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LCSW

ASWB Clinical Practice Exam

Exam 2

Unseen exam: not in the online simulator

ASWB Clinical exam format from August 3, 2026 • Original practice questions

Values and Ethics 36% • Assessment and Planning 32% • Intervention and Practice 32%

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How to Use This Material

This practice exam has 122 questions in two sections of 61, like the current ASWB Clinical exam, with questions from all three content areas mixed together. Some questions have three options and some have four. Allow 2 hours per section with an optional break between sections, and choose the single BEST answer for every question. Then check your work against the separate answer key, fill in the score sheet at the end of the key, and read every explanation, including for the questions you got right. Log each miss with its question pattern and distractor family (Chapter 2 of the book).

LCSW Practice Exam 2

122 questions • 2 sections of 61 • Answer key and explanations in the separate Answer Key file
Choose the single BEST answer. Allow 2 hours per section. These 122 questions are reserved for this exam and do not appear in the online simulator, so your score is a fresh read on your readiness.

Section 1 Questions 1-61

1. A social worker at an outpatient clinic receives a call from a man who says he is the brother of Joaquin, 29, a current client. He is worried because Joaquin has stopped eating and is giving away his belongings. There is no release on file for the brother. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Explain that no information can be discussed and end the call
- **B.** Confirm Joaquin is a client and share the safety concerns already documented
- **C.** Listen to his concerns without confirming that Joaquin is a client
- **D.** Ask the brother to bring Joaquin to the clinic for an evaluation today

2. A social worker designing a follow-up study tells her supervisor she will promise clients their surveys are anonymous. To match baseline and 6-month responses, each survey will carry a code linked to a master list of client names. What should the supervisor advise?

- **A.** Keep the anonymity promise, since names will not appear on surveys
- **B.** Drop the code so the surveys stay anonymous at both time points
- **C.** Describe the data as confidential and explain how the list is secured

3. In a hospital emergency department, a social worker is completing a brief intake with Mr. Bautista, 55, who is anxious, talking rapidly, and jumping between topics. The team needs to know quickly what medications he took today and whether he has someone at home. Which interviewing approach is BEST for this task?

- **A.** Short, specific questions that each ask for one fact
- **B.** Broad open questions that let him tell his story at his own pace
- **C.** Reflections of feeling to calm him before any questions are asked

4. A newly licensed social worker under clinical supervision for her advanced license is asked by a client, "Do you talk about me with anyone else?" What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Tell the client that the agency's internal practices are not something she can discuss
- **B.** Explain that she reviews cases with her supervisor, who also keeps them confidential
- **C.** Assure the client that no one else hears about their sessions
- **D.** Agree to leave the client's case out of supervision

5. A child care worker asks Sam, 6, why he did not take a cookie from the jar before dinner. Sam says, 'Because I'd get a time-out.' Which Kohlberg stage does his reasoning reflect?

- **A.** Obedience and punishment orientation
- **B.** Individualism and exchange
- **C.** Good interpersonal relationships

6. Mrs. Lin, 70, moved from China three years ago to care for her grandson, Ethan, 11, while his parents work. Ethan speaks little Mandarin and has begun ignoring his grandmother, who says he is disrespectful and that his parents are 'raising a stranger.' Both parents are bilingual and feel caught in the middle. Which intervention is BEST?

- **A.** Individual sessions for Ethan to improve how respectfully he treats his grandmother
- **B.** Parent coaching so the parents can set firm rules about speaking Mandarin at home
- **C.** Individual sessions for Mrs. Lin to help her adjust to the parenting norms common in the United States
- **D.** Family sessions that name the acculturation gap and build understanding across generations

7. During a visit to an assisted living facility, a social worker notices finger-shaped bruises on both wrists of Mrs. Ferreira, 86, who has moderate dementia and cannot explain them. An aide says she 'bruises easily,' while the nurse says she fell yesterday. State law requires social workers to report suspected abuse of a vulnerable adult. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Ask the facility director to review the incident logs and staff schedules before reporting
- **B.** Discuss with her daughter whether to move her to another facility
- **C.** Examine her arms and torso for other bruises to strengthen the report
- **D.** Report suspected abuse to adult protective services or the designated state agency

8. Wanda, 66, lives on a farm 70 miles from the nearest clinic and has video sessions with a social worker for depression. Midway through today's session, the video freezes repeatedly because of poor internet service. Wanda is not in crisis, and they have already reviewed her safety plan. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** End the session and reschedule for a day when her connection may be better
- **B.** Switch to a phone call to finish the session and agree on phone as the backup plan
- **C.** Keep trying the video, since it lets the worker see her nonverbal cues

9. Priyanka, 33, has PTSD and is struggling at work because of an open-plan office. She asks the social worker whether accommodations might help but says she has not told anyone at work about her diagnosis and is not sure she wants to. The worker knows the employer's HR director from a community board. Which action is BEST?

- **A.** Write a letter documenting her diagnosis for her to give to HR
- **B.** Advise her that she should disclose her diagnosis to her manager so that her job is protected
- **C.** Explain how accommodations work and help her decide what, if anything, to disclose
- **D.** Call the HR director to ask informally about accommodations for Priyanka

10. A hospice social worker has had six patient deaths in two weeks, including a young mother she grew close to. She has cried after visits and feels heavy but is sleeping, functioning, and meeting with families as usual. What is the BEST next step?

- **A.** Set limits on emotional closeness with future patients
- **B.** Request a transfer to a non-hospice program to protect her own well-being
- **C.** Use supervision and the team's memorial practices to process the losses

11. Wren, 24, seeks help for urges to pick at her skin, which she says vary across the day. No standardized measure fits her goal well. Her social worker wants something simple that Wren can track daily between sessions. Which measure is BEST?

- **A.** A 0-10 self-anchored rating of urge strength each evening
- **B.** A monthly checklist of general anxiety symptoms
- **C.** A satisfaction rating completed after each session
- **D.** A weekly clinician rating of her overall daily functioning

12. At the first meeting of a support group for adults who have survived sexual assault, a member asks, "Can you promise that what we say here won't leave this room?" What is the leader's BEST response?

- **A.** Promise that everything shared will stay private, since all members signed a confidentiality agreement
- **B.** Explain the leader's legal limits, that members may not keep confidences, and set a group norm
- **C.** Explain that members are bound by the same professional confidentiality rules as the leader
- **D.** Suggest that members limit what they share to things they would be comfortable seeing repeated

13. Imani, 19, pulls hair from her scalp, often while studying, and now has visible bald patches. She feels a build-up of tension beforehand and relief afterward, she has tried many times to stop, and she has no other obsessions or compulsions. Her dermatologist referred her for therapy. Which approach is BEST?

