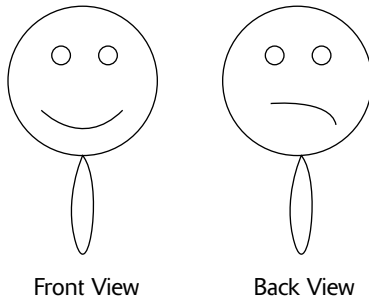
  - A.** ask the school counselor to report the abuse suspicions to the Florida Abuse Hotline.
  - B.** report the teacher's suspicions to Sophie's parents and give them an opportunity to explain.
  - C.** report the teacher's suspicions to the Florida Abuse Hotline.
  - D.** investigate further to determine whether the teacher's suspicions are correct.

7. Which of the following responses from a student about an informational book on science that the student has read independently would indicate that the book is on the student's reading level?
- A. "I thought it was an interesting book, but I didn't understand a lot of it."
  - B. "The book has a lot of big words, but I used the dictionary to look up the ones I didn't know."
  - C. "I really learned a lot from this book, and I figured out the hard words I didn't understand."
  - D. "I like science a lot, but I wish the book had more pictures to help me understand what's going on better."
8. Throughout a unit on measurement, a mathematics teacher uses a variety of assessment strategies to determine the students' understanding of concepts related to measurement. At the end of the unit, the teacher gives a comprehensive teacher-made test as a summative assessment. In developing the assessment, it should be most important to the teacher that the test will:
- A. yield information about the progress of the class in the attainment of unit goals and objectives.
  - B. provide information that can be used to predict the students' potential to achieve at a comparable level on national assessments.
  - C. differentiate among students in terms of their achievement of unit goals and objectives.
  - D. contain items that challenge students to apply what they've learned in ways that are new to them.
9. Which of the following teacher behaviors would be appropriate during a conference with the parents of a student who regularly misbehaves in the teacher's class?
- A. informing the parents that other teachers have had similar problems with the student
  - B. starting off with positive comments about the student in question
  - C. alleviating the parents' concerns by making sure that they are aware that other students in the class also misbehave
  - D. eliciting the parents' help in determining the psychological basis for the student's misbehavior
10. A first-year teacher wants to improve her teaching effectiveness. Which of the following methods would most help the teacher in improving her own practice?
- A. Read articles about effective teaching in professional journals.
  - B. Attend workshops on effective teaching at professional conferences.
  - C. Keep a reflective journal in which she contemplates the effectiveness of her teaching and is responsive to what she determines.
  - D. Arrange to regularly observe a colleague who is known to be an effective teacher.
11. A high school Algebra I teacher prompts students to ask themselves the following questions when engaged in problem solving:
- How am I doing?

Have I missed anything?

How did I figure that out?
- This strategy is intended to:
- A. help students monitor each other's progress.
  - B. motivate students to assess their own math ability over time.
  - C. promote students' use of metacognitive strategies.
  - D. activate students' prior knowledge relevant to the problem at hand.

12. A second-grade teacher constructs the following device to allow students to indicate agreement or disagreement without shouting out their positions. Students silently show the smiley face when they agree with the teacher or a classmate, and they show the sad face when they disagree.



Which of the following types of learners will *most* benefit from using the smiley-sad-face device?

- A. auditory learners  
 B. visual learners  
 C. tactile/kinesthetic learners  
 D. right-brain dominant learners
13. Students in a social studies class have been researching the history of the U.S. flag and the *Pledge of Allegiance*. One student comments, “My father said that the school can’t make us say the *Pledge of Allegiance* if we don’t want to.” The student’s parent is:
- A. correct, based on a Supreme Court decision stating that no student can be compelled to salute the flag.  
 B. correct, because the student is protected under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.  
 C. incorrect, because the school may require all students to salute the flag.  
 D. incorrect, because the student would be disrupting the educational process at school.
14. A third-grade teacher records her students reading favorite stories and afterward has the students listen to the taped readings. Listening to the taped readings will help the students most with:
- A. vocabulary development.  
 B. decoding skills.  
 C. word recognition.  
 D. fluency.
15. Which of the following ways would be most effective in conveying feedback to high school students about their performance in a content area?
- A. meeting periodically with each student and discussing his or her progress in the content area  
 B. writing positive and encouraging comments of some length on assignments, no matter how incomplete or unsuccessful the student’s effort  
 C. analyzing each student’s work in front of classmates, pointing out problems but carefully moderating the negative aspects  
 D. giving timely, specific one-on-one observations that are accurate and constructive
16. During a parent-teacher conference the parents of a student ask the teacher for his opinion about whether the parents should reward their child for good grades. How should the teacher respond?
- A. He should tell them firmly that it is a bad mistake to do that.  
 B. He should discuss and give reasons for his opinion on the matter, but tell the parents they should make their own decision.  
 C. He should not give an opinion on the matter, but rather should give the parents information about extrinsic rewards to help them make an informed decision.  
 D. He should not give his opinion because it is a personal family matter in which the teacher should not get involved.
17. Which of the following statements is most in accord with current principles of professional development of Florida teachers?
- A. Teachers should have expertise in computer program development.  
 B. Teachers should acquire and practice computer maintenance skills.  
 C. Teachers should be literate in the use of computers.  
 D. Teachers should have basic skills in computer hardware repair.

- 18.** A social studies teacher begins a lesson by asking students questions that require them to connect historical events to current events and personal experiences. The teacher's way of introducing the lesson is an especially good one for the students because it likely will:
- A.** promote their critical thinking skills.
  - B.** help them gain an appreciation of their own innate abilities.
  - C.** foster recognition of their individual learning styles.
  - D.** enhance awareness of their own community's unique features.
- 19.** Students in a high school English class are going on a field trip to see a play at a local university. The teacher is concerned about one of the students who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair for mobility. What should the teacher do to accommodate this student with special needs?
- A.** Provide the student with an alternative assignment that the student can do independently and successfully while the rest of the class is on the field trip.
  - B.** Assign a partner to assist the student on the field trip.
  - C.** Ask the student's parent to accompany and assist the student on the field trip.
  - D.** Go to the university beforehand to arrange necessary accommodations for the student while on the field trip.
- 20.** A social studies teacher has set up a learning station in the classroom where students can use a computer to go on virtual field trips via the Internet. Before the students start using the Internet, it is most important that the teacher makes sure that:
- A.** students are given Web addresses where virtual tours are available.
  - B.** software that assists students in downloading information or graphics from the sites they visit is in place.
  - C.** student protective software that blocks access to inappropriate sites is in place.
  - D.** students know how to store favorite Web page addresses for return trips to favorite sites.
- 21.** A second-grade student does not understand material when he reads it independently, but he does understand it when the teacher reads the material to him. This situation indicates the student needs help with:
- A.** vocabulary development.
  - B.** word recognition.
  - C.** comprehension.
  - D.** summarizing.
- 22.** In monitoring a student's progress, a middle school teacher should be most concerned when a student:
- A.** learns more slowly than other students in the class.
  - B.** responds more readily to concrete than to symbolic representations.
  - C.** is unable to apply the concepts he or she has supposedly learned.
  - D.** exhibits a strong dislike for the subject matter.
- 23.** A new teacher asks a colleague at school for assistance in creating a rubric for portfolio assessment. The teacher's colleague is quick to share information and offer guidance. Which of the following principles is the most important reason for the colleague's behavior toward the new teacher?
- A.** Teachers should know the value of cultivating positive interpersonal relationships with colleagues.
  - B.** Teachers should know how to work effectively with their colleagues to accomplish educational goals.
  - C.** Teachers should know how to use different sources of information and guidance to enhance student achievement.
  - D.** Teachers should recognize personal factors that affect their role as professionals.

