



SECTION 2

TEST I SAMPLE QUESTIONS

This section of the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE™) Preparation Guide provides sample selected-response questions with an annotated answer key for you to review as part of your preparation for the test. The sample selected-response questions are designed to illustrate the nature of the test questions. Work through the questions carefully before referring to the annotated answer key, which follows the sample selected-response questions. The answer key provides the correct response to each question, describes why each correct response is the best answer, and lists the objective within the test framework to which each question is linked.

QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following is the most likely indication that a middle school student has begun using drugs or alcohol?
 - A. declining grades and attendance
 - B. new interests in activities
 - C. new clothing and hair styles
 - D. intensifying conflicts with peers

2. When planning strategies to promote students' coping skills, a school counselor needs to consider that the most important factor contributing to a student's resiliency is his or her:
 - A. active participation in an early childhood intervention program.
 - B. connection to a well-developed social network of peers.
 - C. access to adequate health care in early childhood.
 - D. strong attachment to a positive, supportive adult.

3. Which of the following classroom behaviors is typically associated with gifted students who have not yet been identified as such?
 - A. poor attention in class
 - B. exclusive focus on one content area
 - C. difficulty following directions
 - D. self-isolation from peers

4. In a middle school, students from diverse backgrounds who had socialized with each other in previous grade levels now socialize in homogenous racial/ethnic groups. The grade-level team has asked the school counselor to help them develop a response to this change. Which of the following actions would be the most appropriate *first* step for the counselor to take?
 - A. Invite peer mediators to facilitate conversations between students from diverse racial/ethnic groups.
 - B. Initiate an anti-bias workshop for the entire grade level to counter the early signs of racial discord.
 - C. Explain to the team that this behavior is an age-appropriate stage in racial identity formation.
 - D. Organize a multicultural fair to celebrate the diverse heritages of the students at the middle school.

5. Which of the following activities is most likely to motivate a person to pursue a career that has traditionally been associated with a gender other than his or her own?
- A. watching a video about working in that field
 - B. reading a career forecast suggesting growth potential in that field
 - C. meeting role models of his or her gender who work in that field
 - D. reading a national survey about job satisfaction in that field
6. An eleventh-grade student has asked the school counselor to suggest a career that would make the most of his skills and interest in research. Which of the following suggestions would be most appropriate in this situation?
- A. elementary teacher
 - B. accountant
 - C. software developer
 - D. paralegal
7. Over the last century in Georgia, the quality of career advising for students from diverse backgrounds was affected primarily by:
- A. inadequate funding.
 - B. outdated research.
 - C. geographic isolation.
 - D. institutional bias.
8. Which of the following behaviors on the part of a school counselor suggests a breach of professional boundaries?
- A. counseling a student who has dropped out of school
 - B. prompting a student to spend time with the counselor's family
 - C. offering support to a teacher with marital problems
 - D. providing mental health referrals for a neighbor's child

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9. When a school counselor decides to use a behavior modification strategy with an aggressive student, the counseling intervention typically includes:
- A. a program of insight-oriented therapy for the student.
 - B. a set of incentives for the student to meet established goals.
 - C. a series of volunteer activities for the student to complete.
 - D. a regularly scheduled support group of peers for the student.
10. For which of the following students would group counseling likely be an effective alternative to individual counseling?
- A. a high school student who recently completed substance-abuse treatment
 - B. a kindergarten student who is a recent trauma survivor
 - C. a middle school student who is being treated for suicidal behaviors
 - D. an elementary student who has a record of bullying peers
11. Which of the following activities would be developmentally appropriate for a communication skills curriculum for early elementary students?
- A. interviewing other students
 - B. learning to use "I" messages
 - C. practicing telephone etiquette
 - D. making presentations to the class

ANNOTATED ANSWER KEY

For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
1	A	Students in middle school experience emotional and social challenges during this period of development. Changes in students' moods and actions may seem unpredictable, but the pattern of behavior among those who begin using drugs or alcohol typically includes missing school and having difficulty maintaining their academic performance.	0001
2	D	Resilience among children, adolescents, and teens is strongly linked to sustained contact with a caring adult. These adults can demonstrate an interest in a student while modeling coping and problem-solving strategies. These adults communicate a belief that the student will succeed in school and in everyday life.	0002
3	A	Gifted students are often bored by classroom activities that have been developed for students whose abilities fall within a development range that is typical for their age. This boredom is most frequently demonstrated by a lack of attentiveness to classroom tasks.	0003
4	C	For all middle school students, the influence of peers becomes increasingly important. Theories regarding racial identity formation describe this developmental stage as a time when individuals look within their racial/ethnic groups for acceptance, and the establishment, modeling, and normalizing of behaviors. The grade-level team should be aware of this before any further planning.	0004
5	C	Meeting people who enjoy a job that may have seemed unsuitable according to custom can challenge an individual's career preconceptions. A meeting with an individual who is like the student and engaged in a nontraditional career presents a model of career success. It may also provide the chance to develop a mentoring relationship with someone interested in a similar career path.	0005
6	D	Paralegals receive special training to work as assistants to practicing attorneys. It is the job of a paralegal to research current cases, relevant legal precedents, and applicable case.	0006
7	D	For much of the twentieth century, biased traditions and laws led to the denial of educational and job opportunities to students of color in Georgia and elsewhere on the basis of race. The career guidance given to students of color was much more limited than that given to students of the dominant culture.	0007

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For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
8	B	By encouraging the student to spend personal time with his family, the school counselor has violated the ethical standards of his profession. Keeping a professional distance in counseling relationships helps counselors listen to, observe, and offer feedback to students in a manner that is more objective.	0008
9	B	A behavior modification plan typically uses incentives or rewards to motivate a student. The positive behaviors reinforced by the plan can supplant the negative ones that prompted the intervention. This type of plan helps students with aggressive behaviors because it focuses immediately on the elimination of their disruptive or harmful behaviors.	0009
10	A	Substance-abuse treatment programs typically include a group-counseling component. A student who recently completed such a program would likely find that working in this counseling format provides continuity and a supportive environment during what may be a stressful transition.	0010
11	B	"I" messages are statements that individuals can use to express their emotions without assigning blame for those feelings to others. Understanding their own emotions is a developmentally appropriate skill for early elementary students to acquire. Learning to use "I" messages helps the students to articulate their feelings and difficulties clearly and begin to appreciate that others have feelings, too.	0011