- **A.** Psychodynamic therapy
- **B.** Flooding
- **C.** Habit reversal training
- **D.** Exposure and response prevention

14. A high school social worker runs an eight-week anxiety group and measures symptoms before and after. In week five, a shooting at a nearby mall dominates local news, and posttest anxiety scores are higher than pretest scores. Which threat to internal validity BEST explains why the group may look ineffective?

- **A.** Testing
- **B.** Selection
- **C.** Maturation
- **D.** History

15. On an inpatient psychiatric unit, Mr. Dabiri, 50, is pacing the hallway and cursing loudly about his discharge date. He has not threatened anyone or damaged property. A staff member suggests placing him in seclusion. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Support seclusion until he is calm enough to talk
- **B.** Ask the psychiatrist to order an as-needed medication to help him calm down
- **C.** Use verbal de-escalation and offer him a quiet room he can use by choice
- **D.** Tell him he will lose privileges if he keeps shouting

16. A family therapy training clinic uses a one-way mirror so that a team of students and a supervisor can observe sessions. The Ortiz family arrives for their first appointment. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Tell the family about the observers and get their consent first, offering a session without observers
- **B.** Proceed without mentioning the team, since observation is standard practice at a training clinic like this
- **C.** Begin the session and introduce the team at the midpoint break

17. Two clinicians at a child guidance center independently code the same videotaped play sessions for aggressive acts. Their counts often differ widely. What is the BEST next step before using the data to evaluate treatment?

- **A.** Average the two clinicians' counts for each session
- **B.** Clarify the coding definitions and retrain both raters
- **C.** Use the counts from the more experienced of the two clinicians
- **D.** Switch to a parent-report checklist of aggression

18. What MOST distinguishes a boundary violation from a boundary crossing?

- **A.** It takes place outside the office or outside scheduled session time
- **B.** It departs from the usual role in a way the agency did not plan for
- **C.** It harms or exploits the client and serves the worker's own needs

19. The leader of an outpatient therapy group learns that two members have been texting each other daily and meeting for coffee after sessions. In group they now side with each other and exchange knowing looks when others speak. The group agreement asked members to bring outside contact back to the group. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Invite the two members to discuss their outside contact openly in group
- **B.** Meet privately with each member and ask them to stop contact outside the group
- **C.** Accept the friendship, since outside support can help members between sessions

20. Which outcome is the PRIMARY goal of crisis intervention?

- **A.** Uncovering and resolving long-standing conflicts that left the client vulnerable
- **B.** Restoring the client to at least the level of functioning held before the crisis
- **C.** Diagnosing any mental disorder that the crisis may have revealed

21. Aaron, 16, has eaten lunch in a bathroom stall for most of the school year because he fears classmates will watch him eat and think he is "disgusting." He dreads answering questions in class and his voice shakes when called on, he has stopped going to friends' parties, and he feels sick before group projects. He talks easily with his family and two close friends at home. What is the MOST likely diagnosis?

- **A.** Avoidant personality disorder
- **B.** Social anxiety disorder
- **C.** Agoraphobia
- **D.** Selective mutism

22. In cognitive processing therapy, Tamara says about her assault, "It was my fault because I didn't fight back." Her social worker writes the sentence down to examine with worksheets over the next sessions. In CPT, this belief is called a:

- **A.** Hot spot
- **B.** Trauma narrative
- **C.** Core must
- **D.** Stuck point

23. Under the Indian Child Welfare Act, before an Indian child can be placed in foster care in an involuntary proceeding, the agency must show that it made:

- **A.** reasonable efforts, the same standard that applies to other children in care
- **B.** active efforts to provide services to prevent the breakup of the family
- **C.** a placement agreement signed by the tribe's governing council

24. Isaac, 29, has schizophrenia, lives with his mother, and is stable on medication. He has capacity and refuses to let his social worker speak with her about his treatment. His mother calls, worried, asking what medications he takes so she can help. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Confirm that he is a client and suggest she ask Isaac directly
- **B.** Decline to speak with her, since Isaac has refused consent
- **C.** Tell her which medications he takes, since she is his caregiver and lives with him and can help
- **D.** Listen, disclose nothing about Isaac, and offer general information and family resources

25. A behavioral health agency offers a new relapse-prevention group at its downtown site and uses its suburban site, which keeps usual care, as the comparison. Clients are not randomly assigned. Six months later, downtown clients have fewer relapses. What is the MAIN threat to the conclusion that the group caused the difference?

- **A.** Testing, because clients completed the same relapse questionnaire twice
- **B.** Maturation, because clients naturally gain recovery skills over six months
- **C.** Regression to the mean, because clients enter treatment at their worst
- **D.** Selection, because clients at the two sites may have differed at the start

26. Darius, 22, a muscular college athlete, believes his body looks "puny" and spends five hours a day lifting weights, checking mirrors, and comparing himself with other men. He has started using anabolic steroids and skips classes to train. He eats a high-protein diet and has no concern about being fat. What is the MOST likely diagnosis?

- **A.** Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- **B.** Body dysmorphic disorder, with muscle dysmorphia
- **C.** Anorexia nervosa

27. Under the NASW Code of Ethics, a social worker considering physical contact with a client, such as a hug, is responsible for:

- **A.** obtaining the client's written consent before any physical contact takes place
- **B.** avoiding contact that risks psychological harm and setting culturally sensitive boundaries
- **C.** limiting contact with clients to handshakes

28. Owen, 41, missed his session without notice. At intake he signed a policy stating he would be charged a $50 fee for missed sessions. His insurer covers psychotherapy sessions. How should the social worker handle the missed session?

- **A.** Charge Owen the $50 fee under the policy he signed
- **B.** Bill the insurer for the session as though it occurred
- **C.** Bill the insurer for a brief session to recover part of the cost

29. Mrs. Delacroix, 70, has early Alzheimer's disease and has started missing bill payments. Her son wants to petition for full guardianship. In conversation with the social worker, she clearly explains who her son is, what her accounts are, and why she would want him to help with money. She still makes her own health care decisions without difficulty. What should the social worker suggest?

- **A.** Help her consider a durable power of attorney for finances while she can still sign one
- **B.** Recommend a limited guardianship that covers her finances and leaves her health decisions alone
- **C.** Arrange for the son to take over her accounts informally
- **D.** Support the son's petition for full guardianship

30. Priscilla tells the social worker she wants to raise a recurring problem with her husband: he leaves the dishes for her each night after she cooks. The social worker uses the Gottman method. Which opening would the social worker MOST likely help her prepare?

- **A.** "I'm feeling worn out after cooking. Would you take the dishes tonight?"
- **B.** "You leave the dishes for me night after night, and I'm sick of it."
- **C.** "Why do you think it's okay to leave me with the dishes?"

