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# LMSW

## ASWB Masters Practice Exam

## Exam 1

Unseen exam: not in the online simulator

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

Values and Ethics 35% • Assessment and Planning 33% • 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 Masters 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 the SEARCH rung and distractor family (Chapter 2 of the book).

# LMSW Practice Exam 1

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.** In a parenting class, Mrs. Ndiaye says she lets her children help write the household rules and listens to their objections, but she makes the final decision. She explains why each rule matters, enforces consequences when rules are broken, and spends time each evening talking and laughing with them. In Baumrind's framework, which parenting style BEST fits her description?

- **A.** Authoritarian
- **B.** Permissive
- **C.** Authoritative
- **D.** Uninvolved

**2.** A refugee resettlement social worker is starting a cultural assessment with Hawa Diallo, 34, who speaks Pular and some French. Hawa's 12-year-old son speaks fluent English and offers to interpret, and Hawa says she would prefer him. A trained Pular interpreter is available by phone, and a French-speaking caseworker is in the office. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Use the trained Pular interpreter from the agency's phone service
- **B.** Have the agency's French-speaking caseworker interpret for them
- **C.** Let her son interpret, honoring Hawa's stated wish to have him

**3.** A school social worker runs a weekly friendship group for kindergartners. As the group begins, Benji, 5, runs across the room, hugs her around the waist, then lets go. His mother has mentioned that he gets anxious at transitions. School policy permits brief, appropriate touch with young children. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Let Benji hold her hand for the rest of the session to ease his anxiety
- **B.** Step back and teach Benji to greet her with a high-five from now on
- **C.** Return a brief side hug and guide Benji over to the group activity

**4.** A mobile crisis team responds to Kenji, 27, who has slept little for three days since his father's death and is very distressed and having trouble organizing simple tasks. He has no psychotic symptoms, denies thoughts of harming himself or anyone else and agrees he needs help. No friend or relative is available to stay with him tonight. A nearby crisis stabilization unit has an open bed. What is the MOST appropriate plan?

- **A.** Arrange for a friend to stay with him tonight and a clinic visit tomorrow
- **B.** Arrange a voluntary admission to the local hospital's psychiatric unit
- **C.** Offer Kenji a short voluntary stay at the crisis stabilization unit

**5.** Mrs. Joseph, 50, a Haitian immigrant, tells an LMSW at a community health center that she has been "thinking too much" since her son was deported. She explains that people in her community use the phrase for many kinds of suffering, from grief to money worries, and that it does not refer to one specific illness. In DSM-5-TR terms, her phrase is BEST classified as a cultural

- **A.** explanation or perceived cause
- **B.** idiom of distress
- **C.** syndrome

**6.** A refugee resettlement agency is designing an after-school program for newly arrived 12-year-olds learning English. Which design MOST directly applies Vygotsky's theory of learning?

- **A.** Awarding points for English use that students can trade for outings
- **B.** Letting each student choose self-paced projects to explore English alone
- **C.** Matching students with mentors from their culture for weekly outings
- **D.** Pairing students with slightly more fluent peers on shared tasks

**7.** Carlos Mendoza is an ongoing case manager at a public child welfare agency. During a monthly visit, a 9-year-old in a licensed foster home tells him that the foster mother locks her in a closet when she misbehaves. Carlos knows the foster mother well and finds the claim surprising. What should Carlos do?

- **A.** Ask the foster mother privately about the closet before taking further steps
- **B.** Tell his supervisor and the licensing worker at the next team meeting
- **C.** Report the allegation through the agency's abuse hotline or intake process
- **D.** Ask to see the closet and talk with the other children in the home today

**8.** A food bank's donations and volunteer hours have stayed steady for a year, yet the number of households receiving food each week has dropped by one third. The program director asks a social work administrator to use a systems framework to find the problem. Where should the administrator look FIRST?

