

Chapter 1

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following reflects multiculturalism in early childhood teacher training?

- A. examination of experience in order to understand it, learn from it, and grow from it
- B. focusing education on the “whole child”
- C. recognizing that early childhood education is a field with its own concepts and vocabulary
- D. recognizing, respecting, and valuing the diversity that makes up the “American people”

Answer: D

2. The author of your text refers to “unwritten plans for and approaches for learning.” What is she referencing?

- A. the lesson plans made by the teacher before the formal classroom time
- B. the interface between adult and children, where the greatest learning takes place
- C. the lesson plans teachers make “on the fly,” responding to changes in the classroom environment
- D. plans for addressing each child as a “whole child”

Answer: B

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the four themes in early childhood teacher training presented in your text?

- A. multiculturalism
- B. holism
- C. deductive thinking
- D. reflective practice

Answer: C

4. Who has been primarily responsible for bringing the concepts and specifics of childhood stage development to the general public?

- A. Benjamin Spock and T. Barry Brazelton
- B. Arnold Gesell
- C. Jean Piaget and Erik Erikson
- D. Maria Montessori

Answer: A

5. Of the following types of programs, which is LEAST likely to be funded by government fees?

- A. kindergarten
- B. Head Start preschool
- C. surround care
- D. family child care

Answer: D

6. Four-year-old Hilary goes to a parent-participation nursery school. Hilary’s educational

setting is also called a

- A. parent cooperative preschool.
- B. Montessori school.
- C. parent-based kindergarten.
- d. home-based visitor program.

Answer: A

7. Two college students debate the nature-nurture question. What is the topic of their debate?

- A. the extent to which children are extraverted (outgoing) or introverted (quiet)
- B. whether children primarily prefer an indoor or outdoor environment
- C. the benefits and disadvantages of emergent curriculum
- D. the relative influence of heredity and environment on a child's development

Answer: D

8. Regarding early philosophical views of children, Rousseau is to _____ as Locke is to _____.

- A. little angel / little devil
- B. little angel / blank slate
- C. little devil / blank slate
- D. little devil / little angel

Answer: B

9. Whose contribution to child development includes the identification of the physical milestones of children's development?

- A. Arnold Gesell
- B. Jean Piaget
- C. Abraham Maslow
- D. B. F. Skinner

Answer: A

10. If early childhood educator Monica Monez wishes to be consistent with Piaget's ideas about child development, which of the following should she do with her students?

- A. Monez should emphasize the right answers to particular problems and activities.
- B. Monez should mold and shape her students' behaviors through a system of rewards.
- C. Monez should provide a rich environment and let the children interact in an exploratory way.
- D. Monez should de-emphasize play, especially of the dramatic variety.

Answer: C

11. Using the theories of Piaget, Freud, and Erikson, an 8-year-old child would best be described as

- A. concrete operational, in a period of latency, and dealing with issues of industry versus inferiority.
- B. preoperational, in a phallic period, and dealing with issues of initiative versus guilt.
- C. concrete operational, in a period of latency, and dealing with issues of trust versus mistrust.
- D. sensorimotor, in an oral period, dealing with issues of autonomy versus doubt.

Answer: A

12. Caitlyn teaches Sunday School for five-year-old children. Having recently studied Erikson's theory, Caitlyn predicts that most of her students will be in which psychosocial stage of development?

- A. concrete operations
- B. initiative versus guilt
- C. latency
- D. industry versus inferiority

Answer: B

13. Among developmental theorists, _____ is to psychoanalytic theory? as _____ is to psychosocial theory.

- A. Sigmund Freud / Erik Erikson
- B. Albert Bandura / Lev Vygotsky
- C. Urie Bronfenbrenner / B. F. Skinner
- D. Abraham Maslow / Jean Piaget

Answer: A

14. Because of his/her beliefs that young children are like seeds that need a gardener (i.e. an educator), _____ created an institution that came to be known as kindergarten.

- A. J. H. Pestalozzi
- B. Emmi Pikler
- C. Rudolf Steiner
- D. Friedrich Froebel

Answer: D

15. Regarding brain development, which of the following statements is FALSE?

- A. Social and emotional development are intimately connected to learning and cognition.
- B. Babies are born with many more brain cells than they actually need, so unused connections are eliminated through a pruning process.
- C. Using flashcards with infants is a developmentally appropriate practice.
- D. Scientific research on the brain is proving the idea that the early years matter.

Answer: C

16. Your professor states, "Early childhood education should focus on all aspects of the child from her body to her mind." Which theme of early childhood teacher training is your professor addressing?

- A. reflective thinking
- B. holism
- C. multiculturalism
- D. developmentally appropriate practice

Answer: B

17. Early childhood education is a branch of education that deals with children from

- A. birth to age eight.
- B. birth to age twelve.
- C. preschool age to age eight.