31. A social worker at a college counseling center and Dev, 20, have agreed that he needs a specialist in exposure and response prevention for OCD. Dev chose a provider from the referral list and has an intake next week. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Ask the new provider for updates on Dev's progress after his intake
- **B.** Close Dev's case today, since the referral has been made
- **C.** Obtain Dev's written consent before sending records or speaking with the new provider
- **D.** Send a brief summary of Dev's treatment to the new provider so that the intake goes smoothly

32. In the fifth session of CBT for social anxiety, Yuki says she did not complete the week's assignment of starting one conversation with a coworker. She looks embarrassed. What is the BEST response by the social worker?

- **A.** Ask what got in the way and adjust the assignment together
- **B.** Skip the homework review so she does not feel judged
- **C.** Assign the same task again and add a written reminder
- **D.** Shift to a less structured approach since homework seems hard for her

33. Kaya, 7, is an Indian child under the Indian Child Welfare Act, and her tribe has not set its own placement order. She needs a foster placement, and three approved homes are available. Absent good cause, which placement does ICWA rank FIRST?

- **A.** Her maternal aunt
- **B.** A licensed non-Native foster family near her current school
- **C.** A foster home in another town that her tribe has approved

34. A social worker tracks a client's weekly binge-eating episodes for four weeks before starting CBT. During baseline, episodes fall steadily from 7 to 3 per week. During treatment, they stay at 2 to 3 per week. What is the MOST accurate interpretation?

- **A.** Treatment was effective, since episodes were lower during the intervention
- **B.** Improvement began before treatment, so it cannot be credited to CBT
- **C.** The baseline was too short to support any interpretation of the data
- **D.** Treatment slowed the improvement that had begun during the baseline

35. A client who was laid off says, "My boss had no right to do this. People must treat me fairly, and I can't stand it when they don't." He has been snapping at his family all week. In the REBT ABCDE model, "People must treat me fairly" is the:

- **A.** B, the belief
- **B.** C, the consequence
- **C.** A, the activating event
- **D.** D, the dispute

36. Which statement from a treatment plan is a goal rather than an objective?

- **A.** Within 4 weeks, Kenji will start one conversation with a coworker each workday, recorded in his log
- **B.** By week 8, Kenji's score on a social anxiety scale will drop by at least 10 points
- **C.** Kenji wants to feel comfortable around people again

37. At a residential treatment center, Devonte, 15, has started running to hug his female social worker each time he sees her on the unit, often in front of other residents. Staff have noticed. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Allow the hugs, since he has few positive adult relationships on the unit
- **B.** Talk with Devonte privately, set a limit, and offer another greeting
- **C.** Ask the unit staff to redirect him when he approaches her

38. Corinne, 29, has used illicit fentanyl daily for two years and is starting buprenorphine through a hospital bridge clinic. Her prescriber gave her first doses with instructions to take them at home once withdrawal symptoms begin. Six hours after her last fentanyl use, she feels fine and tells the social worker she will take the first dose now, before her shift, so she does not get sick at work. What information is MOST important for the social worker to reinforce?

A. Buprenorphine works best when some fentanyl is still active in her system
B. Taking it before withdrawal starts can set off sudden, severe withdrawal
C. She needs 7 to 10 opioid-free days before her first buprenorphine dose
D. The main first-dose danger is oversedation, so she should take it at bedtime

39. Felipe, 45, has stayed away from family gatherings for years because "every visit turns into a fight with my dad." In Bowen-oriented individual sessions, he says he wants a different relationship with his father before his father's upcoming retirement party. Which plan is MOST consistent with Bowen therapy?

A. Invite Felipe's father to a joint session where the social worker can mediate their disagreements
B. Write a letter to his father listing past hurts and asking for an apology before the party
C. Role-play the father's harshest criticisms until Felipe no longer feels anxious hearing them
D. Plan short visits where Felipe practices staying calm and stating his views, reviewed in session

40. Five days after her home was destroyed in a wildfire, Guadalupe, 37, began insisting that neighbors set the fire to poison her family and that she heard their voices through the walls of the shelter. Her speech became disorganized. Twelve days later, with treatment, her symptoms fully resolved, and she has returned to her prior level of functioning. Her toxicology screen and medical workup were negative. What is the MOST likely diagnosis?

A. Delusional disorder, persecutory type, with bizarre content
B. Schizophreniform disorder
C. Brief psychotic disorder, with marked stressor
D. Acute stress disorder

41. State law requires a social worker to keep adult clients' records for seven years after the last date of service. She is closing her private practice next month to take a hospital job. What should she do with her records?

A. Arrange secure storage with a designated custodian and tell clients how to request copies
B. Give each client the original record and keep no copies
C. Transfer the records to the colleague who is taking over her office lease
D. Keep records for current clients and shred the records of clients seen more than a year ago

42. Victor, 45, requests a copy of his treatment record. It contains a collateral interview in which his former wife, whom he has threatened, described where she now lives and works. A licensed clinician at the agency has determined that releasing that portion is reasonably likely to cause substantial harm to her. What should the agency do?

A. Release the rest of the record, explain the denial in writing, and offer a review
B. Release the full record, since clients are entitled to the information in their files
C. Deny access to the entire record, because part of it could put his former wife at risk
D. Release the record after his former wife gives written consent to the disclosure

43. A social worker in a group practice is starting a first telehealth session with Ines, 31, who was referred for depression after a recent suicide attempt. Her intake form lists a home address in another part of the same state. What should the social worker do at the START of the session?

- **A.** Review the results of the depression screen she completed online before the session
- **B.** Ask her to describe the events that led up to the attempt
- **C.** Confirm where Ines is right now and how to get emergency help to her there

44. An agency tests whether clients in its new peer-mentoring program have different 90-day readmission rates than clients in usual care. Which statement is the null hypothesis?

- **A.** Readmission rates will not differ between peer mentoring and usual care
- **B.** Clients in peer mentoring will have lower readmission rates than usual care
- **C.** Peer mentoring will cause a reduction in readmissions for most clients

45. A school social worker running a social skills group watches Camila, 7, look at two rows of six coins after one row is spread out. She says, 'They're still the same. You just moved them apart, and you could push them back.' Which concrete operational concept does her last statement MOST directly show?

- **A.** Decentration
- **B.** Class inclusion
- **C.** Seriation
- **D.** Reversibility

46. While describing his job, a client stops mid-sentence and is silent for several seconds. When the social worker asks what happened, he says, "I lost it. The thought just disappeared." He cannot pick up where he left off. Which term BEST fits?