- 24.** An economics teacher is using a computer simulation game to help the students learn about the stock market. The teacher assigns the students to teams who must decide among themselves the most effective strategies for investing their resources. What is an important advantage of the students' using the computer simulation?
- A. It enhances students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
  - B. It encourages students to express their opinions about capitalism.
  - C. It helps students learn how to evaluate situations objectively.
  - D. It promotes students' ability to work quickly and efficiently.
- 25.** A fourth-grade teacher has a student in his class that he feels is not working up to her potential. He phones the student's mother to discuss this problem and is informed by the mother that her daughter is a gifted singer. The mother goes on to say that the girl's ambition is to become a professional singer, which the mother says is just fine with her since the daughter is not the "academic" type. This situation is disturbing to the teacher because he is aware that the home factor that is likely to have the greatest effect on an elementary student's perception of his or her academic ability is the:
- A. types of extracurricular activities that the student engages in.
  - B. parenting style used in the home.
  - C. long-term nonacademic goals of the student.
  - D. parents' expressed beliefs about the student's abilities.
- 26.** Which of the following is the primary purpose of having students develop portfolios?
- A. to provide documentation if a question should arise concerning grades
  - B. to enhance teachers' knowledge of the learners
  - C. to provide a means for students to self-assess
  - D. to provide a way to make available students' work for peer-assessment
- 27.** Which of the following should a teacher consider when planning questions for a whole group discussion?
- A. Effective teachers ask more when? where? how? and what? questions.
  - B. Effective teachers ask more divergent questions.
  - C. Effective teachers ask more convergent questions.
  - D. There is no relationship between types of teacher questions and teacher effectiveness.
- 28.** During group activities, students are likely to benefit most from which of the following methods of assessing their learning?
- A. using ungraded worksheet questions over factual information
  - B. using a multiple-choice test with teacher feedback
  - C. using informal teacher observation with a checklist
  - D. using periodic "surprise" quizzes
- 29.** Which of the following questions would most likely stimulate students' divergent thinking?
- A. Is the number 764 divisible by 3?
  - B. Name the five Great Lakes.
  - C. How many ways can a person travel from San Francisco to Washington, D.C.?
  - D. Which planet is nearest the Sun?
- 30.** Dividing the class into groups of three or four students, an art teacher provides each group with an empty cylindrical container. The teacher challenges the students to come up with many different ways to use the container as part of a work of art. This activity encourages students to engage in:
- A. brainstorming and convergent thinking.
  - B. brainstorming and divergent thinking.
  - C. affective learning and convergent thinking.
  - D. affective learning and divergent thinking.

- 31.** A middle school class is involved in a social studies unit on free enterprise. The students are talking about the guest speaker they had the day before who told them how she started her own business. During the discussion, the students ask the teacher whether the class can start a business. The teacher agrees but reminds the class of what their guest told them about how much hard work is involved. In chorus, the students assure the teacher that they are willing to accept the responsibility. By supporting the students' idea of the business venture, the teacher demonstrates understanding of motivational theory *primarily* by:
- A. promoting student ownership in a smoothly functioning learning community.
  - B. identifying appropriate techniques for leading class discussions.
  - C. linking new learning to prior knowledge.
  - D. allowing students a measure of control over their learning experiences.
- 32.** An advantage of using a task analysis when planning a lesson is:
- A. seeing firsthand the importance of planning effective objectives.
  - B. encouraging students to work and learn independently.
  - C. gaining increased awareness of the subskills students need for mastering more advanced skills.
  - D. allowing students to make important decisions about what they should and should not attend to.
- 33.** Which of the following types of computer applications would be best to use in an economics class for keeping inventory records for a store?
- A. database
  - B. graphing software
  - C. word processing
  - D. spreadsheet
- 34.** During a fifth-grade science lesson, a student appears to be trying to get attention. The student twists and turns and taps a pencil while the teacher is reviewing safety procedures. Which of the following interventions should Mr. Lehrer, the teacher, use *first* with the student?
- A. Say the student's name and shake his head disapprovingly when the student looks at him.
  - B. Walk toward and stand beside the student, but continue with the lesson.
  - C. Ask the student to come to the front of the room, and then quietly ask the student to behave appropriately.
  - D. Stop the lesson and send the student to the office.
- 35.** During a parent-teacher conference, one thing that a teacher should *not* do is:
- A. offer the parents refreshments.
  - B. begin by telling the parents their child is an underachiever.
  - C. show the parents their child's grades up to that point.
  - D. paraphrase comments from the parents for clarity.
- 36.** The *Massachusetts Law of 1647*, generally known as the Old Deluder Satan Act, is significant because:
- A. it established a free public education in Massachusetts.
  - B. it helped lay the foundation for compulsory education in America.
  - C. it clearly defined the separation of church and state in public schools.
  - D. it was the beginning of the end of private education in America.
- 37.** Which of the following is most likely to be included in a sheltered English approach to content-area learning?
- A. The content is modified to address lower level objectives.
  - B. Independent seatwork is emphasized.
  - C. Manipulatives and concrete representations support instruction.
  - D. Content is primarily presented in the student's home language.

- 38.** Ms. Rose is a first-year teacher. When developing her classroom management plan, which of the following is *most* important for Ms. Rose to consider?
- A. her educational philosophy
  - B. her students' behavioral reports from the previous year
  - C. the classroom management plan of the teacher next door
  - D. the appropriateness of the plan for her students' grade level
- 39.** A language arts teacher has her students work with a partner to help each other plan essays, critique each other's drafts, help each other with editing, and finally produce final versions to be turned in. When the students are working in pairs, the teacher should:
- A. avoid listening in on their discussions.
  - B. ignore any misbehavior that goes on within a pair.
  - C. circulate through the class and monitor each pair to see how they are doing.
  - D. sit at her desk and answer questions only when asked.
- 40.** A class discussion about a controversial topic would be *most* appropriate when:
- A. the lesson involves objectives at the knowledge level of Bloom's taxonomy.
  - B. the lesson involves objectives in the affective domain.
  - C. students are younger or less mature.
  - D. the teacher feels confident that, despite the controversial topic, students will react to it in similar ways.
- 41.** The English I teachers in a large high school work together to plan a unit designed to strengthen students' reading comprehension skills. This practice best illustrates which of the following principles?
- A. Teachers should use effective communication techniques to shape the classroom into a community of learners.
  - B. Teachers should collaborate with colleagues to support students' learning.
  - C. Teachers should work together with colleagues to establish a vision that reflects students' need for critical thinking skills.
  - D. Teachers should apply strategies for developing interdisciplinary curricula.
- 42.** A chemistry teacher wants to demonstrate to her students how the gas laws work; that is, that the volume of a gas is proportional to temperature and inversely proportional to pressure. Which of the following technologies would be best for this purpose?
- A. video
  - B. spreadsheet
  - C. graphing calculator
  - D. simulation software
- 43.** An elementary school principal adheres to the belief that truth is absolute and can be determined by exploring the ideas contained in great literature. This belief is most consistent with which of the following philosophies of education?
- A. idealism
  - B. realism
  - C. pragmatism
  - D. existentialism
- 44.** To develop CALP (cognitive academic language proficiency) in an optimal second-language learning environment takes most ESOL learners an average of:
- A. six months to one year.
  - B. two to four years.
  - C. five to seven years.
  - D. eight to ten years.
- 45.** Teachers of adolescents need to be aware that late maturing boys:
- A. have less self-confidence than early maturers.
  - B. get along better with their families than early maturers.
  - C. are treated as older than their age by adults.
  - D. are better coordinated than early maturers.
- 46.** To minimize classroom discipline problems, a teacher should:
- A. arrange the desks in rows facing the front of the room to ensure student participation.
  - B. group low-achieving students near each other so that the teacher can work more easily with them.
  - C. arrange the room so that frequently used supplies and materials are readily accessible.
  - D. seat students who are behavioral problems near the teacher's desk.