- **A.** The throughput, meaning how the food is sorted and distributed
- **B.** The inputs, meaning donations, volunteers, and funding
- **C.** The boundary, meaning which households the agency serves
- **D.** The outputs, meaning the number of households receiving food

**9.** Luis, 15, has no prior legal involvement. He was arrested with three friends for spray-painting a school building late at night. His parents tell the social worker they cannot understand it, because Luis is cautious and follows rules when he is on his own. Which explanation is MOST consistent with research on adolescent development?

- **A.** An emerging conduct disorder that is now showing through his peer choices
- **B.** Heightened reward sensitivity and risk-taking when teens are with peers
- **C.** Preconventional moral reasoning focused mainly on avoiding punishment
- **D.** A personal fable in which he believes consequences will not apply to him

**10.** Lena Fischer, an LMSW, provides therapy at a group practice. The practice manager tells her to submit claims listing her clinical supervisor, an LCSW, as the rendering provider, because the client's insurer does not credential LMSWs and does not permit supervised billing. The supervisor has never met these clients. What should Lena do?

- **A.** Report the practice to the insurer before raising any concern within the practice
- **B.** Decline to submit the claims and raise the misidentified provider with the manager
- **C.** Submit the claims but note in her clinical records that she provided the service
- **D.** Ask her supervisor to meet each client once so that the claims can list the supervisor

**11.** A crisis line volunteer is speaking with Desmond, 52, who called about his brother Earl, 58. Desmond says Earl attempted suicide two years ago, was recently diagnosed with chronic back pain, and this week gave his fishing gear and his truck to his nephews 'because he won't need them.' The volunteer has a few minutes to decide what to ask Desmond about first. Which detail MOST signals near-term danger that calls for direct questions about Earl's current plans?

- **A.** Earl's suicide attempt two years ago
- **B.** Earl's new diagnosis of chronic pain
- **C.** Earl giving away his gear and truck

**12.** A social worker at a family service agency has about two minutes left in a session. She says, "Today we've talked about your worries about money, the plan to call the utility company, and what you'll try with your son at bedtime." The client nods and gathers her things. What is the PRIMARY purpose of this summary?

- **A.** To link today's work back to the goals set in the last session
- **B.** To redirect a client who has drifted away from the agreed agenda
- **C.** To pull together the main themes and confirm agreed next steps
- **D.** To collect the client's own statements in favor of change

**13.** A hospital social work department records each patient's age only as under 18, 18 to 64, or 65 and older, instead of recording exact age in years. The director now asks for the average age of last year's patients for a funding report. Which statement about these data is accurate?

- **A.** The mean age can be estimated from category midpoints, since age has a true zero
- **B.** The mean age can be computed directly, since the categories are ranked by age
- **C.** The modal category can be reported, but the categories do not support a median
- **D.** The median category can be reported, but the mean age cannot be computed

**14.** A new front desk worker at a substance use treatment program asks Neha Joshi, a social worker, why one of the clients on the schedule comes in so often. The front desk worker handles scheduling and collects copays but is not involved in treatment. What should Neha do?

- **A.** Tell her that front desk roles receive only scheduling and payment information
- **B.** Share that the client is in an intensive program, without clinical detail
- **C.** Share the client's level of care so that she can schedule visits correctly
- **D.** Ask the privacy officer to arrange HIPAA training for the new employee

**15.** A community agency's marketing coordinator asks an LMSW to provide a client success story for the agency's social media page, with names and dates removed. The LMSW's supervisor has approved the request. The client she has in mind, a young father who regained custody of his children, has not been asked about it. What should the LMSW do?

- **A.** Provide the story with names and dates removed, as the coordinator asked
- **B.** Decline to share it, since the client has not consented to its use
- **C.** Provide the story, since her supervisor has approved its use online

**16.** At a community agency, a social worker and Hector Ruiz, 46, who faces eviction, have already divided his housing crisis into five smaller tasks. In today's session they decide which of the five tasks to do first, given his court date next week, and which can wait until later. Which step are they carrying out?