- **A.** Poverty of speech
- **B.** Thought blocking
- **C.** Perseveration
- **D.** Distractibility

47. A home health social worker visits Mr. Ito, 88, who is bedbound and cared for by his son. He has a deep pressure sore, appears dehydrated, and his medications are unopened in their packaging. His son says he 'does his best' but works double shifts. State law requires reporting suspected neglect of a dependent adult. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Offer the son respite care resources and recheck Mr. Ito at the next scheduled home visit
- **B.** Teach the son wound care and hydration and document the teaching
- **C.** Arrange prompt medical care and report suspected neglect to adult protective services

48. During a play therapy session at an outpatient clinic, Ayla, 6, uses dolls to act out a specific adult sexual act and says, 'That's what Uncle Ray does when he babysits me. It's a secret.' Her mother is in the waiting room. State law requires reporting when there is reasonable cause to suspect child abuse. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Ask Ayla detailed questions to learn exactly what happened
- **B.** Continue play therapy to see whether the theme repeats
- **C.** Make a report to child protective services
- **D.** Tell Ayla's mother so she can decide how to protect her

49. A social worker at a family agency learns that Caden, 12, and his cousin Lily, 6, were found engaged in genital touching during a family gathering. Lily says Caden told her it was a game and that she did not want to play. Which feature MOST distinguishes this from typical childhood sexual play?

- **A.** That it happened at a busy family gathering
- **B.** That the two children are cousins
- **C.** The six-year age gap and Lily's reluctance

50. In supervision, a White social worker says several of her Black clients 'blame racism for problems they could solve themselves' and that the agency's anti-racism training 'made White staff feel attacked.' Her Black clients' attendance has dropped over the past two months. What should the supervisor do FIRST?

- **A.** Reassign her Black clients to other workers on the team while the concern is being addressed
- **B.** Explore her reactions to the training and how her beliefs may be affecting her clients
- **C.** Require her to repeat the anti-racism training before she sees more clients

51. The parents of Hana, 13, who was born in the United States to Korean immigrant parents, ask a family services social worker for help because Hana refuses to attend Saturday Korean language school and says, 'I'm just American.' She is doing well in school and with friends. Which approach BEST reflects ethnic identity development research?

- **A.** Support Hana's choice to stop the school, since her identity is hers to define
- **B.** Encourage the parents to require attendance so that Hana builds a lasting connection to her heritage
- **C.** Frame this for the parents as a common early stage and keep chances for exploration open
- **D.** Assess Hana for depression, since rejecting one's heritage can signal low self-esteem

52. An emergency department social work team enrolls patients in a brief follow-up call program during the week after a crisis visit, when distress scores are at their peak. Distress drops by the one-month check. The team wants to know whether the calls, rather than the natural decline after a peak, explain the drop. Which design change would BEST address this?

- **A.** Add a second distress measure that clinicians complete at follow-up
- **B.** Extend follow-up to six months to see whether the gains last
- **C.** Randomly assign crisis patients to calls or usual care and compare
- **D.** Enroll patients a month after the crisis, when scores are stable

53. A school social worker meets with Brielle, 11, who began puberty early and looks several years older than her classmates. Over the past semester she has started spending time with 15- and 16-year-olds, and her mother found vape pens in her backpack. Which developmental factor is MOST relevant to her risk?

- **A.** Early puberty in girls is linked to older peers, substance use, and depression
- **B.** Early-maturing girls tend to have higher self-esteem, which protects them from peer pressure
- **C.** Puberty timing has little effect on adjustment compared with family and school factors
- **D.** Early physical maturation speeds brain development, lowering impulsivity in early adolescence

54. Mr. Mensah, 81, lives 40 miles from a counseling agency and is referred for grief counseling. The intake worker schedules in-person sessions, telling a colleague that "older clients struggle with video." Mr. Mensah uses a tablet every day to video chat with his grandchildren. What should the intake worker have done?

- **A.** Scheduled in-person sessions, then offered video if the drive became difficult
- **B.** Scheduled video sessions, since he already uses a tablet daily
- **C.** Asked Mr. Mensah which session format he prefers, including video

55. Two sessions before a 12-week grief group ends, attendance drops, one member says the group "never really helped," and another reports sleep problems she had not mentioned since the first month. What should the leader do NEXT?

- **A.** Name the coming ending, invite feelings about it, and review members' gains
- **B.** Offer to extend the group for another 12 weeks since members are still struggling
- **C.** Call absent members to remind them of the attendance agreement they signed
- **D.** Refer the member with returning symptoms for an individual assessment before the next session

56. Six weeks after giving birth, Adaeze, 32, tells a perinatal social worker she has sudden, horrifying images of dropping her baby down the stairs. She now has her husband carry the baby on stairs, feels disgusted by the thoughts, and asks, 'Does this mean I'm dangerous?' She has no hallucinations or unusual beliefs. Which assessment is MOST likely?

- **A.** Intrusive, unwanted thoughts typical of perinatal OCD
- **B.** Postpartum psychosis with thoughts of harming the infant
- **C.** Intent to harm the infant that requires an immediate report to child protective services
- **D.** Ordinary new-parent worry that needs no further assessment

57. Over 12 weeks of treatment, Aisha's PHQ-9 score falls from 21 to 7, and she has returned to work after months of leave. Which description of this change is MOST accurate?

- **A.** Clinically significant, because her severity and functioning improved
- **B.** Statistically significant, because the drop exceeds 10 points
- **C.** Not interpretable, because a single client cannot show change

58. Which question should MOST guide a social worker's decision to self-disclose?

- **A.** Will sharing this make the relationship feel more equal?
- **B.** Is this information I am comfortable having the client know?
- **C.** Will sharing this help the client toward a treatment goal?

59. In Bowen family systems therapy, the therapist's role in sessions is BEST described as:

- **A.** an active director who rearranges seating and blocks interruptions
- **B.** a warm participant who uses spontaneity and self-disclosure
- **C.** a calm coach who stays out of the family's triangles

60. A social worker at a college counseling center suspects that Ethan, a student who just failed out of his engineering program, may be thinking about suicide. Which question is the BEST way to ask about it?

- **A.** 'When people feel this hopeless, they sometimes think about killing themselves. Are you?'
- **B.** 'Have you had any thoughts of hurting yourself or doing something you might regret?'
- **C.** 'How do you think your family would feel if something happened to you?'
- **D.** 'You're not thinking of doing anything drastic, are you?'

61. A social worker at a pediatric clinic notices that the intake form has spaces for "Mother" and "Father." Two mothers recently crossed out "Father" and wrote in their names, and a grandfather raising his grandson left the parent section blank. What is the BEST action?

