

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DISTANCE EDUCATION
FINAL EXAMINATION 2011
ESP 1221 – PSYCHOLOGICAL BASIS OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DURATION : THREE (03) HOURS



DATE : 01st April 2011

TIME : 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS IN PART I AND ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM PART II

PART I

01. What is meant by "Correspondence Teaching System"
02. Explain five (5) strategies that would minimize the distance between the teacher and the learner in a distance learning environment.
03. Explain the two (2) basic principles of the theory of Trial and Error learning, put forwarded by Thorndike.
04. Explain the meaning of 'Multiple Intelligence' and give a brief explanation on eight intelligences presented by Gardner's theory.
05. Examine the relevance of Bruner's Constructive theory to distance learning environment.
06. Explain briefly the differences between short term memory and long term memory.
07. Citing suitable examples, explain briefly three main domains highlighted in the Bloom's Taxonomy.
08. Explain the term 'Andragogy' in your own words.

(5 x 8 = 40 marks)

PART II

09. i. Citing suitable examples explain five characteristics of distance learners.
- ii. The distance learning environment is different from the conventional learning environment. As a result, distance learners might face some psychological and emotional problems. List five psychological and emotional problems faced by distance learners.
- iii. How could distance learning institution help to minimize each of the problems mentioned. Explain.
- (20 marks)
10. i. Name the three (3) major categories of learning theories.
- ii. Select a theory from any of the three categories and explain the following in relation to the basic principles of the selected theory.
- View of the learning process
 - Purpose in education
 - Educator's role
 - Manifestations in adult learning
 - Relevance to distance learning environment.
- (20 marks)
11. 'Studying at distance' is suitable for developing countries like Sri Lanka.
- i. In the light of your own teaching-learning experiences, examine the advantages and disadvantages in studying at distance.
- ii. Evaluate the significance of the distance learning system in relation to the Sri Lankan context under the following view of points.
- Expanding opportunities for higher education.
 - Activities
 - Rending out
- (20 marks)
12. Write short notes in any three (3) of the following.
- Information and communication technology in distance learning.
 - On-line as a new mode of delivery.
 - Role of the Open University of Sri Lanka in distance and open learning.
 - 'Students Autonomy' in distance education
 - Characteristics of distance learners.
- (20 marks)

13. 'Distance Educators should know the learning Characteristics of adult learners'.
- i. State five characteristics of adult learners presented by Malcolm Knowles.
 - ii. In line with Speck's reflections on adult learning, what are the important points? (mention at least five (5) points) should be considered when professional development activities are designed for adult learners.
(20 marks)
14. i. Examine the difference between 'Cognition' and 'Meta cognition',
- ii. Explain the cognitive processes according to Carl Jung.
 - iii. Analyze the importance of developing Meta Cognitive abilities of distance learners.
(20 marks)

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