



Alcorn
State University

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SCIENCES

CHILD DEVELOPMENT EXIT EXAM STUDY GUIDE

EXAM will have 2 parts:
Written and Oral

1. What are Mississippi state laws and policies governing the eligibility requirements for Childcare Directors and teaching staff?
2. Discuss three reasons teachers need a working knowledge of child development.
3. Discuss the following issues in development and indicate why it is important to consider these issues in studying child development:
 - a. nurture versus nature
 - b. continuity versus discontinuity
4. How does drawing change during the preschool years? How can “art therapy” be used with preschoolers?
5. How does make believe play change during the preschool years? Why is it important to children’s development?
6. A kindergarten teacher has set a sand table in her classroom with which the children can explore and play. The sand table is most likely to benefit the children by providing them with the opportunity to:
 - a. Develop creative skills using unusual artistic materials;
 - b. Explore with concrete materials and make discoveries about their world;
 - c. Explore scientific concepts they have learned previously;
 - d. Develop fine motor coordination
7. Which of the following activities best promote mathematical understanding among preschool children?
 - a. Naming geometric shapes that can be found around the room and drawing pictures of them;
 - b. Counting by rote to ten on a daily basis;
 - c. Learning about the calendar;
 - d. Sorting objects in a variety of ways and talking about how they sorted.
8. In preparing a curriculum for the optimal development of infants under ten months, the teacher should provide:
 - a. Riding toys for outside play;
 - b. Musical swings for movement;
 - c. Multi-child buggies for walks;
 - d. Soft mats and blocks for rolling, climbing, and tumbling
9. What is self-esteem? How should adult help children build self-esteem?
10. Use nature and nurture to explain the development of gender identity.
11. What are the most effective strategies for building morality in children? What is the role of punishment?
12. What are the factors that create child maltreatment? Use the ecological systems model to explain.
13. While reading a story to first graders about a family going on a weekend camping trip together, the teacher notices that Karen, a child whose parents have recently divorced, has become upset. After speaking with Karen privately and notifying her parents about her reaction, the teacher makes a point the following day of reading a book about a child living with her mother during the week and his father on the weekends. It is most likely that the teacher’s reasons for doing this are because it is important for:
 - a. To provide a model of a family structure that is different from Karen’s.
 - b. To provide a model of a family structure that is similar to Karen’s.
 - c. To provide a model of a family structure that is more stable than Karen’s.
 - d. To provide a model of a family structure that is more diverse than Karen’s.

- a. Every child to see his or her lifestyle reflected and represented in the classroom;
 - b. The teacher to maintain positive home-school relations and be certain that parents/guardians see their children enjoying school;
 - c. Children to see that fictional stories sometimes reflect real-life situations; and
 - d. Karen to know that her peer accept her and see her as having a common family experience, even if she does not feel positive about it.
14. David Elkind's description "hurried child" syndrome has led to an increased awareness in early childhood education of the:
- a. Important of formal public schooling beginning at a very early age;
 - b. Measurement of academic performance through formal assessment;
 - c. Importance of play rather than assessment;
 - d. Need for highly structured and predictable classroom environments
15. Jay Belsky describes three major influences on the process of parenting: (1) the child's qualities; (2) the parent's qualities, and (3) _____.
16. Judith Rich Harris believes that _____ and peer group socialization determine adult personalities, not parent's behavior.
17. Diana Baumrind termed parents who use firm control with sensitivity to children's individuality and an emphasis on independence _____ parents.
18. According to _____ mistakes are valuable chances to learn.
19. During a parent-teacher conference, a parent reveals to her child's teacher that her four-year old daughter Lisa is often extremely aggressive at home, causing disharmony among family members. Which of the following would be the best suggestion the teacher could make to help this parent cope with her daughter's home behavior?
- a. Allow Lisa to have a space at home where she can go when she is angry so as not to affect other family members with her angry mood and action;
 - b. Begin each day at home talking with Lisa about her feelings and how she can express them without lashing out at people around her;
 - c. Set up a reward system through which Lisa can earn simple material rewards and privileges when she displays control of her temper;
 - d. Invite Lisa's school friends to share ways they express their own angry feelings at home and at school.
20. A child development center has added an additional toddler component for eight children. Which of the following adjustment must the center make to accommodate this change?
- a. Hiring staff to ensure a ratio of one adult to four children in the toddler group;
 - b. Adding more large group activities;
 - c. Removing activity centers from the classrooms;
 - d. Decreasing the per child fee because the toddler teaching staff does not require as much training and compensation
21. Developing an articulated philosophy for a child development program is most likely to contribute to program accountability by:

- a. Making clear the expectations of the program and the responsibilities of those involved in the program;
 - b. Satisfying both state and federal program documentation requirements;
 - c. Providing a way to compare easily the effectiveness of various early childhood education programs;
 - d. Serving as a legally binding contract that parents/guardians can expect to be fulfilled.
22. Describe the methods of data gathering and research design in the articles you have read in or for class.
23. In a _____ study, investigators look at relations between variables as they exist naturally in the world
24. In _____ people are observed as they behave spontaneously in a real life setting
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27. Vygotsky's Theory is the key concept for _____. What is the major theme of Vygotsky's theoretical framework?
28. Piaget's Theory is the key concept for _____. According to Piaget, infants in the first two years of life are in the _____ of development when knowledge comes from perception and motor activity.
29. Erikson's Lifespan Theory is the key concept for _____.
30. According to Bronfenbrenner, the _____ is the system in the environment, like the parent's work, that affects the child but does not include the child. The _____ consists of the interactions and interrelationships between people who care for the child – parents and teachers or parents and day care workers.
31. John Watson, influenced by Pavlov's experiments in the area of stimulus and response with animals, was said to be the father of:
- a. materialism
 - b. obedience
 - c. behaviorism
 - d. training
32. Compare and contrast theories of Piaget and Vygotsky.
33. Bronfenbrenner's theory of an ecological context of child development helps early childhood educators focus on the :
- a. child and family context;
 - b. child and family within the educational context;
 - c. educational context within society;
 - d. child's biological immediate socioeconomic, and cultural context

34. Erik Erikson was founder of:
- Psychosocial development;
 - Sociological development;
 - Psychological development;
 - Both A & B
 - None of the above
35. Erikson proposed that during late adulthood the issue of _____ is of central importance:
- generativity versus stagnation
 - intimacy versus isolation
 - identity versus role confusion
 - integrity versus despair
36. In the _____ stage of identity status, an individual is overwhelmed yet does little to accomplish the task of identity formation
- diffusion
 - moratorium
 - foreclosure
 - achievement
37. Research has shown that a (n) ____ attachment style in childhood is predictive of closer relationships in adulthood:
- secure
 - avoidant
 - resistant
 - ambivalent
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39. The exosystem involves influences with which the child is not directly involved but that affect development and care, such as:
- parent education, parent workplace, and health services
 - parents, grandparents, and siblings
 - the child, the child's caregiver and siblings
 - none of above
40. The term noble _____ came from Rousseau's concept that children were born naturally with a moral sense of right and wrong and an innate ability for orderly, healthy growth.
41. Vygotsky believed that once language is developed, private _____ indicates that children talk to themselves as a mean of self-guidance and direction.