- **A.** Propose revising the form to "Parent/Guardian 1" and "Parent/Guardian 2," with a relationship line
- **B.** Tell front desk staff to help families write in corrections when the form does not fit them
- **C.** Add a note at the top of the form inviting families to explain any unusual arrangements
- **D.** Ask families about their family structure during the intake interview rather than on the written form

Section 2 Questions 62-122

62. Which single-subject design ends with the intervention withdrawn, a feature many clinicians see as an ethical drawback?

- **A.** AB
- **B.** ABAB
- **C.** ABA
- **D.** BAB

63. Mrs. Oduya, 67, who moved from Nigeria eight years ago, is in counseling for depression. During treatment planning she agreed with each of the social worker's suggestions, saying, 'You are the professional.' Three weeks later she has not tried any of the planned steps. She attends every session and says she likes coming. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Give clearer, more directive instructions, since she has said she wants the professional to decide
- **B.** Name the power difference and invite her to say which steps fit her life and which do not
- **C.** Point out the gap between her agreement and her follow-through and ask what is getting in the way
- **D.** Ask her daughter, who drives her to sessions, which steps her mother is likely to try

64. Corinne, 31, is on day two of a voluntary inpatient opioid withdrawal program. She has mild withdrawal symptoms, is alert and oriented, and tells the social worker she is leaving to pick up her paycheck and will 'figure it out.' The nurse confirms she has decision-making capacity. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Call her mother, listed as her emergency contact, to talk her into staying
- **B.** Review the risks, give her naloxone and overdose information, and explain how to return
- **C.** Have her sign the against-medical-advice form, since that documents her choice, and end the contact
- **D.** Tell her she cannot leave until the medical team completes the full program

65. Parents bring Omari, 6, to a family clinic because he wets the bed about three nights a week and has done so for as long as they can remember. He stays dry during the day. His pediatrician found no urinary infection, diabetes, or other medical cause, and he takes no medications. What is the MOST likely diagnosis?

- **A.** Enuresis, diurnal subtype (wetting while awake)
- **B.** No diagnosis, because bedwetting is expected at his age
- **C.** Enuresis, nocturnal subtype (wetting during sleep)

66. Tobias, 12, has been in state custody for four months and lives with licensed foster parents. In this state, the child welfare agency holding custody consents to non-emergency mental health services for children in its custody. His foster mother brings him to a clinic and offers to sign the treatment consent. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Begin treatment and obtain consent at the next court review
- **B.** Accept the foster mother's consent, since she is his day-to-day caregiver
- **C.** Obtain consent from Tobias's birth mother, who still has visitation
- **D.** Obtain consent from the child welfare agency that holds custody

67. A social worker notes that a client's experiences at work cannot be explained by looking at her race alone or her gender alone, because she faces barriers specific to being a Black woman who wears a hijab. Which concept is the worker applying?

- **A.** Acculturative stress
- **B.** Intersectionality
- **C.** Stereotype threat

68. A social worker sees Marisa, 14, individually, and a colleague at another agency provides family therapy. Releases allowing the two providers to communicate are signed. Marisa reports that the family therapist told her parents to take her phone at night, which she says is making her more anxious. The social worker disagrees with the recommendation. What should she do FIRST?

- **A.** Contact the family therapist to discuss the recommendation and coordinate
- **B.** Tell Marisa's parents that the phone restriction is increasing her anxiety
- **C.** Document her disagreement and keep focusing on individual goals
- **D.** Encourage Marisa to tell the family therapist the plan is not working

69. A social worker's agency pays a bonus to staff who keep clients enrolled for at least 16 sessions. Her client, Nia, 27, has met her goals after 10 sessions and wants to end treatment. What is the BEST course of action?

- **A.** Recommend six more sessions so that Nia can consolidate the gains she has made
- **B.** Continue to 16 sessions and then terminate as planned
- **C.** Plan termination with Nia and raise the incentive concern with the agency

70. According to the CDC's 2022 developmental milestone checklists, which language skill do most children show by age 2?

- **A.** Telling a story with at least two events in it
- **B.** Saying at least two words together, such as 'more milk'
- **C.** Saying sentences of four or more words
- **D.** Holding a conversation with two back-and-forth exchanges

71. Sana and Idris, both 32, had their first baby five months ago. Sana says Idris "acts like he's still single," going to the gym most evenings, while she does nearly all the night feedings. Idris says Sana "only cares about the baby now." Both describe a strong marriage before the birth. Which family life cycle task BEST frames their conflict?

- **A.** Realigning relationships with extended family to include in-laws
- **B.** Developing intimate peer relationships outside the family
- **C.** Adjusting the couple system to make space for a child
- **D.** Increasing boundary flexibility to allow a child's independence

72. A social worker consulting to a supported living program learns that staff open residents' mail before giving it to them 'to catch bad news.' The residents are adults with intellectual disabilities, and none has a guardian. What should the social worker recommend?

- **A.** Ask each resident's family whether they approve of the mail screening
- **B.** Post a notice telling residents that their mail is screened
- **C.** Continue screening mail for residents who have had a hard time with bad news before
- **D.** End the practice and offer help with reading mail to residents who want it

73. A school social worker is assessing the family of Kai, 11, whose grades have dropped since his father deployed overseas. Kai's mother works two jobs. The family attends a weekly community hula class, and Kai's grandparents live nearby and pick him up after school. Which statement BEST reflects a strengths assessment of this family?

- **A.** The mother's two jobs limit her availability, a risk factor to monitor closely
- **B.** The deployment is the main stressor and should be the focus of the plan
- **C.** The grandparents' daily help and the hula community are supports to build on

74. A second-grade teacher made a report to child protective services after Kiara, 7, said her mother's boyfriend 'hurts me at night.' The teacher asks the school social worker whether she should take Kiara aside and ask more questions so CPS has the details. What should the social worker advise?

- **A.** Call Kiara's mother to ask what is happening at home
- **B.** Leave the questioning to CPS and write down what Kiara says on her own
- **C.** Offer to interview Kiara herself, since she has training in child interviewing
- **D.** Help the teacher plan open-ended questions so the interview does not lead Kiara

75. At the ninth of 12 contracted sessions, Delia, 48, says she feels much better about her panic symptoms and wants today to be her last session. Her panic log shows steady improvement. Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Encourage her to complete all 12 sessions, as they agreed when they set the contract
- **B.** Review her gains and discuss ending today or after one more session on setbacks
- **C.** Ask whether something about the sessions has made her want to stop
- **D.** Agree that she has met her goals and close the case today

76. Jasmine, 29, developed major depression after her daughter's birth. Her symptoms worsened when she returned to work and she and her mother began clashing over childcare. She says, "I want to figure out how to handle things with my mom and my new life." She has no suicidal thoughts and prefers short-term therapy. Which approach is BEST?

