

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY EDUCATION
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, DECEMBER 2014

COURSE CODE : PEC 371

TITLE OF PAPER : CURRICULUM STUDIES: SOCIAL STUDIES

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF FIVE (5) QUESTIONS. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES TWENTY FIVE (25) MARKS.**
- 3. THE ENTIRE EXAMINATION CARRIES A TOTAL OF 100 MARKS WHICH CONSTITUTES 50% OF THE FINAL COURSE GRADE.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

Identify and describe five (5) criteria that are often used to group students for instructional purposes. Discuss one advantage of each of the criteria described above.

Total 25 marks

QUESTION 2

Discuss three (3) pros and two (2) cons of the textbook approach.

Total 25 marks

QUESTION 3

a) Discuss three (3) obstacles that could hinder pupils' comprehension of concepts.

(15)

b) Identify and discuss two (2) strategies that could be used to help children overcome the problem.

(10)

Total 25 marks

QUESTION 4

a) What is meant by the concept "the flower would bloom"? (3)

b) Discuss the main characteristics of children who are in the pre-operational stage of development. (7)

c) Describe three (3) Piagetian tasks that could be administered to a child to estimate his/her ability to conceptualise space. Draw appropriate diagrams to illustrate your answer.

(15)

Total 25 marks

QUESTION 5

a. Explain how the grid system could be used to change the scale of a map. (5)

b. Discuss two (2) advantages and one (1) limitations of the technique. (15)

c. With specific reference to Swaziland, justify why the grid system should be overemphasized more than the other techniques in teacher-training institutions.

(5)

Total 25 marks