



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES
END OF SEMESTER MAY-AUGUST 2023 EXAMINATIONS

**COURSE CODE AND TITLE: AIU 112 CRITICAL THINKING AND ACADEMIC
WRITING IN HEALTH**

DATE: 3RD AUGUST 2023

Duration: 2 HOURS

Start: 9:00 AM

Finish: 11:00 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is out of 70 marks
2. This Examination comprises THREE Sections. Section I: Multiple Choice Questions (20 marks) Section II: Short Answer Questions (30 marks) and Section III: Long Answer Questions (20 marks)
3. Answer ALL Questions.
4. Do Not write anything on the question paper -use the back of your booklet for rough work if need be.

SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

(20 MARKS)

1. Critical thinking in nursing is best defined as
 - A. Following established protocols
 - B. Making quick decisions based on intuition
 - C. Applying logical and reflective reasoning to nursing practice
 - D. Relying on past experiences to guide actions
2. Which of the following is an example of critical thinking in nursing?
 - A. Administering medication according to the doctor's orders
 - B. Assessing a patient's vital signs and interpreting the findings
 - C. Following a checklist for a routine procedure
 - D. Accepting a patient's complaint without questioning it
3. A nurse is faced with conflicting information from different sources regarding a patient's condition. Which critical thinking skill is essential in this situation?
 - A. Analysis
 - B. Intuition
 - C. Acceptance
 - D. Collaboration
4. When encountering a new medical procedure, a nurse should
 - A. Proceed with the procedure as instructed by the physician
 - B. Follow personal beliefs and experiences
 - C. Seek additional information and consult reliable resources
 - D. Refuse to perform the procedure without further clarification
5. The following statements best describes the role of critical thinking in clinical decision-making:
 - A. Critical thinking replaces the need for evidence-based practice.
 - B. Critical thinking allows nurses to make decisions based on personal bias.
 - C. Critical thinking helps nurses evaluate evidence and make informed decisions.
 - D. Critical thinking involves blindly following protocols and guidelines
6. A patient is experiencing shortness of breath. The critical thinking skill a nurse should prioritize when assessing this patient is: -
 - A. Reflection
 - B. Analysis
 - C. Intuition
 - D. Acceptance

7. The following scenarios best demonstrates the application of critical thinking in nursing: -
- A. Following a routine care plan for a stable patient
 - B. Relying on personal opinions to guide care decisions
 - C. Analyzing a patient's symptoms to identify potential causes
 - D. Memorizing medical facts and regurgitating them during assessments
8. When faced with conflicting opinions from healthcare team members regarding a patient's care, a nurse should:
- A. Accept the opinions of more experienced team members
 - B. Refuse to participate in the decision-making process
 - C. Seek additional information and engage in collaborative discussions
 - D. Follow personal beliefs and experiences
9. One the following statements best describes intellectual humility in nursing: -
- A. Valuing and respecting the opinions of others
 - B. Ignoring alternative viewpoints and perspectives
 - C. Assuming one's own beliefs are always correct
 - D. Refusing to question established medical practices
10. The process of reasoning from a premise or premises to a conclusion based on those premises is known as: -
- A. Extended reasoning
 - B. Subordinate premise
 - C. Dialectic
 - D. Inference
11. A nurse is presented with a research study supporting a new treatment modality. The critical thinking skill should the nurse employ when evaluating the study's findings is: -
- A. Reftion
 - B. Intuition
 - C. Analysis
 - D. Acceptance
12. A patient's laboratory results reveal abnormal values. Which critical thinking skill should a nurse utilize to interpret these findings accurately?
- A. Reflection
 - B. Intuition
 - C. Analysis
 - D. Acceptance

13. A nurse is presented with a clinical situation that does not align with standard protocols. Which critical thinking skill should the nurse employ to address this situation effectively?

- A. Reflection
- B. Intuition
- C. Analysis
- D. Acceptance

14. Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between critical thinking and patient advocacy?

- A. Critical thinking hinders the ability to advocate for patients.
- B. Critical thinking is irrelevant to patient advocacy.
- C. Critical thinking helps nurses identify and address patient needs.
- D. Critical thinking involves blindly following physicians' orders.

15. Which is not the characteristic of a critical thinker among the following?

- A. They use logical skills in reasoning.
- B. They refuse to recognize the limitations of his mind and consistently pursue excellence.
- C. They think independently and do not always succumb to peer pressure.
- D. He upholds the standards of critical thinking.

16. A nurse is caring for a patient with multiple symptoms and needs to prioritize interventions. Which critical thinking skill is most important in this situation?

- A. Reflection
- B. Intuition
- C. Analysis
- D. Acceptance

17. When faced with an ethical dilemma, which critical thinking skill is essential for a nurse to make an informed decision?

- A. Reflection
- B. Intuition
- C. Analysis
- D. Acceptance

18. Which of the following is an example of a nurse using intuition as a critical thinking skill?

- A. Relying on past experiences to guide care decisions
- B. Rejecting evidence-based practice guidelines
- C. Following the same care plan for all patients
- D. Accepting a patient's subjective complaints without further investigation

19. A nurse is asked to participate in a research project to evaluate the effectiveness of a new intervention. Which critical thinking skill should the nurse employ during this project?

- A. Reflection
- B. Intuition
- C. Analysis
- D. Acceptance

20. Critical thinking in nursing is essential because it: -

- A. Allows nurses to bypass the need for evidence-based practice
- B. Encourages conformity to established protocols and guidelines
- C. Enhances nurses' ability to provide safe and effective care
- D. Discourages independent thinking and creativity

SECTION II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

(30 MARKS)

1. Define critical thinking and explain its significance in nursing practice. (3 Marks)
2. Describe a situation where you needed to apply critical thinking skills to prioritize patient care. (3 Marks)
3. What are some common barriers to critical thinking in the nursing profession, and how can they be overcome? (3 Marks)
4. Provide an example of how evidence-based practice can enhance critical thinking in nursing. (3 Marks)
5. Explain the role of reflection in the development of critical thinking skills for nurses. (3 Marks)
6. Discuss the ethical implications of critical thinking in nursing decision-making. (3 Marks)
7. Describe a time when you had to make a difficult decision and how critical thinking guided your choice. (3 Marks)
8. How can effective communication skills contribute to critical thinking in nursing? (3 Marks)
9. What strategies can nurse use to promote patient safety through critical thinking? (3 Marks)
10. Discuss the impact of cultural competence on critical thinking in nursing care. (3 Marks)

SECTION III: LONG ESSAY QUESTIONS: (ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS)
(20 MARKS)

1. Compare and contrast the benefits and limitations of evidence-based practice in nursing. How can critical thinking skills be applied to enhance the utilization of evidence-based practice in the nursing profession? (10 Marks)
2. Discuss the role of critical thinking in nursing decision-making. Provide an example from nursing practice where critical thinking would play a crucial role in identifying and resolving a complex patient care issue. (10 Marks)
3. Analyze the impact of cultural competence on nursing care and patient outcomes. How can critical thinking skills help nurses navigate cultural differences and provide culturally sensitive care? (10 Marks)
4. Examine the relationship between critical thinking and patient safety in nursing. How can critical thinking skills contribute to the prevention and management of adverse events in healthcare settings? Provide examples of how critical thinking can be applied to promote patient safety. (10 Marks)