- **A.** Partializing
- **B.** Prioritizing
- **C.** Universalizing
- **D.** Contracting

**17.** Rafael Mendes, 35, came voluntarily to a crisis stabilization unit after threatening to hurt his former business partner, whom he named. He now denies any intent and refuses to let staff speak with his roommate, who drove him there and is in the waiting room. The supervising psychiatrist will not be available for an hour. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Ask the roommate what he has seen and heard, revealing nothing he does not already know
- **B.** Respect Rafael's refusal and base the risk assessment on his own report and history
- **C.** Notify the former business partner of the threat before gathering more information

**18.** In a session at an outpatient clinic, Dana arrived on time, gave one- or two-word answers, checked her phone often, and said she did not want to talk about her son. The LMSW's supervisor asks her to replace the draft note "Client was resistant today" with an objective entry. Which entry should the LMSW write?

**A.** Client arrived late, gave brief answers, and declined to discuss her son.
**B.** Client gave brief answers and seemed guarded and tense whenever her son was raised.
**C.** Client gave brief answers, checked her phone often, and declined to discuss her son.
**D.** Client arrived on time, answered briefly, and stated she did not wish to work on her goals.

**19.** Leah is the health care agent for her father, who has had a severe stroke and now lacks capacity. The medical team recommends a feeding tube. Leah tells the hospital social worker that her father often said he would never want to live on machines and would rather be kept comfortable. She asks, "How am I supposed to decide this?" Which guidance is MOST accurate?

**A.** Decide as he would decide, based on his known wishes and values
**B.** Decide what seems best for him by weighing benefits and burdens
**C.** Decide on the course the medical team recommends for his condition

**20.** An LMSW at a hospice in a town of about 4,000 people wants to write on her personal blog about a moving conversation with a patient who died last month. She plans to leave out the patient's name and change his age and occupation. Her blog lists where she works. What should she do?

**A.** Post the story with his name removed and identifying details changed
**B.** Not post the story, since it could still identify the patient or family
**C.** Post the story after a few more months, once the family has grieved

**21.** Mr. Osei, 62, lost his wife 18 months ago. He talks openly about her death, has cried a great deal, and accepts that she is gone. However, he keeps her side of every household routine untouched, declines all invitations, and says he "can't imagine a life without her in it." Using Worden's model, what is the BEST way for the LMSW to proceed?

**A.** Work through the tasks in order, starting again with accepting the reality of the loss
**B.** Identify the task where he seems stuck, adjusting to a world without her, and focus there
**C.** Explain that mourning usually ends within a year, so their work together can taper soon

**22.** During a classroom check-in, a school social worker notices that Leo, 7, has several oval bruises on his upper arms and back. When asked, he looks down and says he 'fell.' His teacher says he has seemed jumpy lately. The social worker is not certain that Leo is being abused. What should the social worker do?

**A.** Report the concern to child protective services based on what is already known
**B.** Ask the school nurse to examine and document the bruises before deciding to report
**C.** Meet with Leo privately and ask open-ended questions about how he got hurt
**D.** Contact Leo's parents to share the concern and hear their explanation

**23.** Tomás, 24, has a mild intellectual disability and lives with his parents. He is meeting with a social worker at a disability services agency to plan for more independence. At the start he said he wanted his mother in the room, and she has already shared her concerns with the intake worker. During the meeting she answers each question directed to Tomás. What should the social worker do?

**A.** Ask Tomás whether he would prefer to meet without his mother present
**B.** Schedule time with his mother to hear her concerns separately
**C.** Ask his mother to let Tomás answer the questions put to him himself

**24.** Camila Fuentes, an LMSW in a supervised group practice, writes personal notes analyzing her clients' session content to help her prepare and to bring to supervision. She wants these notes to keep the extra protection HIPAA gives psychotherapy notes. What should she do?

