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NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
DIPLOMA IN SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION
CURRICULUM AND TEACHING

764

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

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Instructions

1. This paper consists of section A and B.
2. Answer all questions in section A and four questions from section B.

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1. State four similarities between formal and non-formal curricula.

Both formal and non-formal curricula aim at imparting knowledge and skills to learners. Regardless of the structure and setting, both curricula focus on equipping individuals with relevant competencies that contribute to their personal and professional growth.

Another similarity is that both curricula involve teaching and learning processes. In both cases, instructors facilitate the transfer of knowledge using structured or semi-structured methods, including lectures, discussions, and practical activities.

Additionally, both curricula require instructional materials. Whether in a classroom or informal setting, teaching aids such as books, charts, and audiovisual materials are used to enhance understanding and retention of information.

Lastly, both curricula contribute to lifelong learning. While formal education follows a structured path with certifications, non-formal education provides opportunities for continuous learning, allowing individuals to acquire new skills and knowledge outside traditional schooling.

2. Outline four basic Tyler's questions in curriculum planning.

One of Tyler's fundamental questions is, "What educational purposes should the school seek to attain?" This question focuses on defining clear learning objectives that align with the needs of students and society.

Another question is, "What educational experiences can be provided that are likely to attain these purposes?" This involves selecting appropriate teaching methods, materials, and activities that help learners achieve the intended goals.

Additionally, Tyler asks, "How can these educational experiences be effectively organized?" This question addresses the sequencing of content and learning activities to ensure logical progression and coherence in instruction.

The final question is, "How can we determine whether these educational purposes are being attained?" This emphasizes the need for assessment and evaluation to measure student achievement and the effectiveness of the curriculum.

3. State four advantages of discovery teaching and learning method.

Discovery learning enhances critical thinking skills. By allowing students to explore and investigate concepts on their own, they develop problem-solving abilities and analytical thinking.

Another advantage is that it promotes active engagement. Instead of passively receiving information, learners take an active role in the learning process, leading to better understanding and retention.

Additionally, discovery learning fosters creativity and curiosity. It encourages students to ask questions, test hypotheses, and make connections between different concepts, stimulating innovation.

Lastly, this method improves long-term memory. When students discover knowledge through exploration and experience, they are more likely to remember and apply it in real-life situations compared to rote memorization.

4. Explain four ways in which teachers' manual is useful to a subject teacher.

A teacher's manual provides structured lesson guidance. It outlines objectives, teaching strategies, and assessment methods, helping teachers deliver content systematically.

Another way it is useful is by offering suggested teaching techniques. It provides various instructional approaches, including activities, discussions, and exercises, ensuring lessons are engaging and effective.

Additionally, the manual helps with time management. By offering a breakdown of topics and recommended duration, it enables teachers to plan lessons efficiently and cover the syllabus within the allocated time.

Lastly, it serves as a reference for curriculum alignment. It ensures that the teacher follows national education standards and integrates essential content and skills required for student learning.

5. Explain four reasons why school libraries should be supplied with enough supplementary materials.

Supplementary materials enhance students' understanding of subjects. By providing additional explanations and examples beyond textbooks, they help clarify difficult concepts and broaden knowledge.

Another reason is that they support independent learning. Students can explore various topics at their own pace, improving research skills and fostering a habit of self-directed study.

Additionally, these materials cater to different learning styles. Some students benefit from visual aids, while others prefer reading detailed texts. A well-stocked library accommodates diverse preferences and abilities.

Lastly, supplementary materials keep education updated. New discoveries and advancements emerge regularly, and updated materials ensure that students access current and relevant information.

6. Briefly describe four principles of using instructional media.

One principle is relevance. Instructional media should align with the lesson objectives and contribute to the understanding of key concepts rather than serving as mere distractions.

Another principle is clarity. Visuals, audio, and text should be well-structured and easy to comprehend to avoid confusion and enhance learning.

Additionally, instructional media should be interactive. Materials that encourage student participation, such as simulations or hands-on activities, improve engagement and retention.

Lastly, accessibility is essential. Teachers should ensure that all students, including those with disabilities, can effectively use the instructional media without limitations.

7. (a) Define performance objectives.

Performance objectives are specific statements that describe the expected outcomes of a learning process. They define what students should be able to do after instruction, focusing on measurable behaviors.

(b) State three criteria by which the statement of performance objectives is based.

One criterion is specificity. Objectives should clearly state the desired learning outcome in precise terms.

Another criterion is measurability. Learning objectives must include indicators that can be assessed, such as observable actions or quantifiable results.

Additionally, they should be achievable. Objectives should be realistic and within the students' ability to accomplish within a given time frame.

