

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2014: BED III PRIMARY

COURSE NUMBER: PEC 377

COURSE NAME: CURRICULUM STUDIES: SCIENCE

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. THIS PAPER HAS SIX QUESTIONS.
 2. ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS.
 3. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25 MARKS
 4. DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN SOME OF THE QUESTIONS ARE ATTACHED. IF YOU DO NOT FIND THEM, ASK FOR THEM.
 5. ANY PIECE OF WRITTEN WORK WHICH IS NOT FOR MARKING PURPOSES MUST BE CROSSED OUT CLEARLY.

THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY THE
INVIGILATOR

Answer any **four** questions from this paper.

Question 1

Study the following article from the local Newspaper (The Times of Swaziland ...shown in APENDIX A

- a) Identify three different science concepts embedded in this extract showing the parts of the article they come from. (6)
- b) Describe the part of the article that you would include in your lesson. (5)
- c) Show how you would teach one of the concepts you have identified using this article. (10)
- d) Indicate the technology and society issue involved in your lesson. (4)

Total **25 Marks**

Question 2

Postmodernism was presented as a way of viewing theories in general.

- a. Write brief notes about postmodernism with regard to learning theories and learning science. (10)
- b. Outline Vygotsky's social constructivism showing how it can be used for planning lessons. (15)

Total **25 Marks**

Question 3

- a. Curriculum change is said to be inevitable in any education system.
 - i. Describe three drivers of curriculum change (9)
 - ii. Outline implications for curriculum change (6).
- b. Evaluate the curriculum change that has taken place in the Swaziland science programme from a non-contextualised to a contextualised approach. (10)

Total **25 Marks**

Question 4

- a. Prepare a specification grid for the examination paper presented in APPENDIX B. (10)
- b. Prepare a marking guide for Question 4 (10)
- c. Would you consider this a good or poor examination question paper? Give reasons for your answer. (5)

Total **25 Marks**

Question 5

- a. Outline the processes involved in effecting meaningful learning. (10)
- b. Give two examples of misconceptions and show how you can address each of them. (10)
- c. Outline five causes of misconceptions in science. (5)

Total **25 Marks**

Question 6

- a. Briefly describe the advantages and disadvantages of using improvised material resources for Science teaching. (8)
- b. Describe benefits of using the following to ensure conceptual change or meaningful learning. (10)
 - (i) Material resources
 - (ii) Electronic resources to encourage
- c. Explain how drawing a scheme of work at the beginning of the year is of benefit. (7)