- **A.** Cognitive behavioral therapy
- **B.** Brief psychodynamic therapy
- **C.** Interpersonal psychotherapy
- **D.** Acceptance and commitment therapy

77. Odette, 52, has taken lithium for bipolar I disorder for seven years. She tells her social worker she plans to start a strict low-sodium diet and train for a summer half-marathon to lower her blood pressure. She has no current symptoms and feels well. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Encourage her to talk with her prescriber first, since salt and fluid shifts affect lithium
- **B.** Support her plan and help her set weekly training goals that she can track and review in session
- **C.** Advise her to keep her usual salt intake and drink extra fluids while she trains

78. A social worker in private practice volunteers with a tenants' union pushing a landlord to fix mold problems. Several of her current clients live in the affected building. Union leaders ask her to encourage those clients to come to the next meeting. Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Give clients flyers about the meeting and ask them to sign up
- **B.** Keep union recruitment out of her sessions and share neutral information about tenant resources if clients raise housing
- **C.** Encourage the clients to attend, since the union's goals serve their interests
- **D.** Withdraw from the tenants' union to avoid any appearance of a conflict

79. During a major depressive episode, a client stops speaking, holds rigid postures for hours, and resists attempts to move her arms. Which specifier describes this presentation?

- **A.** With psychotic features
- **B.** With atypical features
- **C.** With melancholic features
- **D.** With catatonia

80. Rosa, a social worker who grew up in a Mexican American Catholic family, begins seeing Lupe, 29, also Mexican American, for anxiety about conflict with her family. Rosa notices she feels she already understands the conflict because it sounds like her own. Lupe has mentioned that she left the church in college and that her parents are divorced. Which response BEST reflects cultural humility?

- **A.** Share that Rosa comes from a similar background so that Lupe knows she will be understood here
- **B.** Draw on Rosa's insider knowledge of how Mexican American families tend to handle conflict
- **C.** Ask what her family's expectations mean to Lupe, treating Rosa's own story as a hypothesis
- **D.** Transfer Lupe to a worker from a different background to avoid over-identification

81. A father tells a family counselor that his 15-year-old daughter wants to go to concerts with friends and choose her own clothes, while his own mother, 78, has started needing help with errands. He says he feels pulled in two directions. According to the family life cycle, which stage is this family in?

- **A.** Launching children and moving on
- **B.** Families with adolescents
- **C.** Families in later life

82. A social worker at a rural agency is about to begin video sessions with a new client who has never used telehealth. According to the NASW Code of Ethics, what should the social worker tell this client about the technology?

- **A.** That video sessions carry the same privacy protections as in-person sessions
- **B.** How to reach the social worker by text between sessions for support
- **C.** The potential benefits, risks, and limitations of video sessions

83. In therapy, Dana, 29, describes being sexually abused at ages 8 to 11 by her uncle. She mentions that he now babysits his girlfriend's two young daughters several times a week. State law requires a report when a mandated reporter has reasonable cause to believe a child is currently at risk of abuse. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Keep the disclosure confidential, since Dana is an adult and the abuse is past
- **B.** Help Dana decide whether she wants to report her uncle herself
- **C.** Make a report about the risk to the girls, and tell Dana before doing so
- **D.** Ask Dana to contact the girlfriend to warn her about the uncle

84. A child welfare agency wants to know how the housing stability and mental health of youth who age out of foster care change from age 18 to 23. It plans to follow the same group of youth across the five years. Which design is this?

- **A.** Cross-sectional survey
- **B.** Longitudinal panel study
- **C.** Repeated trend study

85. Diego, 28, a telehealth client, has a steady career and describes clear values and goals. He has ended three serious relationships when partners wanted to move in together, saying, 'I start to feel like I'll disappear.' He spends most evenings alone and says he feels increasingly lonely. Which Eriksonian stage BEST frames his difficulty?

- **A.** Intimacy versus isolation
- **B.** Integrity versus despair
- **C.** Identity versus role confusion
- **D.** Generativity versus stagnation

86. Noelle, 34, comes to an employee assistance counselor three weeks after a miscarriage at 11 weeks. She says coworkers did not know she was pregnant, her mother told her "at least it was early," and she feels she has no right to be this sad. Which concept BEST describes her experience?

- **A.** Anticipatory grief
- **B.** Complicated bereavement
- **C.** Delayed grief
- **D.** Disenfranchised grief

87. Lorna, 52, a widowed farmer in a rural county, tells her social worker, 'I like coming here because you seem like someone who grew up the way I did. You know what it's like to work the land. We're cut from the same cloth.' She does not treat the worker as an authority or as wiser than herself. In self psychology, which selfobject need is MOST evident?

- **A.** Mirroring
- **B.** Twinship
- **C.** Idealizing

88. Sergeant Ruiz, 32, returned from a deployment in which his convoy was hit by an explosive device. For several months he had occasional bad dreams but kept working normally. Nine months after the attack he began having flashbacks, avoiding crowds, startling at noises, feeling detached from his family, and blaming himself, and he now meets full PTSD criteria. Which specifier applies?

- **A.** With dissociative symptoms
- **B.** With delayed expression
- **C.** With panic attacks

89. The wife of Arturo, 62, calls a family service agency because over the past year he has become impulsive, makes crude comments to strangers, overspends, and seems unconcerned about it. He has no history of mental illness or substance use. Arturo agrees to come in. After hearing his account, what should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Recommend couples counseling for the conflict his behavior is causing
- **B.** Screen for a personality disorder using his wife's description of the changes
- **C.** Recommend a medical and neurological evaluation of the change

90. Elena, 34, tells a social worker that her landlord has threatened to evict her family if she complains about the broken heat. The worker suggests she call the city housing inspector. Elena goes quiet, then says some people in her household 'don't have papers.' Which response BEST shows awareness of the worker's own privilege?

- **A.** Reassure Elena that city housing inspectors do not share tenant information with immigration authorities
- **B.** Acknowledge that calling officials carries risks for Elena the worker does not face, and plan with her
- **C.** Encourage Elena to make the call, since tenants have housing rights regardless of status
- **D.** Ask Elena which household members lack legal status so the worker can judge the risk

91. Dr. Feld refers Mr. Castellano, 76, to a primary care social worker for "depression." Mr. Castellano says, "I'm not depressed. I just haven't had anyone to talk to since I gave up driving." His PHQ-9 score at the physician's office was 8. Which response is BEST at this point?

- **A.** Explain that a PHQ-9 score of 8 indicates depression that should be treated
- **B.** Tell him the referral will be closed, since he does not see a problem
- **C.** Explore the isolation he describes and how giving up driving changed his days
- **D.** Ask Dr. Feld to clarify what symptoms led to the referral before going further

92. In a shelter after a tornado, a man in his 60s sits rocking, staring ahead, and does not respond when a volunteer asks his name. Staff say he has been this way for about 20 minutes and has no visible injuries. Which action is BEST?