8. Name the four types of teaching practice common in teacher education courses in Tanzania.

The four types of teaching practice include Peer Teaching, where trainee teachers practice among themselves; Single Lesson Teaching Practice, where they conduct one lesson under supervision; Block Teaching Practice, where they teach for an extended period in actual schools; and Internship, which involves long-term practical teaching experience in schools.

9. Write two differences between behaviorists and cognitivists points of view in relation to the learning process.

Behaviorists focus on observable behaviors. They believe learning occurs through reinforcement and conditioning, emphasizing rewards and punishments.

Cognitivists, on the other hand, focus on internal mental processes. They view learning as an active process where students acquire and organize knowledge through experience and reflection.

Another difference is that behaviorists believe in repetition and drill methods to reinforce learning, while cognitivists advocate for problem-solving and critical thinking approaches.

10. Describe the four components of ideal lesson notes.

One component is lesson objectives. These outline what students should achieve at the end of the lesson.

Another component is instructional content. This includes the main topics, key points, and examples that will be covered.

Additionally, lesson notes should contain teaching strategies. These detail the methods, activities, and materials to be used for effective delivery.

Lastly, assessment and evaluation methods should be included. These describe how student understanding will be measured, such as through quizzes, discussions, or practical exercises.

11. Describe the importance of curriculum evaluation by giving six points.

Curriculum evaluation ensures educational relevance. By assessing the curriculum's effectiveness, adjustments can be made to align it with societal needs and technological advancements.

It also identifies strengths and weaknesses. Evaluation highlights areas that need improvement, leading to enhanced teaching strategies and learning materials.

Another importance is quality assurance. Regular curriculum reviews maintain educational standards and ensure that students receive high-quality instruction.

Additionally, it informs policy decisions. Findings from evaluations help policymakers make evidence-based improvements in education systems.

It also improves teaching methods. Teachers can adjust their strategies based on evaluation feedback to enhance student engagement and comprehension.

Lastly, curriculum evaluation measures student achievement. It assesses whether learning objectives are met and helps in developing better assessment tools.

12. (a) Name all the components of a lesson plan.

A lesson plan consists of several key components that guide the teaching process. These include lesson objectives, instructional content, teaching methods, teaching aids, lesson development stages, assessment methods, and conclusion. Each component ensures that the lesson is well-structured, effective, and aligned with educational goals.

(b) Explain at least one importance of each of the stages of lesson development.

The introduction is important because it captures students' interest and prepares them for learning. It serves as a bridge between what they already know and the new content to be introduced. Teachers may use storytelling, thought-provoking questions, or real-life examples to make the introduction engaging.

The presentation stage delivers new content in a structured manner, ensuring students grasp the key concepts. This stage includes explanations, demonstrations, and discussions, making it the most information-intensive part of the lesson.

The application stage allows students to practice and internalize the concepts learned. Teachers use exercises, group work, and problem-solving activities to reinforce understanding and encourage active participation.

The evaluation stage checks student understanding and measures learning outcomes. Teachers use quizzes, oral questions, or assignments to assess whether the lesson objectives have been met.

The conclusion summarizes key points and reinforces learning. It helps students reflect on what they have learned, making the knowledge easier to retain. A good conclusion also provides a transition to the next lesson.

13. Write five arguments against abolishing Block Teaching Practice.

Block Teaching Practice should not be abolished because it provides real classroom experience, which is essential for trainee teachers. Theories learned in college are not enough; trainees need to practice teaching in an actual school setting to develop their instructional skills.

Another argument is that Block Teaching Practice exposes trainees to diverse learners, enhancing their ability to handle different student needs. Every classroom has students with varying abilities, learning styles, and behavioral challenges. Practical exposure helps future teachers develop strategies to address these differences.

Additionally, Block Teaching Practice allows teachers to practice long-term lesson planning and curriculum coverage. Unlike short-term teaching experiences, Block Teaching gives trainees enough time to prepare, deliver, and evaluate lessons while adjusting their methods based on student feedback.

Furthermore, Block Teaching provides opportunities for feedback and professional growth. Supervising teachers observe and guide trainees, offering constructive criticism that helps them improve. The experience also allows trainees to reflect on their strengths and areas for development.

Lastly, Block Teaching Practice bridges the gap between theory and practice, ensuring that future educators are well-prepared. Teaching is not just about knowledge; it also requires classroom management, communication, and adaptability. Without practical exposure, many teachers would struggle when they enter the profession.

14. Analyze five factors that govern the selection of teaching and learning methods.

Learner characteristics play a significant role in selecting teaching methods. Teachers must consider students' age, cognitive abilities, background knowledge, and learning styles. Younger learners may benefit from storytelling and hands-on activities, while older students may prefer discussions and problem-solving tasks.