- 47.** The 1954 landmark case *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* is significant because:
- A. it guaranteed the privacy of a student's educational records.
  - B. it made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sex in public schools receiving federal monies.
  - C. it banned the practice of racial segregation in schools.
  - D. it established free appropriate public education for special education students.
- 48.** A high school journalism teacher is able to initiate an Internet project between a high school English class in Japan and the students in her journalism class. The students from the two countries will communicate with each other via email messages. A likely benefit of the telecommunications project with Japan is that it will:
- A. promote community recognition that American schools can meet the academic needs of students in other countries.
  - B. convey to students the importance of establishing a positive climate in the classroom.
  - C. convince the administration to support technological innovations at the school.
  - D. underscore for the students the power and utility of technology.
- 49.** A high school teacher routinely uses student input when planning lessons. Which of the following is a likely result of this approach to planning?
- A. It will satisfy the need in students for a stable, routine, and predictable environment.
  - B. It will encourage students to use self-reflection in the learning process.
  - C. It will encourage learning and promote student success.
  - D. It will prompt students to assess their understanding of long-term instructional goals.
- 50.** Which of the following is the most educationally sound guard against disruptive behavior?
- A. a well-planned lesson
  - B. a principal who will support the teacher
  - C. a teacher who is physically larger and stronger than the students
  - D. the threat of corporal punishment
- 51.** The condition of having a significant discrepancy between learning ability and academic achievement is *best* described as:
- A. mentally handicapped.
  - B. having a learning disability.
  - C. emotionally handicapped.
  - D. autism.
- 52.** A teacher arranges for professors at a nearby university to serve as experts to whom her students can electronically pose academic or technical questions. Both the students and the professors are enthusiastic about the arrangement. The arrangement with the professors best illustrates which of the following?
- A. Teachers should create a learning environment in which taking risks and sharing new ideas are supported and encouraged.
  - B. Teachers should use technological and other resources to facilitate continual professional growth.
  - C. Teachers should know how to take advantage of community strengths and resources to promote student achievement.
  - D. Teachers should understand the value of technology in promoting efficient use of class time.
- 53.** Read the following statement made by an ESOL student and then answer the question that follows.
- “Maria don't have her homework.”
- The error in the student's statement suggests that the student probably requires additional instruction in which of the following areas of English grammar?
- A. noun-pronoun agreement
  - B. verb tenses
  - C. subject-verb agreement
  - D. negation

- 54.** Which of the following best describes the role of physiological needs in students' academic performance?
- A.** Physiological needs have no relationship to academic performance.
  - B.** Students with unmet physiological needs might show little interest in academic performance.
  - C.** Students often disregard unmet physiological needs when they encounter challenging academic tasks that are highly motivating.
  - D.** Students with unmet physiological needs are likely to avoid failure in relationships with others.
- 55.** At the beginning of the school year, to help with planning, a computer science teacher asks the students to complete a questionnaire about their previous computer experience. When she reads through their responses, she finds that her students vary considerably in their previous computer training, from those who have very limited experience to those who have computers at home and have had extensive experience. The teacher's decision to obtain information about her students' prior computer experience is *best* explained by which of the following?
- A.** She knows that identifying problem students early is a basic skill that successful teachers must possess.
  - B.** She needs to provide the students with feedback about their progress in her class.
  - C.** She needs information that will help her design appropriate learning activities for her students.
  - D.** She wants to check on established levels of achievement for grading purposes.
- 56.** Of the following, which is an appropriate technique for clearing up misunderstandings when talking with parents during a parent-teacher conference?
- A.** Convey correct information to them in a respectful manner.
  - B.** Tell them honestly, but gently, that they are distorting what you are saying.
  - C.** Politely ask them to listen carefully.
  - D.** Ask them, in a courteous way, to repeat to you their understanding of what has been said.
- 57.** For most learners, an effective classroom management plan is one that emphasizes:
- A.** punishment for misbehavior.
  - B.** self-discipline on the part of the student.
  - C.** an authoritarian role for the teacher.
  - D.** public recognition for good behavior.
- 58.** The principle of separation of church and state was established by:
- A.** passage of a law by Congress.
  - B.** an executive order of the President.
  - C.** a Supreme Court decision.
  - D.** ratification of the Bill of Rights.
- 59.** A high school algebra teacher is considering using an interactive computer aided instruction (CAI) program in his class. The CAI program was highly recommended to the algebra teacher by a colleague. The algebra teacher needs to be aware that the most important *first* step in instituting effective CAI is to:
- A.** purchase additional memory for the computers in his classroom.
  - B.** ability group the students.
  - C.** personally preview the CAI program.
  - D.** rearrange the classroom to accommodate learning stations.
- 60.** A middle grades English teacher anticipates that the ESOL learners in his class will have difficulty understanding the following sentence, spoken by the main character in a chapter book the class is reading together: "Before I realized what I was saying, I had put my foot in my mouth." The teacher likely is concerned about this sentence because it includes the use of:
- A.** a nonstandard dialect of English.
  - B.** an idiomatic expression.
  - C.** jargon.
  - D.** a grammatically incorrect construction.



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## Answer Key for Diagnostic Test

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1. A	21. B	41. B
2. B	22. C	42. D
3. B	23. B	43. A
4. B	24. A	44. C
5. D	25. D	45. A
6. C	26. C	46. C
7. C	27. B	47. C
8. A	28. C	48. D
9. B	29. C	49. C
10. C	30. B	50. A
11. C	31. D	51. B
12. C	32. C	52. C
13. A	33. D	53. C
14. D	34. B	54. B
15. D	35. B	55. C
16. B	36. B	56. A
17. C	37. C	57. B
18. A	38. D	58. D
19. D	39. C	59. C
20. C	40. B	60. B



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## Complete Answers and Explanations

