

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND TEACHING

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER (DECEMBER 2011) B.ED YEAR 1 AND
PGCE**

COURSE TITLE: TEACHING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

COURSE CODE: IDE-EDC 100/EDC 100

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any four (4) questions

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Question 1

Constructivists believe that learners construct their own reality or interpret reality based on their perception of experiences. Discuss any five (5) of the following statements while relating to a teaching and/or learning situation in the classroom/learning context.

- a. Knowledge is constructed from experience; (5)
- b. Learning is a personal interpretation of the world; (5)
- c. Learning is an active process in which meaning is developed on the basis of experience;(5)
- d. Learning is situated in realistic contexts or settings as we learn in relation to what we already know; (5)
- e. What a person knows is actively constructed by the learner; (5)
- f. Since knowledge is based on personal interpretation of experiences, one person's knowledge cannot be transferred to another person, and (5)
- g. Teaching is about empowering learners and allowing them to discover and reflect on realistic experiences. (5)

Question 2

In individualised instruction, there are common variables to be considered. Explain the following variables while providing a practical example.

- a. Pace or amount of time given to a student to learn the content, (5)
- b. Method or the way instruction is structured and managed, (5)
- c. Content or the materials to be learned, (5)
- d. Objectives of study, (5)
- e. Materials or media. (5)

Question 3

Select any five (5) of the following methods and 1) explain the method, 2) discuss how it is or can be used in a classroom, 3) indicate the best media to support the method, 4) provide a practical example to support your discussion.

- a. Discussion Method (5)
- b. Question and Answer Method (5)
- c. Demonstration Method (5)
- d. The Project Method (5)
- e. Study Trips (5)
- f. Inquiry Learning/problem-solving (5)
- g. Cooperative Learning (5)
- h. Case Study (5)
- i. Simulation (5)

Question 4

Tremendous changes are occurring in the way information is stored and accessed with computers and digital technologies. Today and in the future, the Internet has the potential of connecting students to a wide range of resources for learning which were previously not available. Discuss the above statement in detail and show how you as a teacher can use the Internet for a number of activities in your classroom.

[25]

Question 5

Motivation is an important component in the learning process; give a brief discussion of the following statements while supporting it with an example on what exactly happens.

- a. Internal motivation is long lasting and more self-directive than external motivation (5)
- b. Learning is most effective when an individual is ready to learn (5)
- c. Motivation is enhanced by the way in which the instructional material is organized. (5)
- d. All behaviour is motivated. All individuals are motivated but not in the same direction(5)
- e. One must feel successful to be motivated (5)

Question 6

- a. Teacher qualities, personal and professional play a major role in influencing the effectiveness of teaching. Identify and discuss any four of the professional qualities that contribute to effective teaching. (12)
- b. Identify three goal structures that exist in a classroom setting. (3)
- c. "Classroom goal and reward structures are at the core of the activities in the classrooms and influence both the behavior and learning of students".Manyatsi and Gathu (2009, p77). Using relevant examples discuss this statement. (10)

Question 7

- i. Scenario: Mr. Thabani is a Form 2 Science teacher. The Principal of the school sent a student to invite Mr. Thabani to his office. After about fifteen minutes Mr. Thabani, on entering the laboratory, he was greeted by jeering, clapping of hands and whistling. He found out that a boy and a girl were fighting. Immediately he ordered everybody to stand in a line and he meted three whips on hat each.
 - a. Write two possible causes of the fight. (2)
 - b. What can you deduce about the discipline of the school? Justify your answer. (2)
 - c. Comment on the punishment meted by the teacher. (5)
 - d. If you were the teacher, how would you have handled the matter? (4)
 - e. How would the teacher prevent a recurrence of such a behavior? (4)
- ii. Discuss the merits and demerits of each of the following classroom management:
 - a. Business -academic approach (4)
 - b. Behavioral modification approach (4)

Question 8

Detailed lesson plans are indispensable with new teachers. Outline the main aspects to be considered when planning and explain why each of the aspects is considered necessary [25]

Question 9

- a) Teaching is a profession very different from other professions. With three specific examples outline how the teaching profession is different from other professions. (13)
- b) Outline three factors that hinder the advancement of teaching as a profession. (12)