Lesson objectives also influence instructional strategies. If the goal is to develop critical thinking, methods such as debates, case studies, and inquiry-based learning are suitable. If memorization is the objective, direct instruction or repetition exercises may be more effective.

Availability of resources affects the choice of teaching methods. Some methods, like laboratory experiments or multimedia presentations, require specific materials and equipment. If resources are limited, teachers may opt for lecture-based instruction or discussions instead.

Class size determines whether to use individualized or group-based methods. In large classrooms, lectures and demonstrations may be necessary, while smaller classes allow for interactive approaches such as group discussions and role-playing.

The nature of the content dictates whether to use theoretical or practical approaches. Subjects like mathematics and science often require problem-solving exercises and experiments, while subjects like literature and history may benefit from storytelling, debates, and textual analysis.

15. Describe four ways in which classroom management and organization guarantee effective teaching and learning.

Proper seating arrangement enhances student interaction and focus. Well-organized seating promotes effective communication between the teacher and students, as well as among students themselves. Arranging desks in clusters can encourage group work, while a semi-circular setup facilitates discussions.

Clear rules promote discipline and focus in the classroom. When students understand behavioral expectations, they are less likely to engage in disruptive activities. Establishing rules at the beginning of the school year and consistently enforcing them helps maintain a positive learning environment.

Time management ensures syllabus coverage and lesson completion. Teachers who organize their schedules well can ensure that all topics are taught within the given timeframe. Effective time management also allows for breaks and engaging activities that prevent student fatigue.

Use of visual aids improves understanding and retention. Charts, diagrams, and multimedia presentations help clarify complex concepts, making learning more engaging. A well-managed classroom includes an organized display of instructional materials that students can easily access for reference.

16. Explain any four factors that contribute to change of curriculum in any education system.

Technological advancements influence curriculum changes by introducing new ways of learning and new skills required for modern careers. As digital tools become essential in education and the workplace, curricula are updated to include subjects such as coding, digital literacy, and STEM education.

Societal needs and expectations also drive curriculum changes. Education systems must align with economic and social demands. For example, as countries prioritize industrialization, vocational training and technical education become more emphasized in the curriculum.

Government policies and educational reforms play a major role in curriculum changes. Ministries of Education periodically review the curriculum to ensure it aligns with national development goals, international standards, and emerging educational philosophies.

Globalization and international trends impact curriculum development. As countries compete in the global economy, education systems adopt best practices from other nations. This includes introducing bilingual education, competency-based learning, and research-oriented teaching methods.

17. Critically discuss five points showing the importance of having a curriculum in the education system.

A curriculum provides a structured learning framework that guides both teachers and students. It outlines the subjects, topics, and skills to be covered, ensuring that learning is systematic and organized.

It ensures consistency in education. Without a well-defined curriculum, students in different schools would learn different content, leading to disparities in knowledge and skills. A standardized curriculum ensures that all learners receive the same quality of education.

A curriculum also serves as a tool for assessing student performance. By defining clear learning objectives, it provides a basis for evaluating students through tests, projects, and assignments, helping educators measure progress.

It supports teacher planning and lesson delivery. Teachers rely on the curriculum to design lesson plans, select teaching methods, and prepare instructional materials. Without a curriculum, lesson preparation would be unstructured and ineffective.

Additionally, a curriculum aligns education with national development goals. Governments use curricula to shape future professionals by including subjects and skills relevant to the country's economic and social needs.

18. With reference to Tanzanian experience, describe any five factors that cause difference in curriculum implementation from different schools.

Availability of resources creates disparities in curriculum implementation. Schools with well-equipped laboratories, libraries, and digital tools can effectively teach practical subjects, while under-resourced schools struggle with hands-on learning.

Teacher qualifications and experience also influence curriculum implementation. Well-trained and experienced teachers can effectively interpret and deliver the curriculum, while schools with unqualified teachers may struggle to cover all learning objectives.

Student population and class size affect how the curriculum is implemented. Overcrowded schools may find it difficult to conduct practical lessons, group discussions, or personalized instruction, leading to differences in learning experiences.

Geographical location and infrastructure impact curriculum execution. Urban schools often have better facilities, internet access, and exposure to diverse learning resources, whereas rural schools may lack electricity, transportation, and qualified teachers.

Parental and community involvement plays a role in curriculum implementation. Schools with supportive parents and communities receive additional funding, mentoring programs, and extracurricular support, enhancing student learning experiences.

These factors demonstrate that while the curriculum may be standardized, its implementation varies significantly based on environmental, social, and economic conditions.