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- 1. A.** This question deals with **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Teachers should be knowledgeable of the uses and limitations of different types of assessments. Eliminate Choice B because peer assessment is assessment by students of their classmates' products or performances. Eliminate Choice C because performance assessment measures a student's ability to perform a specific cognitive or physical task correctly. Eliminate Choice D because summative assessment occurs at the end of an instructional experience (for example, at the end of a unit, semester, year), *not* before. Formative assessment takes place before and during the learning process. It is used to guide the content and pace of learning and may take various forms (such as an informal survey, a diagnostic instrument, a pretest, or an ungraded skills checklist.). The teacher's questionnaire is an informal survey, which is a type of summative assessment. Choice A is the correct response.
- 2. B.** This question deals with **Communications**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 2: *Knowledge of effective communication with students, parents, faculty, other professionals, and the public, including those whose home language is not English*. Teachers should know how to foster effective home-school relationships that support student learning. Notice that you are to select the *best* answer choice. Eliminate choices A and D because the issue of access is a problem with these means. Not every student's parents have access to email or telephones. For instance, consider the situation for the parents of a homeless student. Eliminate Choice C because the interval between notes is too long. A class newsletter sent out monthly would be best for keeping parents informed about class activities. Choice B is the correct response.
- 3. B.** This question deals with identifying professional development experiences, which falls under **Continuous Improvement**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 3: *Knowledge of strategies for continuous improvement in professional practices for self and school*. The question is asking what the teacher's decision to attend the training program *best* illustrates. The question stem describes a situation in which a teacher decides to take advantage of a professional development opportunity. Eliminate choices A and D because these answer choices relate to **Planning** (Competency 10). Eliminate Choice C because this answer choice relates to **Critical and Creative Thinking** (Competency 4). Furthermore, the statements given in choices A, C, and D might be true, but there is no evidence in the question stem that tells you that, for sure, they are—don't assume too much when you read a question. What you know for sure from the question stem is that the teacher's decision to attend the training program shows that the teacher knows how to identify professional development experiences that will enhance the teacher's professional knowledge and skills. Choice B is the correct response.
- 4. B.** This question deals with critical thinking, which falls under **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. Eliminate Choice A because these types of activities likely would result in less risk taking and less higher level thinking from students. Eliminate Choice C because metacognitive strategies should be practiced as students are learning, not memorized and recited in isolation. Eliminate Choice D because when students are told exactly what to do and how to do it, there is little opportunity for them to think on their own. Critical thinking is the mental process of acquiring information, and then evaluating it to make a rational decision, reach a logical conclusion, or form an opinion or belief. Requiring students to give reasons for their opinions will force them to critically analyze and clarify their own thinking. Choice B is the correct response.
- 5. D.** This question deals with working with ESE learners, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Teachers should apply strategies that ensure that students with special needs and exceptionalities are an integral part of the class and participate to the greatest extent possible in all classroom activities. Eliminate Choice A because it would be inappropriate for the teacher to separate the ESE students into a group by themselves. Eliminate Choice B because ESE students should not be interrupted or disturbed when they are given opportunities to interact with and work closely with their non-ESE peers. Eliminate Choice C because the whole class working silently and independently is in conflict with the recommendation given in the Office of School Improvement Information Wave Series #19 for "MORE active learning in the classroom, with all the attendant noise and movement of students doing, talking, and collaborating" (p. 3). The best time for the ESE

teacher to come into the teacher's classroom to provide support services is when the whole class is engaged in a variety of activities. This way the ESE students are less likely to feel that they are in the spotlight when receiving assistance. Choice D is the correct response.

- 6. C.** The question deals with reporting child abuse, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Choice C is the correct response. Florida law requires that “any person who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused, abandoned, or neglected by a parent, legal custodian, caregiver, or other person responsible for the child’s welfare shall report such knowledge or suspicion to the [Florida] Abuse Hotline” (Section 39.201(1)(a), Florida Statutes). A person who “knowingly and willfully” fails to report suspected child abuse commits a first degree misdemeanor and is subject to criminal prosecution (Section 39.205(1), Florida Statutes). Reporting suspected child abuse to the principal, school counselor, or other school official will NOT satisfy the teacher’s obligation under this law (eliminate Choice A). Eliminate choices B and D because the teacher should NOT investigate or confront the suspected abuser prior to making the report. It is not up to the teacher to determine whether the teacher’s suspicions are correct. Investigation of the report is the responsibility of the local law enforcement agency, local Child Protective Teams, and/or the Department of Children and Families.
- 7. C.** The question deals with reading, which falls under **Subject Matter**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 8: *Knowledge of subject matter incorporating reading strategies and literacy as they apply across the curriculum to increase learning*. Choice C is the correct response. When a student is reading independently, the student should be able to read/understand at least 95 percent of the material read. The response given in Choice C is most consistent with this criterion. The other response options would indicate that the book is above the student’s reading level.
- 8. A.** This question deals with **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Notice that you must select the answer choice that is *most* important. Eliminate Choice B because generally teacher-made tests are not designed for this purpose. Eliminate Choice D because this approach would be unfair to students and, moreover, would probably not yield valid results. Good assessment reflects what is taught—it is aligned with the curriculum and how it is taught. It matches the method of instruction. You must now select between choices A and C. Teachers should monitor students’ progress in achieving educational goals and objectives. Eliminate Choice C because the teacher should expect that the test will yield differences among students in their performance. It is not *more* important to discover the differences among students than it is to find out about the progress of the class in the attainment of unit goals and objectives. Choice A is the correct response.
- 9. B.** This question deals with the topic of parent conferences, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. The art of communicating with parents is an integral part of the role of the teacher. Teachers should apply strategies for initiating and maintaining effective communication with parents and recognize factors that might facilitate or impede communication in given situations such as in parent-teacher conferences. Choice B is the correct response because opening remarks are important for establishing the tone of the conference and helping the parents to feel at ease; therefore, the teacher should begin the conference on a positive note. The other responses offer inappropriate actions for the teacher to take. Eliminate Choice A because it is not the teacher’s place to tell the parents about other teachers’ problems with the parents’ child. Eliminate Choice C because it is inappropriate for the teacher to discuss other students’ behavior in the conference. Eliminate Choice D because although it is appropriate for the teacher to seek information that might help the teacher gain a better understanding of the student’s behavior, attempting to psychoanalyze the student goes beyond the teacher’s credentials.
- 10. C.** This question deals with identifying professional development experiences, which falls under **Continuous Improvement**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 3: *Knowledge of strategies for continuous improvement in professional practices for self and school*. Notice that you must decide which of the four responses offered would *most* help the teacher improve the teacher’s *own* practice. Effective teachers should constantly monitor and adjust their classroom practices. A very natural and effective way teachers can do this is to keep a reflective journal to identify strengths, challenges, and potential problems. This course of action is given in Choice C. Choices A and B

are also ways to improve teaching effectiveness, but these ways are not likely to be as relevant to the teacher's own practice as the approach given in Choice C. Eliminate Choice D because, although it might be acceptable to observe a colleague one or two times, it would likely become an imposition on the other teacher if done on a regular basis. Choice C is the correct response.

