

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAMME
FINAL EXAMINATION 2009
ESP 2311 – PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION
DURATION : THREE (03) HOURS



DATE : 07th February 2009

TIME: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

ANSWER ANY FOUR (04) QUESTIONS ONLY.

01. i. There are many theories that explain 'motivation'. Classical conditioning and Operant conditioning are two important theories discussed under Behaviourist's views regarding motivating students for learning. Discuss the application of these two theories in classroom learning.
(08 marks)
- ii. Explain **intrinsic** and **extrinsic** motivation with respect to student learning.
(07 marks)
- iii. Teacher's role is very important for motivating students towards learning. Discuss how teacher's behaviour could make positive and negative (5 each) implications on student motivation.
(10 marks)
02. Development is the pattern of changes that begins at the conception and continues through one's life span. Examine this statement in line with the available research findings and theories (**at least 2 theories**) of development.
(25 marks)
03. i. "Social behaviour is an assessment of the morality of an action". Explain your views on the above statement in the light of your understanding of social and moral behaviours.
(10 marks)
- ii. To date, a large number of moral development theories are derived from three significant theories of social development. Name **three** moral development theories and the individuals who have contributed to the development of these theories.
(05 marks)
- iii. Discuss the moral development of children in line with **any one** of the above theories.
(10 marks)

04. "Concept formation" is the main focus of Piaget's Cognitive Development theory. "Schema" is an important aspect of concept formation.
- i. Define "Schema" and discuss its role in concept formation (05 marks)
 - ii. Assimilation, Accommodation and Adaptation and organization are three important processes in concept formation that are highlighted in Piaget's theory of Cognitive Development. Discuss how these 3 processes can help in forming concepts in children. Cite suitable examples wherever necessary. (08 marks)
 - iii. "No learning takes place in the absence of perceptions". Explain this statement using specific examples. (12 marks)
05. i. Discuss the importance of providing opportunities for learning, for the children with special needs in the normal classrooms (main stream). (08 marks)
- ii. Select any **two** categories of special needs children (excluding gifted & talented children) and discuss how you would identify them in the school and support them for learning in an inclusive classroom situation. (08 marks)
 - iii. Explain why you should treat the gifted & talented children as special needs children and discuss strategies that would help them to achieve their maximum level in learning. (09 marks)
06. i. Malcolm Knowles discussed many characteristics of adult learners to signify that they are different from school children. Discuss **four (04)** such characteristics for adult learners with examples. (10 marks)
- ii. Considering the above mentioned characteristics, explain the suitable methods and techniques (at least 4) which would facilitate adult learning. (15 marks)
07. Write short notes on **any three** of the following.
- i. Contribution of the family to the development of self-concept and self-esteem of children.
 - ii. Heredity-environment controversy on child development.
 - iii. Psychoanalytic theory of personality development.
 - iv. Concept of Social learning through imitation.
- (8 x 3 +1 = 25 marks)

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