- **A.** Keep them physically and electronically separate from each client's record
- **B.** Include each client's diagnosis and treatment plan so supervision has context
- **C.** Write them in the progress note section and limit who can view that section

**25.** Ifeoma Nwosu, 44, a real estate agent, sees an LMSW in a group practice for work stress. When she learns the worker is buying her first home, she offers to represent her at a reduced commission. Several other agents work in the area. The worker likes the idea of helping a client's business. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Decline the offer and use a different agent for the home purchase
- **B.** Accept if her supervisor reviews and approves the arrangement in writing
- **C.** Accept but pay the full commission so that no special benefit is involved
- **D.** Discuss in session whether Ifeoma is comfortable with the arrangement

**26.** At her first session in a group practice, Ms. Kowalski, 45, says to the LMSW, "I was relieved to get in with a psychologist so quickly." The practice employs psychologists and social workers, and the LMSW sees clients under clinical supervision. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Mention that the practice employs both psychologists and clinical social workers
- **B.** Clarify her credentials later if Ms. Kowalski raises the topic again
- **C.** Say she is a licensed therapist who works under clinical supervision
- **D.** Tell her she is a licensed master's social worker and describe her role

**27.** Two weeks after a hurricane damaged her home, Mrs. Dubois, 70, tells a disaster response social worker that she sleeps poorly and feels jumpy when the wind rises. She has no intrusive memories or dissociation. She has returned to her church, is helping neighbors clean up, and is staying with her niece. What is the MOST accurate assessment?

- **A.** Her poor sleep and jumpiness warrant screening for acute stress disorder
- **B.** Her reactions are expected early stress responses, and she is coping well
- **C.** Her age and the damage to her home place her at high risk for PTSD

**28.** The parents of Sam, 23, who has schizophrenia, call his community mental health case manager. Sam has stopped his medication and spends most days in his room. He has never been hospitalized, is eating and bathing, has made no threats and denies thoughts of harming himself. They ask the case manager to have him committed. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Help the parents contact the mobile crisis team to evaluate Sam at home today
- **B.** Explain why stopping medication alone rarely meets criteria and discuss other supports
- **C.** Help the parents file a petition for an emergency psychiatric evaluation
- **D.** Refer the parents to a family support group for relatives of people with mental illness

**29.** A community agency plans to move all intake to an online portal next month. A social worker notes that many of the agency's older clients and recent immigrant families have limited internet access and English literacy. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Offer clients printed, translated instructions for using the new portal
- **B.** Ask the agency to delay the change until a client survey is completed
- **C.** Raise the access barriers and ask the agency to keep phone and in-person intake
- **D.** Help the agency seek grant funds to give older clients internet-ready devices

**30.** A health plan reviewer tells a social worker in a group practice that it will not process claims for her client, Rosa Delgado, 44, unless it receives the worker's separately kept psychotherapy notes. Rosa has not signed any authorization for those notes. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Decline to send the notes and offer the record information needed for payment
- **B.** Stop billing the plan and ask Rosa to pay privately for the rest of her services
- **C.** Send the notes, because disclosures for payment are allowed without authorization
- **D.** Ask Rosa to sign an authorization so the plan can receive the notes it requested

**31.** In a family session at an outpatient clinic, Dr. Haddad, 55, responds to his tearful teenage daughter's complaints by calmly citing research on adolescent stress and listing recommendations from articles he has read. In Satir's model, he is MOST likely using which stance?

- **A.** blaming
- **B.** super-reasonable
- **C.** congruent
- **D.** irrelevant

**32.** After a court hearing in which a judge sharply criticized his testimony, Lucas, an LMSW in child welfare, comes to supervision shaken and doubting his competence. His reports are complete, and his testimony followed agency procedure. His supervisor spends the meeting helping him manage his distress and restore his confidence. Which function of supervision, as described by Kadushin and Harkness, is the supervisor MAINLY performing?

- **A.** Administrative
- **B.** Supportive
- **C.** Educational
- **D.** Consultative

**33.** Mei, 23, who lives with schizophrenia and receives services from an assertive community treatment team, tells her social worker she wants to become a veterinary technician. She has fostered rescue cats for two years and asks the worker to help her find out what training programs require. In a team meeting, the psychiatrist calls the goal unrealistic. Consistent with the strengths perspective, what should the social worker do?

- **A.** Suggest she begin with a nearer goal, such as volunteering at a clinic
- **B.** Help her look up program requirements and plan her first steps
- **C.** Ask her what draws her to veterinary work before planning anything

**34.** Anika, 30, has had two major depressive episodes. She tells a social worker at a counseling agency that she has also had several five-day periods when she needed little sleep, felt unusually productive and talkative, and started many projects. Her friends noticed the change, but she kept working, and she has never been hospitalized or had psychotic symptoms. Which diagnosis is MOST likely?

