

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND



FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & TEACHING

MAIN EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

MAY 2016.

TITLE OF PAPER: EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

COURSE CODE: EDC 612 / CTE 634

STUDENTS: M. Ed. Education

TIME ALLOWED: Three (3) Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. There are five questions in this paper.

2. Answer questions 1 and 2 and any other two questions

3. All questions have a total of 25 marks each

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

Question 1 and 2 are compulsory.

QUESTION 1

Assessment in education...is an integral part of the teaching - learning process providing feedback ...which can guide decisions concerning future learning goals.(Bradfoot, 1985). Learning is a cooperative venture between learner and teacher. (Harris & Bell, 1994). Hence is Assessment and Learning: Power or Partnership? Discuss. (25marks)

QUESTION 2

Swaziland introduced the localized SGCSE curriculum in 2006; the program has produced 10 sets of graduates. The Ministry of Education and Training has decided to evaluate the program. You have been appointed as the chairperson of a committee to evaluate it. Discuss in detail the process your committee will follow. (25marks)

Answer any two questions from the questions below.

QUESTION 3

- a. Distinguish between assessment and evaluation. (4mks)
- b. Three main purposes of assessment as outlined by Black (1998) are:
 - Assessment for learning*
 - Assessment as learning*
 - Assessment of learning*

Discuss how assessment has been used to serve each of these purposes in Swaziland.(15marks)

QUESTION 4

- a. Identify five basic principles of Philosophy of educational assessment (5marks)
- b. To what extent do you think your teaching subject curriculum caters for each of the principles stated in (a)? (15marks)
- c. Describe two factors that may constrain the achievement of the principles of philosophy of educational assessment for secondary school learners in Swaziland. (5marks).

QUESTION 5

Quality assurance refers to the processes and procedures that systematically monitor different aspects of a service, process or facility to detect, correct and ensure that quality standards are being met. (Webster dictionary, 2014)

- a. Evaluate the process of quality assurance employed by the Examination Council of Swaziland (ECOS) (10marks)
- b. Critically discuss the challenges facing ECOS in the process of ensuring quality assurance and suggest practical ways to overcome the challenges. (15marks).

END OF EXAMINATION!!!