

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 FACULTY OF EDUCATION
 DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
 POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
 PROGRAMME – 2024/2025
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2025
 SNP8531/SNP8341– FOUNDATION OF SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
 DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS



Date: 19.07.2025

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. Define the term “education” using your own words and discuss its relevance in the 21st century.
02. List and explain the **four (04)** pillars of education introduced by UNESCO.
03. Briefly explain the thoughts presented by Mahathma Gandhi on education.
04. Explain how the concepts of metaphysics, influence educational thought.
05. Identify the key characteristics of Inclusive Education.
06. Differentiate between “Education” and “Training” using appropriate examples.
07. Outline the **five (5)** major contributions of John Dewey to educational philosophy.
08. Describe how philosophy of education can guide teachers when making decision in the classroom.

Give **five (05)** reasons.

(5 x 8 = 40 marks)

PART - II

09. i. Define the concept of ‘Special Education’. (02 marks)
- ii. Describe the different special education structures used in schools. (08 marks)
- iii. Critically evaluate **five (05)** challenges of implementing inclusive education in Sri Lankan schools. (10 marks)

10. i. What is meant by the term 'philosophy'? (04 marks)
- ii. Explain the relationship between general philosophy and philosophy of education. (06 marks)
- iii. Assess how knowledge of philosophy of education enhance a teacher's professional practice. (10 marks)
11. i. List **five (05)** guiding principles of Inclusive Education. (03 marks)
- ii. Illustrate how these principles are reflected in classroom practices. (07 marks)
- iii. Propose a plan to make a classroom more inclusive using these principles. (10 marks)
12. i. State **two (02)** major contributions made by Plato to educational theory. (04 marks)
- ii. Explain how these contributions are relevant to contemporary education. (06 marks)
- iii. Discuss how Plato's educational ideas can be applied to teaching children with special educational needs. (10 marks)
13. i. List down **five (05)** important qualities a good inclusive teacher should have? (04 marks)
- ii. Explain with examples how a teacher can help to improve the behaviour and attitudes of students. (06 marks)
- iii. In your opinion what should be the main aims of education in the 21st century in Sri Lanka? Give reasons and examples to support your answer. (10 marks)
14. i. Briefly explain the main challenges of education in today's world? (04 marks)
- ii. Explain with examples how teachers can support students who have different learning needs in the same classroom. (06 marks)
- iii. "Education should help a person become not only knowledgeable but also a good human being"
- Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons and examples to support your idea. (10 marks)

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