11. **C.** This question deals with problem solving, which falls under **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. Choice C is the correct response. By encouraging students to refer to the prompts offered by the teacher during problem solving, the teacher is helping them to develop strategies and skills to monitor and analyze their own thinking as they problem solve. Essentially, by asking themselves questions as they work, students talk themselves through the problem. Promoting students' use of such metacognitive strategies will help them become independent and critical thinkers. No evidence in the question stem supports the other answer choices. Eliminate Choice A because the students are asking themselves the questions, not asking other students. Eliminate Choice B because it deals with **Assessment** (Competency 1). On the FTCE Professional Education test, to "assess" means to gather information about whether students learned the concepts and/or skills that were taught. Clearly, assessment is not taking place in the situation described in the question. Eliminate Choice D because the prompts offered by the teacher focus students' thinking on their own thinking processes (metacognition), not on background knowledge related to the problems.
12. **C.** This question deals with types of learners, which falls under **Diversity**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 5: *Knowledge of cultural, linguistic, and learning style differences and how these differences affect classroom practice and student learning*. Notice that you must select the type of learner that would *most* benefit from using the smiley-sad-face device. The smiley-sad-face device is something that allows students to be physically involved in the lesson. Such active participation is beneficial to all types of learners; however, Choice C is the correct response because tactile/kinesthetic learners prefer to learn by using physical objects and being physically involved. Therefore, they would most benefit from using the smiley-sad-face device since using it is highly congruent with their learning modality. Visual and right brain dominant learners prefer to learn by seeing or reading something, and auditory learners learn best by hearing information. Therefore, although these students would benefit from using the smiley-sad-face device, the benefit would be less pronounced for them than it would be for tactile/kinesthetic learners.
13. **A.** The question deals with professional conduct, which falls under **Ethics**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 6: *Knowledge of the Code of Ethics and Principles of Professional Conduct of the Education Profession in Florida*. This question takes up the issue of a student's right to refuse to salute the flag. The Supreme Court has ruled that no student may be required to take part in a flag salute ceremony as a condition of attendance, making Choice A the correct response. The court felt that a flag salute such as the Pledge of Allegiance cannot be required by the school, just as prayer cannot be required by the school, and for the same reason. The school cannot choose a belief whether it's a matter of nationalism, religion, politics, or whatever, and tell its students to believe it or face the consequences. Choice B correctly says that the student has to right to refuse to salute the flag, but gives the wrong reason. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 does not apply to this situation. Eliminate choices C and D because these responses directly contradict the Supreme Court decision. Furthermore, in regard to Choice D, no evidence in the question stem indicates that a student's refusal to say the Pledge will be disruptive. Teachers should handle such situations carefully and professionally, so that disruptions do not occur.
14. **D.** The question deals with reading, which falls under **Subject Matter**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 8: *Knowledge of subject matter incorporating reading strategies and literacy as they apply across the curriculum to increase learning*. Eliminate choices A, B, and C because these areas of reading development would not be explicitly impacted by the activity of listening to taped readings. Listening to the taped readings will help the student most with fluency by allowing the student to listen to his or her rate, accuracy, and *prosody* (expression or intonation). Choice D is the correct response.
15. **D.** This question deals with feedback, which falls under **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Choice D is the correct response. Teachers should use appropriate language and formats to provide students with timely, specific one-on-one feedback that is accurate and constructive. Eliminate Choice A because, although this approach is not a bad idea in itself, having feedback wait until specified times is problematic. Feedback should be delivered as quickly as possible while the work or performance is being discussed and is still

fresh in the student's mind. Eliminate Choice B because an important aspect of teacher feedback is to help students clearly identify areas that need strengthening and ways to work on those areas. Offering only positive feedback does not serve this purpose. Eliminate Choice C because feedback tends to be less successful when the teacher delivers it publicly—although, in contrast, mutual public feedback from peers has been shown to be beneficial in helping students construct understandings.

- 16. B.** This question deals with the topic of parent conferences, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Eliminate Choice A because this teacher behavior is inappropriate. Teachers should be sensitive to parents and avoid being pejorative about their ideas. To support the learning of each student as fully as possible, a teacher should establish and maintain an open dialogue with each student's family. Eliminate choices C and D because the parents have asked for the teacher's opinion. The teacher risks making them feel reluctant to seek the teacher's opinion on other matters in the future if the teacher doesn't give one this time; further, teachers should feel comfortable about offering their professional opinion when it is solicited. Another problem with Choice C is that some parents might have difficulty reading technical material about extrinsic rewards on their own. Choice B is the correct response. The teacher can keep communication open, while at the same time showing respect and consideration for the parents, by offering a professional opinion about rewarding their child for good grades and the reasons for that opinion and then telling the parents that, nevertheless, they should make their own decision in the matter.
- 17. C.** This question deals with professional development, which falls under **Continuous Improvement**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 3: *Knowledge of strategies for continuous improvement in professional practices for self and school*. The use of technology adds a new dimension to teaching and learning. It can be used to create a learning environment that changes and interacts with students' needs. Today in Florida, it is vital that teachers know how to enhance learning for students through the appropriate use of technological resources like computers. Eliminate Choice A because teachers can use computers effectively in their classrooms without knowing computer programming. Eliminate choices B and D because teachers should not be expected to have computer maintenance skills or know how to repair computer hardware. All Florida teachers need to be computer literate in order to use this technology effectively in the classroom. Choice C is the correct response.
- 18. A.** This question deals with **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. Choice A is correct because making connections between two concepts that might, on the surface, appear unrelated requires application of several types of critical thinking including analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. The other responses offered are not supported by the question stem.
- 19. D.** This question deals with working with ESE learners, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Eliminate Choice A because special needs students should be an integral part of the class and should participate to the greatest extent possible in all class activities. Eliminate Choice B because a student should not be given the responsibility of taking care of a special needs student on a field trip. Eliminate Choice C because, although it is appropriate to invite parents to go on field trips as volunteer chaperones, it is inappropriate to ask a parent to come on a field trip, so that the parent can assist the parent's child who has a disability. Choice D is the correct response. To accommodate the student with special needs, the teacher should go to the university beforehand to make arrangements for the student to participate to the fullest extent possible in the field trip activity.
- 20. C.** The question deals with professional conduct, which falls under **Ethics**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 6: *Knowledge of the Code of Ethics and Principles of Professional Conduct of the Education Profession in Florida*. Notice that you must select the answer choice that is *most* important. Teachers have an ethical duty to protect the safety of students. In regard to students' use of the Internet, the issue of students' safety is of primary concern; therefore, Choice C is the correct response. The other responses offered are acceptable measures for a teacher to take, but it is of most importance that students are prevented from accessing sites with inappropriate content.

- 21. B.** The question deals with reading, which falls under **Subject Matter**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 8: *Knowledge of subject matter incorporating reading strategies and literacy as they apply across the curriculum to increase learning*. Choice B is the correct response. Since the student understands (comprehends) when the material is read to him, he needs help with word recognition because he does not understand it when he reads it to himself. To develop fluent word recognition, children must have ample opportunities to practice decoding words. The other response options suggest that the student has a problem with comprehension, which is not indicated in the question stem.
- 22. C.** This question deals with **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Notice that you must select the answer choice that should *most* concern the teacher. Eliminate Choice A because learning at a slower pace is not abnormal in itself. As long as the student is learning, the teacher has no reason to be alarmed about a student who learns at a pace slower than that of the other students. Eliminate Choice B because this behavior is to be expected of students who are in the concrete stage of cognitive development—which is the case for many middle school students, although at this age they have an emerging ability to demonstrate formal operational thinking. Eliminate Choice D because, although this circumstance might be frustrating for the teacher, it is not abnormal and is usually no cause for serious concern. All of the situations presented in the answer choices are situations that could very well occur in a middle school classroom, but only one of them is a cause for serious concern, and that situation is given in Choice C. If a teacher has facilitated the acquisition of particular concepts in class, yet a student cannot apply those concepts, then something has apparently gone wrong. Perhaps, the student is able to deal with the concepts at the procedural level of understanding (for example, following rules and directions correctly), but has not yet developed conceptual understanding. The point is that a student who has trouble applying the concepts needs some sort of help, and the teacher should take the time to come up with that help. Choice C is the correct response.
- 23. B.** This question deals with working with colleagues, which falls under **Continuous Improvement**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 3: *Knowledge of strategies for continuous improvement in professional practices for self and school*. Notice that you must select the *most* important reason for the colleague's behavior. Eliminate Choice C because the colleague is acting as a resource, not using a resource. Eliminate Choice D because the colleague is not examining her role as a professional. You must now decide which is the better answer choice: Choice A or Choice B? Eliminate Choice A because by helping the new teacher, the colleague might be cultivating a positive relationship with the new teacher, but the most important reason for the colleague's behavior toward the new teacher is that she recognizes that she is a member of a learning community and knows how to work with all members of that community to accomplish educational goals. Choice B is the correct response.
- 24. A.** The question deals with **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. Choice A is the correct response. When the students engage in the computer simulation game, they will be weighing their options and making decisions about optimum strategies, which will enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills. Eliminate Choice B because, although, this result might occur, no evidence in the question stem supports that it will. Eliminate Choice C because this result might or might not occur. Often in simulations students assume roles, so their decision-making becomes subjective based on their roles. Eliminate Choice D because, generally, computer simulations are time-consuming and not necessarily meant to promote quick and efficient work.
- 25. D.** This question deals with the teacher's role with parents, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Teachers should understand factors inside and outside the classroom that influence students' perceptions of their own worth and potential. Research suggests that parents' expressed belief about their child's academic abilities and potential for achievement affects their child's perceptions of his or her own competence and learning potential. Choice D is the correct response. The other responses offered have less direct effect on the student's perceptions of his or her learning abilities than does parents' expressed beliefs about those abilities.