D. preschool age to age twelve.

Answer: A

18. Which of these organization's primary purpose is to lobby and advocate for children and is known for the "I Stand for Children" demonstration?

A. Zero to Three

B. National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families West Ed

C. Children's Defense Fund

D. Association for Childhood Education International

Answer: C

True/False

19. During her lecture, your education professor talks about the influence of culture on a child's experience in school. When using the term culture, she is referring to the influences of factors like race, economic level, and religion, but not factors like age and gender.

A. True

B. False

Answer: B

20. Emergent curriculum describes an approach to early childhood education in which projects are allowed to flow from one into another.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

21. The approach of the Pikler Institute is to emphasize spirituality and the art of movement in early childhood education.

A. True

B. False

Answer: B

22. The NAEYC's document titled *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Education* encourages early childhood educators to move away from either-or thinking and embrace both-and thinking.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

23. At the top of Maslow's hierarchy of human needs is a need called self-actualization.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

24. In general, family child care programs are less regulated than center-based child care programs.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

25. The church's view of children in early Western society can best be summarized as, "Children are blank slates to be shaped by experience."

A. True

B. False

Answer: B

26. The scientific approach to the study of children began with G. Stanley Hall's keeping of anecdotal records on the developmental stages of children.

A. True

B. False

Answer: B

27. Evan Palmer's five-year-old kindergarten students are in Piaget's preoperational stage of development. Evan should expect that the children may often rely on intuition and perception rather than logic, and Evan should allow them time for pretend play and talk.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

28. Both John B. Watson and B. F. Skinner believe that the only thing worth studying was that which could be seen — behavior.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

29. Early Childhood Educators have a legal mandate to report any suspected cases of child abuse.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

30. Lev Vygotsky's theories differ from those of Piaget because he believed in giving children adult guidance, rather than simply letting children explore on their own.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

Essay

31. Describe Piaget's three stages of cognitive development in children. Discuss some of the implications of Piaget's theory for early childhood education.

Answer: The first stage of development roughly corresponds to infancy, and it is called the sensorimotor period. In this stage, children learn about their world using their bodies and senses. It isn't until the end of this stage that children have begun to depend more on mental activity. The second stage goes from ages 2 to 6, and it is called the preoperational period. In this stage, children use symbolic thinking as reflected in their pretend play and talk. Limitations to their thinking are egocentrism, over-reliance on intuition, and difficulty distinguishing fantasy and reality. The third stage, concrete operations, extends from about ages 7 to 11. Here children think in more objective and rational ways as long as the context is concrete. Piaget believed that development unfolds through maturation, so it is important to provide a rich, exploratory environment in which this process can occur. Hands-on, child-centered learning is preferred over sitting and listening to a teacher. In terms of early childhood education, it would be important to match activities with the stage of development. For example, preschool aged children should have lots of opportunities for fantasy and imaginative play.

32. Describe the contributions of each of the following pioneer educators: J.H. Pestalozzi, Friedrich Froebel, Maria Montessori, John Dewey, Loris Malaguzzi, Costanza Eggers-Pierrola, Rudolf Steiner, Emmi Pikler, and Magda Gerber.

Answer: Pestalozzi started an early school for children based on the principle that education should follow a child's nature. In the school, children learned through activity and sensory experiences. Influenced by Pestalozzi, Froebel focused on bringing play into education. His idea of children as seeds and educators as tending gardeners forms the basis for "kindergarten." Montessori was a physician and educator who also emphasized the active involvement of children in learning. She developed the Montessori program which is still available today. John Dewey created the progressive education movement in America emphasizing child-centered curriculum. Malaguzzi founded the Reggio Emilia early-education system which is internationally acclaimed. Eggers-Pierrola introduced a framework for honoring culturally diverse perspectives. Steiner started a school based on anthroposophy emphasizing spirituality and movement in education. Pikler established a successful approach to infant-toddler group care. Gerber brought the Pikler approach to the United States.

33. One of the themes of your text is professionalism. Explain what it means to be a professional in the context of early childhood education.

Answer: First, early childhood educators should recognize that early childhood education is a special kind of profession. The early childhood educator possesses specialized knowledge and expertise about childhood development. It is also important for the early childhood educator to behave responsibly and ethically. This means that early childhood educators must maintain confidentiality, have an attitude that shows they take their profession seriously, and are dedicated to working with children and their families. This is particularly relevant today, as high quality, professionally delivered early childhood education is seen as necessary for all children and encouraged by movements for universal pre-school (UPK) and pre-school for all (PKA). Second, early childhood educators engage in lifelong learning. This means that they pursue professional development and set goals, using feedback from others as well as self-assessment. Third, early childhood educators understand and follow the requirements of regulating agencies, striving for the optimal standards. Finally, early childhood educators know their legal responsibilities and follow a code of ethics.

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