

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
PROGRAMME – 2022/2023



FINAL EXAMINATION - 2023

SNP8348/SNP8338 – EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING FOR
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 15.12.2023

Time: 1.30 p.m. – 04.30 p.m.

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

PART - I

01. Briefly analyse **two (02)** factors that have created a need for guidance and counselling services in the school system with special reference to the Sri Lankan context.
02. Describe in brief giving **two (02)** examples how knowledge on adjustment would be beneficial for a teacher when dealing with children with special needs.
03. Name **two (02)** basic processes associated with school guidance and counselling services, and discuss their usefulness in facilitating the development of children with special educational needs.
04. Giving **two (02)** suitable examples, explain the importance of trauma counselling as an area of counselling for specific issues.
05. Discuss **two (02)** benefits of practising counselling techniques in providing counselling services to children with special needs.
06. Name **one (01)** guidance and counselling service presently in operation in Sri Lanka outside the school system, and evaluate its role in helping stakeholders from the school system.
07. “For children with special educational needs, vocational guidance will be helpful in building up a worthwhile and successful future.” Justify this statement highlighting the need for providing vocational guidance for children with special educational needs.
08. Explain the basic philosophy underlying the Person-centred Approach to Counselling.

(5 x 8 = 40 marks)

PART - II

09. i. List **four (04)** problems faced by students in the secondary school in relation to the teaching-learning process. (1 x 4 = 04 marks)
- ii. Examine why the secondary school years are considered to be a special period in students' life highlighting at least **three (03)** of their developmental characteristics during this age. (06 marks)
- iii. Imagine that you are the teacher in charge of the counselling unit in your school. You are planning to address the parents of grade 8 and 9 students who will be visiting the school for the next parent-teacher meeting on the need for the school guidance and counselling service for their children. Prepare a draft of your speech with an introduction, key points (at least four [04]) and concluding remarks. (10 marks)
10. i. Briefly explain the concept of 'behaviour problems' with **two (02)** suitable examples. (04 marks)
- ii. Identify **three (03)** factors related to the school environment that lead to the development of behaviour problems in children, and discuss how each of them might lead to such behaviour problems. (2x3=6 marks)
- iii. Imagine that you have been invited to address your peers on children with behaviour problems at a seminar. Write down your speech highlighting at least **four (04)** key strategies that could be adopted by teachers in dealing with such children. (10 marks)
11. i. Explain the concept of 'physical disability' and the **two (02)** major factors that may cause physical disabilities. (04 marks)
- ii. Describe **three (03)** common characteristic features of children with speech problems. (2 x 3 = 06 marks)
- iii. Imagine that there are two students with speech problems in your class. Discuss **three (03)** strategies that you would adopt to facilitate them during the teaching-learning process. (10 marks)
12. i. Explain the term "learning difficulty" and its relationship with the concept "learning disability". (04 marks)
- ii. "Children with learning difficulties need special support from their teachers."
Justify the above statement based on **three (03)** key points. (2 x 3 = 6 marks)

- iii. Imagine that there are several children with learning difficulties in your grade five class. As the class teacher, how would you facilitate their development during the teaching-learning process?
Discuss highlighting **four (04)** strategies that you would adopt. (10 marks)
13. i. Explain the basic philosophy of the Behavioural Approach to Counselling. (04 marks)
- ii. Briefly describe **three (03)** major behavioural procedures that could be adopted by a counsellor to treat a client indicating what type of issues could be addressed through each of them. (2 x 3 = 06 marks)
- iii. Evaluate the contribution of the Behavioural Approach to Counselling in helping school children with specific issues and developmental delays. (10 marks)
14. i. Explain the nature of a person's career choice as put forward by Eli Ginzberg in his Theory of Vocational Choice. (04 marks)
- ii. Examine how a person's career choice evolves during the "stage of realistic choices" making references to its **three (03)** sub-stages. (06 marks)
- iii. Examine the usefulness of Ginzberg's Theory of Vocational Choice in helping students in late adolescence to select a suitable career path. (10 marks)

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