



**AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES
END OF SEMESTER AUGUST 2026 EXAMINATIONS
COURSE CODE AND TITLE: BSN 317: Educational Psychology**

DATE: 5TH AUGUST 2026

Duration: 2 HOURS

Start: 2PM

Finish: 4PM

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 needed.

SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS- 20 MARKS

Choose the correct response

1. A nurse educator notices that students can accurately recall the signs of hypovolemic shock but fail to prioritize fluid resuscitation during simulation. Which explanation best accounts for this performance gap?
 - A. The students have low general intelligence
 - B. Cognitive learning has not transferred to clinical decision-making
 - C. Reinforcement has been overused
 - D. The learning objectives were affective rather than cognitive
2. A student continues practicing medication calculations despite repeated errors because she believes mastery is essential for safe patient care. Which motivational construct best explains this behavior?
 - A. Extrinsic regulation
 - B. Learned helplessness
 - C. Intrinsic motivation
 - D. Negative reinforcement
3. A teaching strategy that is most effectively reduces cognitive overload when introducing a complex concept such as acid-base balance is:
 - A. Presenting all formulas at once
 - B. Chunking content into manageable segments
 - C. Assigning additional reading after class
 - D. Using only summative testing
4. A student becomes more likely to ask questions in class after receiving immediate constructive feedback from the lecturer. This is best explained by:
 - A. Classical conditioning
 - B. Positive reinforcement
 - C. Negative punishment
 - D. Insight learning

5. A statement that best reflects the cognitive perspective of learning is:
 - A. Learning is solely a response to external rewards and punishments
 - B. Learning involves active processing, organization, and interpretation of information
 - C. Learning occurs only through observation
 - D. Learning is predetermined by heredity
6. A lecturer asks students to explain why two equally knowledgeable learners may perform differently under examination conditions. Which factor best accounts for this difference?
 - A. Sensory memory capacity
 - B. Reinforcement schedules
 - C. Attitude
 - D. Genetic determinism
7. A nursing student who excels in group discussions but struggles with independent assignments most likely demonstrates which characteristic?
 - A. Fixed intelligence
 - B. Failure of sensory registration
 - C. Negative transfer of learning
 - D. Context-dependent learning preference
8. According to Piaget, the learner behavior that indicates formal operational thinking is: -
 - A. Memorizing procedures without understanding
 - B. Applying trial and error only
 - C. Generating hypotheses
 - D. Focusing solely on concrete experiences
9. A student associates the smell of antiseptic with anxiety before every practical examination. This response is best explained by:
 - A. Operant conditioning
 - B. Humanistic theory
 - C. Classical conditioning
 - D. Social learning theory

10. An instructional objective that best targets the evaluation level of Bloom's taxonomy: -
- A. List the stages of memory
 - B. Explain the role of reinforcement
 - C. Compare behaviorist and humanistic theories
 - D. Judge the most appropriate learning theory for teaching neonatal resuscitation
11. A testing practice that directly improves the validity of an examination is: -
- A. Increasing the number of true/false items
 - B. Aligning questions with intended learning outcomes
 - C. Using difficult vocabulary
 - D. Grading on a curve
12. A student accurately interprets arterial blood gas results after repeatedly practicing with progressively complex scenarios. This is best explained by:
- A. Maturation alone
 - B. Distributed reinforcement
 - C. Punishment
 - D. Sensory adaptation
13. A scenario that best illustrates negative transfer of learning: -
- A. Applying anatomy knowledge to surgery during patient care
 - B. Using pediatric communication strategies with confused older adults without modification
 - C. Integrating theory into practice among nursing students
 - D. Improving after feedback
14. A counseling approach that helps a student identify her own solutions to academic stress is most consistent with:
- A. Authoritarian teaching
 - B. Humanistic theory
 - C. Classical conditioning
 - D. Drill and practice

15. The statement about intelligence that is most consistent with current educational psychology: -
- A. Intelligence is fixed and unaffected by environment
 - B. Intelligence reflects only academic performance
 - C. Both genetic and environmental factors influence intellectual development
 - D. Intelligence tests measure motivation rather than ability
16. A learner who reviews notes at increasing intervals over several weeks is applying which evidence-based memory strategy: -
- A. Massed practice
 - B. Overlearning
 - C. Spaced repetition
 - D. Stimulus control
17. The characteristic of a measurement tool refers to consistency of scores across repeated administrations is:
- A. Validity
 - B. Reliability
 - C. Objectivity
 - D. Practicality
18. A student observes a senior nurse calmly de-escalating an aggressive patient and later demonstrates the same behavior. A theory that best explains this learning:-
- A. Social learning theory
 - B. Classical conditioning
 - C. Maturation theory
 - D. Psychodynamic theory
19. The factor that most strongly predicts the application of knowledge gained in class to clinical practice is:
- A. Examination duration
 - B. Student age
 - C. Similarity between learning and application contexts
 - D. Number of lectures attended

20. A student says, "I failed the first test, so I will never understand pharmacology." This statement reflects:
- A. Metacognition
 - B. Self-actualization
 - C. Learned helplessness
 - D. Positive transfer

SECTION II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS- 30 MARKS

Answer all questions

21. A nursing student performs poorly despite attending all classes and spending many hours studying. Using educational psychology principles, state six (6) possible reasons why extensive study time may not translate into high academic performance. (6 Mark)
22. A lecturer wants students to retain emergency drug classifications for long-term clinical use. Discuss three (3) evidence-based strategies derived from memory research that can enhance encoding, storage, and retrieval of information. (6 Marks)
23. A student becomes increasingly disengaged after receiving low scores on two consecutive tests. Using motivational theories, outline six (6) interventions a nurse educator can implement to restore the student's confidence and engagement. (6 Marks)
24. Distinguish four (4) essential qualities of educational assessment tools. (8 Marks)
25. Highlight four (4) learner characteristics that influence learning in nursing education. (4 Marks)

SECTION C: LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS- 20 MARKS

26. A nursing class shows low participation, poor application of theory to practice, overreliance on memorization, and high examination anxiety.
- a) Describe five (5) psychological factors that may be contributing to these learning challenges. (10 Marks)
 - b) Discuss five (5) specific teaching strategies that can be utilized to overcome the challenges. (10 Marks)