



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION

FINAL EXAMINATION – 2024/2025

STP9811 – PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 24.01.2026

Time 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer any four (04) questions.

01. Human development is influenced by several basic factors that are important for educators to understand.
- i. Explain **three (03)** principles of human development. (06 marks)
 - ii. Name and explain **two (02)** main factors influencing human development. Discuss the impact of each factor on human development giving **two (02)** suitable examples for each. (10 marks)
 - iii. Explain how an understanding of developmental factors is useful to a teacher in the teaching-learning process, providing **three (03)** examples. (09 marks)
02. Different theories explain the nature of human emotions.
- i. Critically examines the nature of emotions with reference to the key concepts of one selected psychological theory. (06 marks)
 - ii. Explain **three (03)** key characteristics of emotional development exhibited during middle and late childhood. (09 marks)
 - iii. Explain the concept of emotional intelligence and discuss its importance for teachers in the teaching-learning process, citing **three (03)** reasons. (10 marks)
03. i. Explain the key characteristics of a student with an attention disorder. (08 marks)
- ii. Suggest **four (04)** strategies that a teacher can use during the teaching-learning process to help a student with an attention disorder. (08 marks)
 - iii. Examine why inclusive education practices are needed for a teacher, citing **three (03)** reasons. (09 marks)

04. i. Explain the concept of “Meta-cognitive abilities”, highlighting its key components. (08 marks)
- ii. Explain why meta-cognition is beneficial in student learning, citing **four (04)** reasons. (08 marks)
- iii. Discuss **three (03)** strategies that teachers can adopt to facilitate the development of meta-cognitive abilities of secondary school students. (09 marks)
05. i. In line with the Humanistic Theory discuss the factors that influence an individual’s personality development. (07 marks)
- ii. Examine why teachers/parents want to develop well adjusted personalities in children, citing **three (03)** examples from the Sri Lankan school setting. (09 marks)
- iii. Explain **three (03)** strategies those can be implemented by a teacher during the teaching-learning process to develop well-adjusted personalities in children. (09 marks)
06. i. Compare the basic ideas of John Dewey’s Cognitive Constructivism Theory and Vygotsky’s Social Constructivism Theory on learning. (05 marks)
- ii. State **four (04)** main characteristics of constructivist learning and explain **three (03)** benefits of constructivism for a student. (10 marks)
- iii. Explain **three (03)** strategies that teachers can adopt to facilitate constructivist learning among students and **two (02)** challenges that teachers may face in implementing the mentioned strategies during the teaching-learning process. (10 marks)

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