- **A.** Bipolar I disorder
- **B.** Persistent depressive disorder
- **C.** Bipolar II disorder
- **D.** Major depressive disorder, recurrent

**35.** Lorraine, an LMSW in a supervised clinical role, hears her client say he plans to hurt his brother-in-law 'after the court date next month,' naming the man and describing how. Agency policy requires that duty-to-protect decisions be made with the clinical supervisor. The client is calm and leaves the session without incident. What should Lorraine do?

**A.** Consult her supervisor today to decide on protective steps under state law
**B.** Notify the brother-in-law and the police herself before the end of the day
**C.** Assess the threat further with the client at next week's scheduled session

**36.** A hospice social worker meets with 6-year-old Mateo, whose older sister is dying of leukemia. Mateo whispers that he once yelled "I wish you'd go away" at her, and now she is going away forever. Then he asks directly, "Did I make her sick?" His parents have asked the worker to help. What is the BEST way for the social worker to respond to Mateo NOW?

**A.** Invite him to draw or play out his feelings about his sister's illness
**B.** Reassure him that his sister knows he loves her, even when he is angry
**C.** Ask the oncology nurse to explain his sister's illness to him with his parents
**D.** Tell him plainly that angry words and wishes do not make people sick

**37.** Malik, 7, has arrived at school hungry most mornings for three weeks, wearing the same clothes, and has missed several days. He tells the school LMSW, "Mom sleeps all day and I make my own food." He has no injuries and has not described any abuse. His teacher suggests waiting until there is clearer proof. What should the social worker do?

**A.** Report to child protective services, since the signs give reasonable suspicion
**B.** Watch Malik closely over the next week to gather evidence before deciding
**C.** Call his mother to ask about the home before deciding whether to report

**38.** Three weeks ago, a social worker and Victor Lindgren, 52, made a verbal service contract, which the worker recorded in the case file. Agency policy permits verbal contracts. Victor now says he never agreed to gather his pay stubs, one of his listed tasks. He still wants help applying for benefits. What should the social worker do?

**A.** Show him the recorded terms and ask him to finish the task as agreed
**B.** Review the recorded terms with him and renegotiate the disputed task
**C.** Replace the verbal agreement with a written contract he signs today

**39.** Nadia Brooks, an LMSW at a disability advocacy organization, is preparing testimony for a county board hearing on a proposed 30 percent cut to the paratransit service that many of the organization's members rely on. Which evidence would BEST support a person-in-environment argument?

**A.** Cost comparisons showing the county's service is efficient
**B.** Riders' accounts of how the service links them to work and care
**C.** Survey results on riders' satisfaction with service quality

**40.** Carlos, 52, attends a family support group after his 19-year-old daughter, Elena, developed psychosis last year. He says, 'She's right here in the house, but she isn't the daughter I knew. I don't even know what I'm grieving.' His relatives and coworkers have been supportive and openly acknowledge how hard this is. Which concept BEST describes Carlos's experience?

**A.** Ambiguous loss
**B.** Prolonged grief disorder
**C.** Anticipatory grief
**D.** Disenfranchised grief

**41.** Marisol Ortega, 34, is seen at a community mental health center. She says, "I stayed up until 3 a.m. finishing all the plans for my sister's wedding, and nobody in my family even said thank you." She does not mention any concern about the wedding itself. Which response accurately reflects her feeling?

- **A.** You sound worried that the wedding plans might not come together in time.
- **B.** You stayed up until 3 a.m., finished every plan, and no one thanked you.
- **C.** You sound hurt that the work you put in went unnoticed by your family.
- **D.** It sounds like you're wondering why the planning always falls to you.