- **A.** Stay with him, speak calmly, and gently orient him to his surroundings
- **B.** Request an emergency psychiatric evaluation to rule out a psychotic disorder
- **C.** Let him rest alone and check on him again in an hour
- **D.** Ask him to describe what he saw during the tornado

93. Which question is the MOST open-ended?

- **A.** Did the argument with your sister happen before or after the move?
- **B.** Are you sleeping better since we last met?
- **C.** How many drinks did you have at the party?
- **D.** What was that weekend like for you?

94. A social worker opens a practice on a small island where she also lives. To prepare for running into clients in town, what should she do FIRST with each new client?

- **A.** Ask clients to avoid the stores, churches, and events where she is most likely to be
- **B.** Agree at intake on how to handle public encounters, letting the client lead
- **C.** Wait until an encounter happens and then process it in the next session with the client

95. Which of the following is a covered entity under HIPAA?

- **A.** A life insurance company reviewing an applicant's medical history
- **B.** A solo private practitioner who submits insurance claims electronically
- **C.** An employer that keeps employees' sick-leave notes in its personnel files
- **D.** A solo private practitioner who accepts cash and keeps paper records

96. An assistant principal is deciding whether to suspend Jordan, 15, for fighting. She asks the school social worker, who counsels Jordan weekly, what Jordan has said in sessions about the other student. Jordan has made no threats, and district policy treats counseling information as confidential except for safety concerns. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Ask Jordan's parents for permission to share his statements
- **B.** Share what Jordan said about the fight, since the school is her employer
- **C.** Decline to share session content and explain the policy's limits
- **D.** Offer a general impression of Jordan's attitude without specific details

97. While describing an argument with her sister, Fatima calmly says she "wasn't that upset," but she is clenching her right fist. Which response BEST reflects a Gestalt approach?

- **A.** "It sounds like the argument didn't bother you much."
- **B.** "You may be holding back anger at her, the way you learned to as a child."
- **C.** "What evidence do you have that you weren't upset?"
- **D.** "What is your right hand doing as you talk about her?"

98. Eight months after his last drink, Ollie attends a mutual help meeting weekly, avoids his old bar, and is working on handling stress at his new job without alcohol. Which stage of change is he MOST likely in?

- **A.** Maintenance
- **B.** Action
- **C.** Preparation

99. At a federally assisted outpatient substance use clinic, a patient punches the receptionist in the waiting room and leaves. Staff call the police. Without the patient's consent, what may the program tell the officers?

- **A.** His full treatment record, so officers can understand the behavior that led to the assault
- **B.** The circumstances of the incident and the patient's name, address, and status as a patient
- **C.** Nothing, since Part 2 bars disclosure without consent

100. Farah, 39, has major depressive disorder, now in partial remission with medication and weekly therapy. Her mood and energy have improved, but for the past four months she has had trouble falling asleep at least four nights a week, despite going to bed on time in a quiet room. She now worries about sleep all evening, and the poor sleep is affecting her work. Which statement BEST reflects DSM-5-TR?

- **A.** She can be diagnosed with insomnia disorder alongside her depression
- **B.** Her insomnia is a symptom of depression and should not be diagnosed separately
- **C.** Insomnia disorder requires that she have no other current mental disorder
- **D.** She needs at least six months of symptoms before insomnia disorder applies

101. A school social worker has been seeing Ava, 11, for anxiety. Ava's divorced father, Neil, attends parent meetings and asks the worker to dinner. Ava's sessions are scheduled to end in two weeks, but she will attend the school for three more years and may need services again. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Ask Neil to wait until Ava's sessions end in two weeks
- **B.** Decline and keep the relationship with Neil professional
- **C.** Transfer Ava to another worker so that she is free to accept
- **D.** Accept and tell her supervisor about the relationship

102. Sadia, 20, an engineering student, earns strong grades on homework and labs but freezes on exams in one course. The trouble began after the professor remarked in class that 'women usually struggle in this course.' She has no history of anxiety in other classes. Which intervention is BEST?

- **A.** Help her link the freezing to the professor's remark and practice exam-day coping strategies
- **B.** Treat the problem as generalized anxiety and begin a standard cognitive behavioral therapy protocol
- **C.** Encourage her to transfer to a section taught by a different professor
- **D.** Explore whether she privately doubts her ability to succeed in engineering

103. A depressed client says, "I'm worthless, nobody really cares about me, and nothing is ever going to get better." In Beck's cognitive model, these three themes together are called the:

- **A.** Intermediate beliefs
- **B.** Cognitive triad
- **C.** Three core musts

104. For several years, Luz, 30, who is Puerto Rican, devoted herself to Puerto Rican activism and cut ties with friends she saw as part of the dominant culture. Now she tells her social worker she is uneasy that some activist friends judge her choices, including her interest in reconnecting with a White friend from college. She wonders whether she can be loyal to her community and still decide things for herself. Which response BEST fits her stage of identity development?

- **A.** Encourage her to reconnect with her college friend as a step toward integration
- **B.** Affirm her commitment to her community and explore the pressure she feels to abandon it
- **C.** Refer her to a support group for Puerto Rican professionals to strengthen her identity
- **D.** Help her examine the pull between group loyalty and her own judgment, without steering

105. Six weeks after his wife died in a car accident, Harold, 70, tells a hospice bereavement counselor he feels worthless and "rotten to the core," has stopped eating, moves and speaks very slowly, cannot concentrate, and has lost interest in everything, including memories of his wife. These symptoms have been present nearly all day, every day, for the past month. He has had no medical change. What is the MOST likely diagnosis?

- **A.** Uncomplicated bereavement
- **B.** Major depressive disorder
- **C.** Prolonged grief disorder
- **D.** Adjustment disorder with depressed mood

106. Mia, 2, witnessed repeated violence against her mother before they moved to a confidential shelter a month ago. Mia now has frequent tantrums, wakes screaming at night, and panics when her mother leaves the room. Her mother is caring but exhausted and unsure how to comfort her. Which treatment is BEST?

- **A.** Trauma-focused CBT with a trauma narrative for Mia
- **B.** Child-parent psychotherapy with Mia and her mother together
- **C.** Nondirective play therapy with Mia alone
- **D.** Parent management training focused on the tantrums

107. A social worker is meeting a new client who has a disability. The worker is unsure whether the client prefers person-first language ("person with a disability") or identity-first language ("disabled person"). What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Ask the client which terms they use for themselves
- **B.** Use person-first language, the standard in most professional writing
- **C.** Use identity-first language, which disability communities generally prefer

108. Destiny, 17, has ADHD and has been called "the problem kid" by teachers for years. She now calls herself "the screwup of the family," although she runs her school's robotics team. She tells the social worker she wants people, including herself, to "see something besides the label." Which approach is BEST?

