



## SECTION 4

### TEST II 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.

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## QUESTIONS

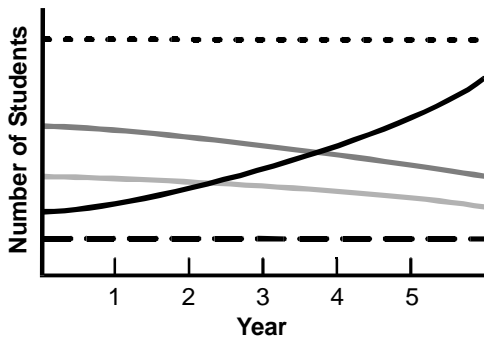
1. A middle school team composed of grade-level teachers, school counselors, and school social workers meets weekly to discuss developing concerns about specific students. The best rationale for using this model of consultation and collaboration is that it supports students by:
  - A. promoting effective teamwork between teaching and clinical staff.
  - B. empowering staff to devise and implement family interventions.
  - C. offering informal professional development opportunities for staff.
  - D. encouraging staff to share students' confidential information.
  
2. A middle school counselor is organizing a health advisory council to consult on schoolwide wellness and prevention programs. This council would likely be most effective if it consisted primarily of:
  - A. representatives from national health organizations such as the Red Cross and Cancer Society.
  - B. parents/guardians, students, teachers, and physicians.
  - C. an administrator, the school improvement coordinator, a curriculum specialist, and a nutritionist.
  - D. representatives from the Division of Family and Children Services and the Department of Community Health.
  
3. A second-grade student has been placed in a foster home while his mother serves an 18-month jail sentence. Which of the following interventions would be the most effective way for the school counselor to support the student while his mother is incarcerated?
  - A. asking the student's teacher to excuse him from family-related projects and assignments
  - B. taking the student for monthly visits with his mother
  - C. facilitating communication between the student and his protective services caseworker
  - D. urging the student to reconnect with other members of his family

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4. Which of the following interventions is the best example of a school counselor's advocacy on behalf of a middle school student with behavioral issues?
- A. developing a behavior contract with the student
  - B. assisting in administering consequences for the student's misconduct
  - C. making a referral to the Student Support Team (SST)
  - D. encouraging the student to take responsibility for her actions
5. As an informal, qualitative assessment technique, observation across school settings is typically most useful in helping to determine which of the following?
- A. the degree of a student's cognitive development
  - B. the level of a student's academic achievement in class
  - C. the range of a student's interests and career goals
  - D. the nature of a student's social skills and peer relationships
6. Historically, learning disabilities were diagnosed on the basis of a marked discrepancy in a student's scores on aptitude and achievement assessments. The best rationale for this assessment method was that it quantified the difference between the student's:
- A. work in class and at home.
  - B. scores on standardized and curriculum-based measurements.
  - C. capabilities and current skills.
  - D. academic performance and self-reported areas of difficulty.
7. Which of the following is a high school counselor's primary responsibility when sharing the results of an assessment with a student?
- A. interpreting the results using language that the student understands
  - B. learning whether the student wants to have the results shared with other people
  - C. emphasizing that the results are just one picture of the student's overall skills
  - D. explaining that test results will be kept on file until the student graduates

**Section 4: Test II Sample Questions**

8. Use the graph below to answer the question that follows.



Key	
— — —	After-School Program Enrollment
— — —	Free and Reduced Lunches
— — —	Students Graduating
— — —	Students with IEPs
· · · · ·	Total Enrollment

The school district's administration and counseling team review student enrollment data to identify ways to improve student performance. Based on this graph, the staff should *first* plan to assess the relationship between poverty and:

- A. total enrollment.
- B. special education referrals.
- C. the drop-out rate.
- D. the availability of child care.

9. Which of the following is considered the primary objective of requiring a practicum/internship as part of the credentialing standards for school counselors?
- A. to ensure that counselors will have a network of professional contacts who can help them secure jobs
  - B. to provide counselors access to student subjects for research on effective techniques and strategies
  - C. to encourage counselors to develop professional portfolios using school-based programs and experiences
  - D. to ensure that counselors work with challenging issues under supervision before addressing them on the job

## Section 4: Test II Sample Questions

10. A school counselor would be required to obtain a release of information to discuss a middle school student with which of the following people?
- A. a clinical supervisor
  - B. the student's parents
  - C. the Student Support Team (SST)
  - D. a pediatrician
11. A high school counselor collects parents'/ guardians' e-mail addresses as an easy and cost-effective way to invite families to upcoming career and college nights. Which of the following issues is most important for the counselor to keep in mind as she builds this e-mail list?
- A. The invitation process should also accommodate those without e-mail.
  - B. The invitations should be directed specifically to students.
  - C. The invitations should require that participants reply to reserve a space.
  - D. The invitation process should be delegated to student volunteers.

## ANNOTATED ANSWER KEY

For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
1	A	Regular team meetings are a useful venue for participants to exchange observations, ideas, and suggestions to improve instruction and clinical service delivery to students. These meetings also foster the development of positive and effective working relationships among the participants.	0012
2	B	Ideally, a middle school health advisory council would include participants who represent the home, school, and community systems. This model encourages input from individuals with diverse viewpoints so that a more complete understanding of the students' health needs can be used for the advisory council's consultations.	0013
3	C	A second-grade student will have difficulty understanding some concepts associated with the justice and child-welfare systems. To facilitate the student's communication with the protective services worker, the school counselor can contact the child-welfare agency regularly and prompt the caseworker to share relevant information with the student. The school counselor can also clarify any information that may be too conceptually sophisticated for the student to understand.	0014
4	C	By making a referral to the Student Support Team (SST), the school counselor is giving the student active support. This referral initiates a broad review of the student's academic and behavioral strengths and needs. The SST then identifies and provides services to address the student's needs.	0015
5	D	Observations of a student during class, the lunch period, and free activities typically provide significant insight into that student's behavior around others. The information from these observations, combined with data from other sources, can be used to develop a more complete picture of the student's social interactions and needs.	0016
6	C	The discrepancy model of diagnosing learning disabilities focused on the use of IQ and achievement tests to measure a student's capacity for learning. If the student's potential was considered "normal," it was assumed that any academic difficulties the student was having were the result of an organic disorder rather than a cognitive impairment.	0017
7	A	The jargon used in assessment is highly specialized. The school counselor's task is to make the results comprehensible so that the student can understand the strengths and needs that have been identified through the assessment process.	0018

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For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
8	C	The data described by the graph indicates that the number of students who graduate from school has been slowly, but steadily, declining. During that same time, the number of students in the Free and Reduced Lunches program has risen sharply. Because students qualify for this program based on household income, these data can be an indicator of the poverty rate in the school district. Other data represented in the graph show no changes aside from a reduction in the number of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Examining the relationship between the drop-out rates and poverty in the school district would be the logical first step for the counseling team.	0019
9	D	The school counseling profession requires a particular level of education, but some of a practitioner's knowledge is gained while on the job. A practicum or internship provides the counselor with an opportunity to act in a professional capacity with supervision and support. In this context, the counselor can confer with an experienced school counselor as he or she learns to address challenging counseling issues or situations.	0020
10	D	The medical profession follows a strict policy of maintaining the confidentiality of patient information. A child's pediatrician will only be able to provide information about a student to a school counselor if the counselor gets a release of information signed by the student's parent or guardian.	0021
11	A	While technologies like e-mail can facilitate home-school communication for many, not every family is able to afford to have these technologies in their homes. When organizing any school program, the school counselor should ensure that all families are included in communications by using the modes that the families have available.	0022