**42.** During a home health visit in a state where social workers are mandated reporters of elder abuse, Tanya, 50, tells the social worker that caring for her mother, 82, is overwhelming. She adds, "Sometimes I yell at her and shake her arm hard when she won't take her pills." Her mother is in the next room. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Connect Tanya with respite and caregiver support to reduce the strain behind this
- **B.** Interview her mother privately to find out whether she feels safe in the home
- **C.** Make a report to adult protective services about what Tanya has disclosed

**43.** Mr. Ruiz, 44, gained a lot of weight on olanzapine, so his psychiatrist switched him to haloperidol, a first-generation antipsychotic. His case manager wants to know what to watch for after the switch. Which side effect is MORE likely with his new medication than with his old one?

- **A.** Muscle stiffness, tremor and restlessness
- **B.** Rapid weight gain and rising blood sugar
- **C.** Low white blood cell counts needing blood tests
- **D.** A narrow therapeutic range needing level checks

**44.** At a rural behavioral health clinic on the town's main street, several clients tell the social worker they worry that neighbors will recognize their trucks in the parking lot. Two have stopped coming. What is the BEST action for the social worker to propose to the clinic team?

- **A.** Remind clients that staff never disclose who receives services here
- **B.** Offer telehealth, home visits, or off-hours appointment times
- **C.** Launch a community campaign to reduce stigma about mental health care

**45.** Gondolf and Fisher's survivor theory challenged the learned helplessness explanation of why women stay in abusive relationships. What did their research on women in shelters find?

- **A.** Survivors mostly sought help from family and friends, not agencies
- **B.** Survivors sought more help as abuse worsened but met poor responses
- **C.** Survivors' help-seeking dropped after shelter stays because of shame

**46.** Jonah, 16, tells his school social worker he desperately wanted to skip his Saturday shift to see a concert with friends. He also felt guilty, saying a good person does not let coworkers down. After thinking it through, he traded shifts with a coworker so he could attend the band's show next month instead, keeping both his job and his plans. In Freud's structural model, which part of Jonah's personality produced this solution?

- **A.** The ego
- **B.** The superego
- **C.** The id

**47.** Ana supervises Jordan, an LMSW hired in January. She has given feedback on concerns as they arose and has kept dated notes from observing his sessions. At midyear, Jordan says he does not know what standards the year-end evaluation will use and worries he is being judged against expectations no one has told him. Which practice would BEST address this concern?

- **A.** Continue giving feedback on concerns as they arise during the year
- **B.** Base the year-end ratings on her documented observations of practice
- **C.** Review the written evaluation criteria with Jordan at this meeting
- **D.** Invite Jordan to complete a self-evaluation before the year-end review

**48.** Two social workers co-lead an adolescent anger management group. During a session they openly disagree in front of members about how to respond to a member who keeps interrupting. What should the co-leaders do?

- **A.** Ask their supervisor to observe the next session and give feedback to both
- **B.** Meet before the next session to agree on a shared approach to the interruptions
- **C.** Take turns handling the interruptions so members can see both approaches

**49.** Ana Sofia Reyes, a refugee resettlement caseworker, learns from a client that a local landlord is renting overcrowded units to newly arrived families. That evening, a friend who is looking for an apartment asks Ana Sofia for advice about landlords in the area. What should Ana Sofia do?

- **A.** Give only general housing advice without using anything learned from the client
- **B.** Share what she learned but leave out the client's name and family details
- **C.** Warn her friend about the landlord, since the information protects the public

**50.** Teresa's main concern about her supervisee this year is that he does not complete the agency's required suicide risk screening at intake. She has observed six of his intakes. Which statement BEST documents this concern in his written performance evaluation?

- **A.** He needs to be more thorough when screening new clients for suicide risk
- **B.** In four of six observed intakes, he did not complete the housing section
- **C.** He reports feeling uncomfortable asking new clients about suicide
- **D.** In four of six observed intakes, he did not ask about suicidal thoughts

**51.** Carlos, 9, was placed in foster care after repeated physical abuse by his father. His foster mother tells the LMSW that he has begun yelling at younger children in the home, using the same threats and phrases his father used with him, such as "You'll get the belt." He is otherwise anxious and watchful. Which defense mechanism BEST explains this behavior?