- 26. C.** This question deals with **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Notice that you must select the *primary* purpose of having students develop portfolios. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of a student's work to evidence his or her learning. Keeping a portfolio is one of the best ways for students to engage in assessing their progress over time. Choice C is the correct response. Eliminate choices A and D because, in general, portfolios are not used for these purposes. Eliminate Choice B because portfolios do enhance teachers' knowledge of the learners, but this is not the *primary* purpose for using portfolios.
- 27. B.** This question deals with leading class discussions, which falls under **Communications**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 2: *Knowledge of effective communication with students, parents, faculty, other professionals, and the public, including those whose home language is not English*. Research suggests that effective teachers are skilled questioners. They know how to elicit different levels of thinking from students by careful selection of appropriate questions. During class discussions, posing questions is a crucial skill that teachers use to provide focus to the discussion and elicit and extend students' reasoning and critical thinking. In general, active classroom discourse is promoted best by the use of divergent (open-ended) questions. Eliminate choices A and C because when? where? how? and what? questions and convergent (closed-ended) questions elicit lower level thinking. Eliminate D because this answer choice disagrees with research findings.. Choice B is the correct response.
- 28. C.** This question deals with **Assessment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 1: *Knowledge of various types of assessment strategies that can be used to determine student levels and needs*. Teachers should be knowledgeable of the uses and limitations of different types of assessments. Choice C is correct because informal observation with a checklist while the students are working in groups would be a more accurate assessment than worksheet questions (eliminate Choice A), a multiple-choice test (eliminate Choice B), or quizzes (eliminate Choice D). As the teacher moves from group to group, the teacher can observe what students are capable of doing and note what areas of difficulty are apparent.
- 29. C.** This question deals with the topic of types of questions, which falls under **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. The key to answering questions about convergent and divergent thinking is to remember that questions encouraging convergent thinking have a clear right answer—a word, a number, a list, and so forth—while questions that encourage divergent thinking have a diversity of answers, none of which is described as “the right answer.” Eliminate choices A and D because there is only one right answer for these questions. Eliminate Choice B because the correct answer is a list. The question posed in Choice C is not meant to elicit one specific answer. It is meant to encourage students to think of all the different ways of traveling across the country, and no answer is going to be “more correct” than another. The point of asking such a question is to get as wide a variety of responses as possible. Choice C is the correct response.
- 30. B.** The question deals with **Critical and Creative Thinking**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 4: *Knowledge of strategies, materials, and technologies that will promote and enhance critical and creative thinking skills*. Eliminate choices C and D because the teacher is not asking the students to deal with values or feelings—*affective learning*. Choice B is correct because the students are engaged in brainstorming and divergent thinking—they've been asked to come up with a variety of new ideas for which the number of possibilities is virtually unlimited. Eliminate Choice A because convergent thinking is associated with tasks for which the number of possibilities is limited.
- 31. D.** This question deals with motivation, which falls under **Human Development and Learning**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 7: *Knowledge of how to apply human development and learning theories that support the intellectual, personal, and social development of all students*. Eliminate Choice A because promoting student ownership in a smoothly functioning learning community is related to the **Learning Environment** (Competency 9). Eliminate Choice B because identifying appropriate techniques for leading class discussions relates to **Communications** (Competency 2). Eliminate Choice C because there is no indication the teacher is linking new learning to prior knowledge. The teacher demonstrates understanding that intrinsic motivation is enhanced when students are allowed to have a measure of control over their learning experiences. Choice D is the correct response.
- 32. C.** The question deals with **Planning**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 10: *Knowledge of how to plan and conduct lessons in a variety of learning environments that lead to student outcomes consistent with state and district standards*. Task analysis requires the teacher to analyze a task to determine the exact steps a student must

go through to successfully complete it. Eliminate Choice A because using task analysis is a part of planning effective objectives, since it allows the teacher to determine whether a lesson objective is at an appropriate level of difficulty; however, additional criteria must be considered as well (for instance, the type of learning desired—cognitive, affective, psychomotor). Eliminate Choices B and D because task analysis is something the teacher does, not the students. The benefit of performing a task analysis for each lesson is that the teacher will be able to determine the prerequisite skills that students need in order to master more advanced skills. Choice C is the correct response.

