

## Pedagogy: Elementary (Grades K–6)

### Subtest 2 Sample Items

**1. In determining whether an assessment item may contain bias, the teacher should first consider which of the following questions?**

- A. Is this item likely to result in a large number of incorrect responses from students in all subgroups?
- B. Can students' responses to this item be scored on a completely objective basis?
- C. Is this item likely to offend or penalize students who are members of a particular subgroup?
- D. Could this item clue students in to the correct response for another item on the test?

**2. At the beginning of a new social studies unit, a fifth-grade teacher has students write a free response on the unit topic in their journals. The information gained through this activity is likely to help the teacher most in:**

- A. identifying effective motivation strategies to use throughout the unit.
- B. determining the extent of students' background knowledge about the topic of the unit.
- C. deciding the appropriate sequence for lessons within the unit.
- D. selecting a format for assessing what students learned about the topic at the conclusion of the unit.

**3. Students in a third-grade class demonstrate a wide range of abilities in mathematics. The teacher wants to tailor instruction as much as possible to the needs of individual students. Which of the following approaches is likely to be most effective in helping the teacher achieve this goal?**

- A. allotting instructional time in mathematics proportionately, with the most for struggling students, somewhat less for students at grade level, and the least for advanced students
- B. adjusting learning objectives and grading criteria for each mathematics assignment to enable every student to achieve success
- C. creating a peer assistance program in which students with the most advanced mathematics skills are assigned to help other students who are struggling
- D. placing students into flexible instructional groups based on the specific mathematics skills the students need to master

**4. Two second-grade teachers are sharing responsibility for planning and implementing science and social studies instruction for their classes. One teacher has a strong science background and will plan and teach science to both classes. The other teacher has greater knowledge of social studies content and will plan and teach social studies to the classes. This approach can be expected to benefit students primarily by:**

- A. combining the content-area expertise of individual teachers to enhance students' learning.
- B. modeling the collaborative process for students.
- C. providing opportunities for students to make connections between different content areas.
- D. familiarizing students with different teaching styles.

**5. A new elementary school teacher decides to join a group of other new teachers who meet twice a month to discuss their classroom experiences. Which of the following statements best describes the most important benefit for the new teacher of participating in this group?**

- A. Regular contact with other new teachers provides emotional support and reduces feelings of isolation in a new professional environment.
- B. Informal forums promote a better exchange of ideas among new teachers than more structured professional activities.
- C. Teachers who are facing similar challenges are better able to provide professional support than colleagues with different experiences.
- D. Voluntary participation in activities beyond what is required demonstrates a new teacher's dedication to the profession.

**6. The kindergarten philosophy of Friedrich Froebel is based primarily on which of the following ideas?**

- A. Curricula for young children should be designed to revisit basic ideas until children achieve full understanding.
- B. Instruction and assessments for young children should be based on clearly defined standards.
- C. Young children's behavior is a reaction to external stimuli and can be changed by altering the learning environment.
- D. Play is the vehicle that allows young children to construct meaning from their experiences.

**Answer Key**

Item Number	Correct Response	Subarea	Objective
1	C	I. Instruction and Assessment	0007
2	B	I. Instruction and Assessment	0008
3	D	I. Instruction and Assessment	0009
4	A	II. Professional Roles and Responsibilities	0010
5	A	II. Professional Roles and Responsibilities	0011
6	D	II. Professional Roles and Responsibilities	0012

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