- **A.** Turning against the self
- **B.** Identification with the aggressor
- **C.** Displacement

**52.** Yaw Boateng, a social worker at a community mental health center, is collecting interview data for an agency study in which some of his own clients take part. Halfway through, his client Tanisha Reed, 34, says she wants to drop out of the study. What should Yaw do?

- **A.** Ask her reasons for withdrawing so the study can address her concerns
- **B.** Offer to shorten the remaining interview so it is less of a burden
- **C.** Suggest she take a week to think it over before formally withdrawing
- **D.** Honor her decision now and assure her services will not change

**53.** A social worker using structural family therapy begins work with the Mukamana family, who arrived through a refugee resettlement agency six months ago. The father is formal, expects to be addressed first, and answers for the family. The worker has not yet joined with the family. Before attempting any restructuring, what should the social worker do?

- **A.** Begin an enactment to see how the family solves a current problem
- **B.** Address the father first and follow the family's order of speaking
- **C.** Invite each member to speak in turn so the hierarchy can be assessed

**54.** Yusuf Haddad, 66, dies in the hospital. During his stay he told staff he wanted his sister, Leila, his main caregiver, kept informed. After his death, Leila asks the social worker about his last days. She is not the executor. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Ask Leila for documents showing she is executor before discussing his care
- **B.** Share information about his last days that relates to her role in his care
- **C.** Give her a copy of his full record, since he asked that she be kept informed
- **D.** Refer her to the medical records office to submit a written request

**55.** Abena Owusu, 52, attends a memory clinic with her husband, who has early-onset dementia. Tearfully, she tells the social worker that she sometimes feels angry at him and then ashamed of her anger. Which response uses universalization?

- **A.** Your anger may show how much you miss the marriage you used to share.
- **B.** Many spouses caring for a partner with dementia feel anger and guilt.
- **C.** It sounds like you feel angry with him and then ashamed of that anger.

**56.** A social worker chairs a committee of agency staff and community members charged with recommending changes to the agency's intake process within three months. At the second of six meetings, members spend most of the time describing frustrating intake experiences, and no draft has begun. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Acknowledge the frustrations and bring discussion back to drafting the recommendations
- **B.** Give members more time to share their frustrations so each one feels heard
- **C.** Suggest members raise their personal frustrations with their own supervisors

**57.** After completing the CFI with Kalani Akana, 48, who sought help after losing her job, the social worker writes the assessment summary. Which entry BEST reflects the CFI's approach?

- **A.** Client shows limited insight into the psychiatric nature of her current symptoms
- **B.** Client denies depression and attributes her symptoms to spiritual causes instead
- **C.** Client holds a culturally based belief that her depression is spiritual in its origin
- **D.** Client describes the problem as 'my spirit being out of balance' since the job loss

**58.** Denise, a Black woman, was passed over for promotion three times at a manufacturing company. Her employer argues that no discrimination occurred because it has promoted both Black men and White women to supervisor. An LMSW at a legal aid clinic is helping Denise's attorney prepare a statement on how Crenshaw's concept of intersectionality applies. Which argument BEST reflects that concept?

- **A.** Her claim can fall between race and sex categories when each is judged on its own
- **B.** Her claim should be judged as race discrimination, the more severe of the two forms
- **C.** Her claim is strongest when race and sex bias are each proven fully on their own

**59.** During a session at an employee assistance program, Brian, 42, vents about being passed over for a promotion and says, 'I could kill my supervisor for this.' He laughs and goes on talking about the job market. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Notify the supervisor of Brian's statement in keeping with the duty to protect
- **B.** Review the limits of confidentiality with Brian before he says anything more
- **C.** Ask Brian what he meant and whether he has thoughts of harming his supervisor
- **D.** Let the remark pass, since it was said as an expression of ordinary frustration

**60.** Marcus Bell, 52, is referred to a reentry program after 11 years in prison. In the first planning session he says his top concern is reconnecting with his adult daughter. The program has already booked his state ID appointment for next week and filed his benefits application, which is pending. He is staying with a cousin for the next two months and reports no safety concerns. What should the first goal in the service plan address?

