

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

FACULTY OF EDUCATION



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT
FOR
INSTITUTE OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES

APRIL, 2021

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER
MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.Ed)

COURSE CODE : EFM639

TITLE OF PAPER : Barriers to Learning

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER QUESTION ONE (1) AND ANY
OTHER TWO QUESTIONS OF YOUR
CHOICE.

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

Question 1 (Compulsory)

You are the headmistress in one of the preschools. You have never had any blind child in your preschool. A family with two children has just moved into the community served by your preschool. Renata, who is 4 years old now, lost her sight after a severe illness when she was 3 years old. Her older brother, Ron, who is 6 years old, has congenital blindness. Both have been classified as having low vision. Ron has helped Renata considerably, both emotionally and in adjusting in her new environment and being able to move around. Ron reads Braille fluently, but Renata is having great difficulty reading Braille. She also seems to have had problems relating to her former classmates, with whom she has spent so many enjoyable hours. She was a very clever child, but since her illness and blindness, she seems to have lost the intensity of interest in her studies that she had had.

- a. Look at the physical plan of your school. What changes will you need to make in order to cater to the needs of Renata and Ron?
- b. Look at your budget and the facilities that are available. What would be the easiest adaptation for you to make in the learning environment that would permit education in the least restrictive environment and still meet the needs of Renata and Ron?
- c. What can you and your staff at the school do to help Renata and Ron with language development and the personal and social adjustment?
- d. What special skills might you want to help Ron or Renata develop, and how would you go about developing these skills?

(40 marks)

Question 2

- (a) Discuss the difference between learners who experience barriers to learning and learners with special educational needs.
(10 marks)
- (b) Describe the principles a classroom teacher can follow in the management of learners with Attention Deficit Hyper-Active Disorder (ADHD)
(20 marks)

Total (30 marks)

Question 3

(a) What are gifted children?

(5 marks)

(b) What is the estimated prevalence of gifted children in the school age population in Swaziland?

(2 marks)

(c) Suggest eight characteristics that would help a class teacher identify such children.

(8 marks)

(d) Briefly discuss how you would handle such children for effective teaching?

(15 marks)

Total (30 marks)

Question 4

a. Explain the concept of Barriers to learning

(5 marks)

b. With examples discuss two categories of barriers to learning

(25 marks)

Total (30 marks)