



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN NATURAL SCIENCES DEGREE
PROGRAMME

LEVEL – 06 - 2021/2022

FINAL EXAMINATION - 2022

STU6801 – PSYCHOLOGY OF THE ADOLESCENT

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 27.11.2022

Time: 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Answer All Questions in Part I and any three (03) questions from Part II.

PART - I

01. State **five (05)** reasons why it is important to pay special attention to the well-being of today's Sri Lankan adolescents through the education system.
02. Adolescents differ in terms of developmental rates. Illustrating with an example, explain briefly how differences in the development rates of adolescents can lead to emotional problems.
03. Briefly explain the key ideas of the Cultural-Context Perspective to the study of adolescence with an example from the Sri Lankan setting.
04. Imagine you are a class teacher of grade 9C in your school. Briefly discuss **two (02)** aspects that you would highlight at an awareness session for parents on "Developing Healthy Eating Habits in Adolescents".
05. Giving an example, explain in brief, what is meant by the personal fable related to the thinking of adolescents.
06. Examine the importance of peer groups for adolescents giving **three (03)** reasons.
07. Briefly describe the nature of adolescents' personality development as put forward by Erik Erikson (1902 – 1994).
08. Suggest **three (03)** strategies that a teacher could adopt to facilitate the development of productive vocational interests in adolescent students.

PART - II

09. i. Explain in brief what is meant by “formal operations” in relation to cognitive development. (04 marks)
- ii. Identify **three (03)** characteristics of adolescents’ cognitive development and describe how they differ from the cognitive characteristics of pre-adolescent children. (08 marks)
- iii. Explain in brief **four (04)** strategies that could be adopted by a teacher to facilitate the cognitive development of adolescent students. (2 x 4 = 08 marks)
10. i. “Adolescence is sometimes termed as ‘a time of emotional turmoil’.” Justify this statement with **two (02)** reasons. (04 marks)
- ii. (a) Emotional problems experienced by adolescents can lead to depression. Name **two (02)** other possible consequences of emotional problems experienced by them. (1x2=02 marks)
- (b) Analyse **one (01)** of the consequences you mentioned under (a) above in terms of the following aspects:
- those who tend to be at risk
 - specific causes
 - how to identify whether a particular adolescent is at risk
- (2 x 3 = 06 marks)
- iii. Imagine that you have been asked to create a leaflet that raises parents’ and teachers’ awareness of how to help adolescents cope with emotional problems. Design the leaflet with all the content that you are going to include.
- The leaflet should highlight at least **three (03)** strategies that could be adopted by each party (i.e. parents and teachers) to support adolescents. (08 marks)

11. i. Briefly explain the concept of personality citing an accepted definition. (04 marks)
- ii. Describe **two (02)** personality and mental disorders that adolescents might be susceptible to, highlighting the following key aspects:
- characteristics of those who manifest the disorder
 - possible consequences of the disorder in adolescents
- (4 x 2 = 08 marks)
- iii. Imagine that you are the class teacher of grade 10A in your school. Prepare a plan you would implement to make the students help one another in developing a healthy personality. Your plan should include the following:
- at least **four (04)** strategies that could be implemented by students to help themselves
 - the role of the teachers in implementing each strategy
 - outcome/s expected of each strategy
- (08 marks)
12. Social values and interests are an important aspect in the development of adolescents.
- i. List **four (04)** recreational interests of current Sri Lankan adolescents. (1 x 4 = 04 marks)
- ii. "Recent years have seen an increase in teenage pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents in Sri Lanka."
Briefly explain **four (04)** reasons for the above phenomena. (2 x 4 = 08 marks)
- iii. Briefly explain **four (04)** steps that could be taken by the school to inculcate positive values in adolescents in relation to sexuality, sexual behaviour and reproductive health. (2 x 4 = 08 marks)
13. i. Select **one (01)** personality theory and state the key principles of the theory. (03 marks)
- ii. Explain **three (03)** ways in which the principles of the theory could be used by a teacher to facilitate the personality development of adolescent students. (09 marks)
- iii. Examine **two (02)** limitations of the above theory in facilitating the personality development of adolescents, and discuss in brief how incorporating the principles of other personality theories would complement the process. (08 marks)

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