- **A.** Token economy
- **B.** Brief psychodynamic therapy
- **C.** Narrative therapy
- **D.** Rational emotive behavior therapy

109. The parents of Zoe, 9, who has cerebral palsy, tell a hospital social worker they are struggling financially. Both parents work part-time jobs with low pay and have almost no savings. They ask whether any program provides monthly cash help because of Zoe's disability. Which program BEST fits?

- **A.** Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- **B.** Unemployment insurance
- **C.** Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- **D.** Medicare Part B

110. Ahmed, 24, was recently discharged after his second hospitalization for schizophrenia and lives with his parents and sister. His parents often criticize him for "being lazy" and argue with him about his medication. Which intervention has the strongest evidence for reducing his risk of relapse?

- **A.** Individual insight-oriented therapy to explore his feelings about his family
- **B.** Encouraging Ahmed to move into a group home to reduce conflict with his parents
- **C.** A parent support group focused on the parents' own grief about his diagnosis
- **D.** Family psychoeducation with communication and problem-solving skills

111. Mrs. Okonkwo, 79, comes to a senior center for an assessment with her nephew, who manages her care. Staff have noticed she seems frightened when he raises his voice and that she has lost weight. As the social worker begins, the nephew says he will stay because 'she gets confused and I can explain things.' She has no cognitive diagnosis. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Begin with the nephew present and ask him to step out if she starts to seem uneasy
- **B.** Ask Mrs. Okonkwo in front of her nephew whether she wants him to stay
- **C.** Explain that part of each assessment is private and meet with Mrs. Okonkwo alone
- **D.** Let the nephew stay, since he can give useful history about her care

112. An internal audit at an outpatient clinic finds that 30 percent of treatment plans lack client signatures, which the state funding contract requires. What is the BEST response by the clinic director?

- **A.** Have clinicians obtain the missing signatures and date them to match the plan dates
- **B.** Find the cause of the missed signatures and set a corrective plan with re-audit
- **C.** Issue written warnings to the clinicians whose plans lacked signatures

113. Last week a social worker suggested to Omar, 33, that his anger at his brother might be 'partly about feeling left out.' Omar went quiet. Today he agrees with everything the worker says, gives brief answers, and has not mentioned his brother. He was talkative and willing to disagree in earlier sessions. Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Review the treatment goals with Omar to refocus the session
- **B.** Wait another session or two to see whether the pattern continues before raising it with him
- **C.** Name the change gently and ask whether something from last session didn't sit right
- **D.** Continue with today's plan, since Omar is agreeing with the goals

114. Each time a social worker asks Mrs. Petrov a question about her son, her own mother answers instead. The social worker says, "Grandma, I'd like to hear Anya's answer first," and asks Anya to move her chair next to her husband's. Which structural technique is the social worker using?

- **A.** Joining
- **B.** Positive connotation
- **C.** Prescribing the symptom
- **D.** Boundary making

115. Over 18 months of licensure supervision, Gwen has documented repeated concerns about her supervisee's boundary judgment, including two remediation plans he did not complete. He now asks her to sign the board form stating that he is competent for independent clinical practice. What should Gwen do?

- **A.** Decline to attest to his competence and give him a written account of the unmet competencies
- **B.** Sign the form, since he has completed the required number of supervised hours
- **C.** Sign the form and add a note encouraging him to seek further training on boundaries
- **D.** Offer to keep supervising him informally after licensure so she can monitor his boundaries

116. Near the end of a 50-minute intake, Rosalind, 44, has talked about her mother's dementia, conflict with her brother about care, missed work, and her own poor sleep. The social worker wants to check understanding and set up the next session. Which response BEST does this?

- **A.** "Today you've described caring for your mother, the strain with your brother, and the toll on your work and sleep. Did I miss anything?"
- **B.** "It sounds like you are carrying a lot of guilt about your mother."
- **C.** "Which of these problems would you say is the most important one?"
- **D.** "Let's spend next time focusing on your sleep, since that affects everything else."

117. Mrs. Lindgren, 86, has moderate Alzheimer's disease and lives on a memory care unit. Staff tell the facility social worker that since yesterday afternoon she has been much more confused than usual, dozing off mid-sentence, then pulling at her clothes and shouting, and she cannot focus long enough to eat. Her daughter says, "This is just the disease getting worse." What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Update her care plan to reflect a more advanced stage of dementia
- **B.** Meet with the daughter to talk about her grief over her mother's decline
- **C.** Recommend a behavioral plan to reduce her agitation during meals
- **D.** Ask nursing staff to arrange an urgent medical evaluation

118. A client is referred to a social worker through her employer's assistance program, which covers six sessions. The client's concerns may take longer to address. When should the social worker tell her about the six-session limit?

- **A.** At the final covered session, when planning for termination begins
- **B.** At the fourth or fifth session, once it is clear whether more sessions are needed
- **C.** At the first session, along with her options for continuing care afterward

119. Mason, 13, tells the school social worker he thinks he has a crush on a boy in his class and asks, 'Is something wrong with me?' He has had crushes on girls before. He asks the worker not to tell his parents and reports no safety concerns. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Explain that his parents should know about this so they can support him through it
- **B.** Normalize his questions and let him explore his feelings at his own pace
- **C.** Reassure him that same-sex crushes in early adolescence are usually a passing phase
- **D.** Encourage him to choose a label for his orientation so that he feels more settled

120. In Bowlby's attachment theory, what is the term for the mental representations of self and others, built from early caregiving experiences, that shape later expectations about relationships?

- **A.** Internal working models
- **B.** Safe haven
- **C.** Secure base

121. A social worker at a community clinic learns that a client she saw for a year died by suicide over the weekend. She feels shock and guilt. Her supervisor has offered support, and the clinic has a postvention protocol. She has six clients scheduled tomorrow, including one in acute crisis. What is the BEST next step?

- **A.** Contact the client's family today to offer condolences and answer questions
- **B.** Keep her full schedule tomorrow to maintain normal routines for her clients
- **C.** Cancel all sessions for the week and start personal therapy before returning
- **D.** Meet with her supervisor to decide which sessions to reschedule or cover, including crisis coverage

122. An oncologist who is running late asks the hospital social worker to tell Mr. Baptiste, 59, that his biopsy confirmed pancreatic cancer and to explain his treatment options. The social worker has a good relationship with Mr. Baptiste and has met his wife. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Share the diagnosis but leave the treatment options for the physician
- **B.** Share the diagnosis and treatment options, since she knows the patient well
- **C.** Explain that the physician needs to give the diagnosis and offer to be present for support