- 33. D.** This question asks about **Technology**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 12: *Knowledge of strategies for the implementation of technology in the teaching and learning process*. Eliminate Choice A because databases do not have the range of computational features needed for inventories. Eliminate choices B and C because graphing software and word processing software lack the features needed for keeping inventory records. A spreadsheet is used to arrange information and formulas into rows and columns, like a ledger or worksheet for a business or store. Spreadsheets have a range of computational features that are essential for business use. Choice D is the correct response.
- 34. B.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Mr. Lehrer should be aware of the need to maintain instructional momentum during a lesson. Mr. Lehrer's *first* intervention should be the least intrusive. Eliminate choices A, C, and D because they interrupt the flow of the lesson. Mr. Lehrer should try nonverbal interventions, like moving to a position to stand near the student, before trying more intrusive measures. Choice B is the correct response.
- 35. B.** This question deals with the topic of parent conferences, which falls under the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Eliminate Choice A because offering refreshments is a good idea, especially if it's late in the day. Eliminate Choice C because it is a good idea to inform the parents of their child's performance in the teacher's class. Furthermore, they have a legal right to see their child's grades. Eliminate Choice D because paraphrasing parents' comments can avoid misunderstandings or miscommunication, especially when dealing with parents whose home language is other than English. Teachers should begin a parent-teacher conference on a positive note. Telling parents their child is an underachiever sets a negative tone. Choice B is the correct response.
- 36. B.** This question deals with the **Foundations of Education**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 13: *Knowledge of the history of education and its philosophical and sociological foundations*. Eliminate Choice A because the burden of funding the state-mandated education fell to the parents. Eliminate Choice C because the main purpose of the law was to counteract ignorance of the scriptures. Eliminate Choice D because private education was not eliminated by the passage of the law since private education exists to this day. The *Massachusetts Law of 1647*, generally known as the Old Deluder Satan Act, is significant because, in conjunction with the *Massachusetts Law of 1642*, it helped lay the foundation for compulsory education in America. Choice B is the correct response.
- 37. C.** This question deals with **ESOL**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 14: *Knowledge of specific approaches, methods, and strategies appropriate for students with limited English proficiency*. Eliminate Choice A because the content taught in a sheltered English approach addresses the same objectives as those for other students. Eliminate Choice B because hands-on activities, not independent seatwork, are emphasized in a sheltered English approach. Eliminate Choice D because a sheltered English approach is designed to help ESOL learners understand content that was received in English. Teachers use manipulatives and concrete representations to help ESOL learners construct meaning and understanding of content. Choice C is the correct response.
- 38. D.** Upon first reading, this question appears to deal with the **Learning Environment**. However, the only two answer choices that are clearly related to the learning environment are choices B and C, both of which are not educationally sound. You are left to choose between choices A and D. This is a priority-setting question—you must select the answer choice that is *most* important to the task at hand. Choose D is incorrect because although you know that while the teacher's educational philosophy will likely influence her classroom management plan, it is *most* important that she consider the developmental characteristics of her students, so that she will be realistic in her expectations of behavior. Since you know that Choice D deals with **Human Development and Learning**, you now know the primary focus of this question is Competency 7: *Knowledge of how to apply human development and learning theories that support the intellectual, personal, and social development of all students*. This question

illustrates that sometimes the strategy of first identifying the competency may not be helpful, so you must attack the question a different way. In this case, analyzing the suitability of the answer choices is a successful strategy. Choice D is the correct response.

- 39. C.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Eliminate choices A and D because they conflict with effective classroom management procedures that emphasize teachers should constantly monitor what is going on in class. Eliminate Choice B because effective classroom managers are quick to respond to and stop or redirect inappropriate behavior. The teacher should circulate through the class and monitor each pair to see how they are doing. Choice C is the correct response.
- 40. B.** The question deals with **Planning**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 10: *Knowledge of how to plan and conduct lessons in a variety of learning environments that lead to student outcomes consistent with state and district standards*. Eliminate Choice A because objectives consistent with a student discussion are at the higher levels of Bloom's taxonomy, not at the (lower) knowledge level. Eliminate Choice C because younger or less mature students might not have the necessary prior knowledge to enter productively into the discussion. Eliminate Choice D because discussions should generate a variety of divergent ideas. Educational research suggests that group discussion in which students openly commit themselves is effective at changing individuals' attitudes. Since attitudes fall in the affective domain, Choice B is the correct response.
- 41. B.** This question deals with the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Notice that the question is asking which principle does the practice of collaboratively planning a unit *best* illustrate. Eliminate Choice A because it deals with communicating with students, an activity that comes under **Communications** (Competency 2). Eliminate Choice C because it is not supported by the question—the teachers are not establishing a vision; they are planning instruction, a more mundane yet vital activity that comes after visions have been established. Eliminate Choice D because there is no evidence in the question stem to support it—the teachers are planning a language arts unit, not an interdisciplinary unit. The teachers are working together to design effective instruction. Choice B is the correct response.
- 42. D.** This question asks about **Technology**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 12: *Knowledge of strategies for the implementation of technology in the teaching and learning process*. Choice D is the correct response. Computer simulations allow students to interact in a realist computer-generated environment. In this particular instance, the simulation software is especially useful because it affords students the opportunity to experiment with the scientific principle of the gas laws in a safe manner. Eliminate choices B and C because these technologies would allow the students to perform calculations related to the gas laws, but they would not give the students a visual picture of the way the gas laws work. Eliminate Choice A because brain research suggests that watching a video is a poor way for students to learn about a topic because the learner assumes a passive role.
- 43. A.** This question deals with philosophies of education, which fall under the **Foundations of Education**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 13: *Knowledge of the history of education and its philosophical and sociological foundations*. Notice that you must select the answer choice that is most consistent with the belief that truth is absolute and can be determined by exploring the ideas contained in great literature. Choice A is the correct response. Idealists believe that education should be designed around the study of the great works of the past. Eliminate Choice B because realism embraces the study of a well-defined, organized body of knowledge with an emphasis on the physical sciences and mathematics. Eliminate Choice C because pragmatism focuses on the study of real-world problems and situations. Eliminate Choice D because existentialism centers on the learner's uniqueness and emphasizes freedom of choice in what the learner studies.
- 44. C.** This question deals with **ESOL**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 14: *Knowledge of specific approaches, methods, and strategies appropriate for students with limited English proficiency*. Most ESOL experts agree that in an optimal second-language learning environment, most ESOL students take an average of five to seven years to develop cognitive academic language proficiency (CALP). Choice C is the correct response. The timeframes given in the other answer choices are either too short or too long.
- 45. A.** This question deals with **Human Development and Learning**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 7: *Knowledge of how to apply human development and learning theories that support the intellectual, personal, and social development of all students*. Researchers have long been interested in the differences between

adolescents who enter puberty early and those who enter it late. Early maturing boys are large for their age and better coordinated than late maturing boys (eliminate Choice D). Because of the noticeable differences in body size and physical ability, late-maturing boys suffer socially induced inferiority and are often treated as younger than their age by adults (eliminate Choice C). They develop negative self-perceptions and self-concepts (Choice A) and are more likely to have conflicts with their parents (eliminate Choice B). Choice A is the correct response.

- 46. C.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Eliminate Choice A because seating students in rows facing the front of the room does not necessarily ensure student participation and, further, such a room arrangement may not serve the instructional purpose of the lesson. Eliminate choices B and D because these practices are in conflict with providing a supportive and responsive classroom climate that promotes students' self-esteem. The teacher should facilitate a positive social and emotional atmosphere in the classroom and create a physical setting that is conducive to the achievement of various goals. Classroom control is easiest to maintain when supplies and materials are located in places that require minimal foot traffic. The teacher should be aware that keeping frequently used supplies and materials readily accessible minimizes disturbances in the classroom. Choice C is the correct response.
- 47. C.** This question deals with the **Foundations of Education**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 13: *Knowledge of the history of education and its philosophical and sociological foundations*. Eliminate Choice A because the privacy of student records is mandated by the Buckley Amendment (1974), now known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Eliminate Choice B because Title IX (1975) of the Elementary and Secondary Act bars discrimination on the basis of sex in public schools receiving federal monies. Eliminate Choice D because Public Law 94-142, The Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Act), established the right of all children with disabilities to a free appropriate public education. The 1974 landmark case *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* banned the practice of racial segregation in schools, striking down the notion of "separate, but equal" schooling. Choice C is the correct response.
- 48. D.** This question asks about **Technology**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 12: *Knowledge of strategies for the implementation of technology in the teaching and learning process*. Eliminate Choice B because it relates to the **Learning Environment** (Competency 9). Eliminate choices A and C because they are not supported by the question stem. No information is given to indicate that the Internet project will, in any way, meet the academic needs of the Japanese students nor that it will convince the administration to support technological innovations at the school. A likely benefit of the telecommunications project is that students will be able to experience firsthand the power and utility of technology. Choice D is the correct response.
- 49. C.** The question deals with **Planning**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 10: *Knowledge of how to plan and conduct lessons in a variety of learning environments that lead to student outcomes consistent with state and district standards*. Eliminate choices A, B, and D because these answer choices are off-topic; they are not aligned with the question. The teacher understands factors relevant to instructional planning, such as students' expressed learning needs that encourage learning and promote student success in the classroom. Choice C is the correct response.
- 50. A.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Eliminate Choice B because it refers to the relationship between the teacher and the principal, which is related to the **Role of the Teacher** (Competency 11). Eliminate Choice C because the size of the teacher should not be a factor in effective classroom management. Eliminate Choice D because corporal punishment is a violent, dehumanizing, and ineffective means of discipline that goes against the purposes of our educational system. The most important element affecting classroom behavior is the teacher's ability to plan interesting lessons that will increase the amount of time students spend actually learning and decrease boredom. A well-planned lesson can decrease disruptive behavior. Choice A is the correct response.
- 51. B.** This question deals with **Human Development and Learning**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 7: *Knowledge of how to apply human development and learning theories that support the intellectual, personal, and social development of all students*. A learning disability is a significant discrepancy between learning ability and academic achievement (Choice B). A learning disability is a learning disorder in one or more of the processes required in using and understanding written or spoken material. The disorder may be evident in compromised ability to speak, think, read, write, spell, listen, or do mathematical operations. Such

disorders usually include conditions of dyslexia, perceptual difficulties, and aphasia. Normally not included are learning problems associated with other special education categories: visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, physically impaired, or mentally handicapped (eliminate Choice A); emotionally handicapped (eliminate Choice C); and autistic (eliminate Choice D). Choice B is the correct response.

- 52. C.** This question deals with the **Role of the Teacher**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 11: *Knowledge of collaborative strategies for working with various education professionals, parents, and other appropriate participants in the continual improvement of educational experiences of students*. Eliminate choices A and D because the rationalizations given in these answer choices relate to the **Learning Environment** (Competency 9). Eliminate Choice B because it is not supported by the question. No information given indicates that the student-professor arrangement is related to the teacher's professional growth. The teacher is aware of the significance of the school-community relationship and understands the value of establishing partnerships with other community entities. She has devised a way to take advantage of the strengths and resources of the nearby university to promote the academic achievement of her students. Choice C is the correct response.
- 53. C.** This question deals with **ESOL**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 14: *Knowledge of specific approaches, methods, and strategies appropriate for students with limited English proficiency*. Eliminate choices A, B, and D because the student's statement is grammatically correct in terms of noun-pronoun agreement, verb tense, and negation. The student has made an error in subject-verb agreement. The singular subject Maria requires a singular verb. Instead of the contraction *don't*, which has a plural verb, the student should have used *doesn't*, which contains a singular verb. Choice C is the correct response.
- 54. B.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, the primary focus of the question is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Teachers should understand how students' desire to satisfy needs affects their performance in school. According to Abraham Maslow (1954), all human beings have certain needs that must be met. These needs are listed in a hierarchy as follows: *physiological needs*, such as food and shelter; *safety needs*, such as security and order; *belongingness and love needs*, such as affection and affiliations with others; *esteem needs*, such as self-respect, worthiness, and gaining approval and recognition; and *self-actualization needs*, such as self-fulfillment and personal achievement. According to Maslow's theory, physiological needs such as hunger, thirst, and bodily comforts are the strongest needs because, if deprived of these, a person could or would die. Eliminate Choice A because, for example, a hungry child is unlikely to be ready to learn. Eliminate Choice C because, according to Maslow's theory, physiological needs must be at least partially satisfied before a person will try to satisfy higher needs related to learning. Eliminate Choice D because it relates to belongingness and love needs, not to physiological needs. A student with unmet physiological needs (such as one who is hungry or feels ill) is likely to have little psychological stamina for learning. Choice B is the correct response.
- 55. C.** The question deals with **Planning**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 10: *Knowledge of how to plan and conduct lessons in a variety of learning environments that lead to student outcomes consistent with state and district standards*. Notice that you must select the *best* response. Eliminate Choice A because it is not supported by the stimulus; there is no indication that the teacher considers the wide range of computer expertise in her class to be a problem (don't read too much into a question!). Eliminate choices B and D because they relate to **Assessment** (Competency 1). The teacher is aware that prior learning experiences affect learning, so she uses the questionnaire to obtain information that will help her design lesson activities geared to the various levels of ability of her students. Choice C is the correct response.
- 56. A.** Although the context of this question is a parent conference, the question asks about clearing up misunderstandings, which falls under **Communications**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 2: *Knowledge of effective communication with students, parents, faculty, other professionals, and the public, including those whose home language is not English*. Eliminate choices B, C, and D because they talk down to the parent, conveying an attitude of superiority on the part of the teacher. Effective communication with parents is very important. A teacher should know that the critical elements of verbal communication are accuracy of language, accuracy of information, standardization of language, and clearly defined expectations. Conveying correct information in a respectful manner is an appropriate (and effective) technique for clearing up misunderstandings that might occur in a parent-teacher conference. Choice A is the correct response.

- 57. B.** This question deals with the **Learning Environment**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 9: *Knowledge of strategies to create and sustain a safe, efficient, supportive learning environment*. Eliminate Choice A because punitive measures by a teacher should be avoided. Eliminate choices C and D because these approaches are based on the premise that student behavior must be controlled by the teacher. Teachers who create the proper classroom atmosphere encourage students to develop control of their own behavior. Self-discipline is an effective classroom management goal because it makes students responsible for their own behavior. However, in order for this system to work, students need to be convinced that it is in their best interest to conform to the teacher’s and school’s expectations. Choice B is the correct response.
- 58. D.** This question deals with the **Foundations of Education**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 13: *Knowledge of the history of education and its philosophical and sociological foundations*. Eliminate choices A, B, and C because the principle of separation of church and state was not established by passage of a law by Congress, an executive order of the President, or a Supreme Court decision. The principle of separation of church and state was established by ratification of the Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the Constitution. The First Amendment states that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. . . .” Choice D is the correct response.
- 59. C.** This question asks about **Technology**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 12: *Knowledge of strategies for the implementation of technology in the teaching and learning process*. Notice that you must select the answer choice that the teacher should do *first*. Eliminate Choice A because purchasing additional memory might not be necessary. The teacher knows that learning can be enhanced through the appropriate use of multiple resources in instruction. The idea behind CAI is to use the computer as a tutor; however, not all the software on the market is good. Even though the program comes highly recommended, the teacher needs to heed the caveat “Buyer beware!” and personally preview the software before using it. Eliminate choices B and D because the teacher might take these measures when using CAI, but they should not come before previewing the CAI program. Choice C is the correct response.
- 60. B.** This question deals with **ESOL**. Thus, its primary focus is Competency 14: *Knowledge of specific approaches, methods, and strategies appropriate for students with limited English proficiency*. Eliminate Choice A because the sentence does not use a nonstandard dialect of English. A dialect is a regional variety of a language. Eliminate Choice C because the sentence does not contain jargon. Jargon is technical language specific to a particular trade or profession. Eliminate Choice D because the sentence is grammatically correct. The statement “I put my foot in my mouth” is an example of an idiomatic expression. This is an expression used by speakers of a language that usually doesn’t make sense if taken literally. Choice B is the correct response.