- **A.** Securing a steady income through benefits or work
- **B.** Reconnecting with his adult daughter soon
- **C.** Obtaining a state identification card

**61.** In the risk-need-responsivity (RNR) model used in correctional and reentry practice, the responsivity principle means:

- **A.** Responding quickly and consistently to violations of supervision conditions
- **B.** Fitting services to the person's learning style, culture, abilities, and motivation
- **C.** Targeting changeable factors linked to reoffending, such as substance use or peers
- **D.** Matching the intensity of services to the person's assessed likelihood of reoffending

## Section 2 Questions 62-122

**62.** A new LMSW at a community mental health center finds that the agency's older forms include a "no-suicide contract" for clients to sign. Her client, Jordan, 32, reports recent suicidal thoughts without intent or a plan, and he has never attempted suicide. What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Complete a written safety plan with Jordan in his own words
- **B.** Give Jordan the 988 number and schedule a follow-up next week
- **C.** Arrange an urgent psychiatric evaluation for Jordan today

**63.** In the final two sessions of a twelve-week closed support group for caregivers at an aging services agency, several members start missing meetings, and one says the group 'never really helped anyway.' Earlier sessions were close and productive. According to the Boston model, what is the MOST likely explanation?

- **A.** The group never moved past preaffiliation and stayed distant
- **B.** The group has reached differentiation and needs the leader less
- **C.** Members have returned to a power and control struggle with the leader
- **D.** Members are reacting to the ending with withdrawal and devaluing

**64.** Rosa Jimenez, 36, is starting clozapine after two other antipsychotics did not control her symptoms. At a case management visit she says her doctor also mentioned weight and blood sugar, and she asks why she needs blood drawn so often during her first months on the medication. Which explanation is accurate at the level a social worker should know?

- **A.** It can sharply lower the white blood cell count and weaken defense against infection
- **B.** It can raise blood sugar and cholesterol, which need checking every few weeks early on
- **C.** Its level in the blood must stay within a narrow range to avoid toxic side effects

**65.** During an emergency removal of Kaya, 3, after her mother's arrest, the child protective services worker speaks with Kaya's grandmother, who says the family is enrolled members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. No documents are available. What should the worker do as soon as possible?

- **A.** Wait for proof of enrollment before applying any of the requirements of ICWA
- **B.** Ask the mother whether she wants ICWA to apply before taking further steps
- **C.** Transfer the case to tribal court before any further state action is taken
- **D.** Treat the case as covered by ICWA and begin notifying the tribe

**66.** Mateo Ruiz, 16, was referred to the school social worker after being found with a THC vape cartridge. Halfway through their first meeting, he asks, 'Did you ever smoke weed when you were my age?' What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Ask what her answer would mean to him and refocus on his own choices
- **B.** Say that she did not, to model the choice she hopes he will make
- **C.** Say it is a question she can answer once they know each other better
- **D.** Say honestly that she did, to show him that she will not judge him

**67.** Aisha, 29, receives a housing voucher through an agency where her social worker also approves her ongoing eligibility. She has a car and reliable child care and has not used services like these before. She agrees quickly to every referral the worker suggests but rarely follows through, and she looks away when her annual recertification comes up. Which explanation should the worker consider FIRST?

**A.** She may face practical barriers, such as transport, to attending services
**B.** She may be ambivalent about the referrals and not yet ready to act on them
**C.** She may feel unable to decline because the worker approves her eligibility
**D.** She may have had poor experiences with similar services in the past

**68.** A domestic violence shelter wants a detailed understanding of how residents experienced the police response when they sought help, and staff want to ask follow-up questions about each account. Several residents have told staff they worry other residents will learn details of their situations. Which data collection approach is BEST?

**A.** Private individual interviews with clear confidentiality protections
**B.** An anonymous online survey with open-ended questions about the police
**C.** A focus group of residents who volunteer to discuss the police response
**D.** A paper questionnaire returned in a sealed box in the shelter office

**69.** During an assessment interview, a client answers each of the social worker's questions with a long story that drifts further and further from the topic. He speaks at a normal rate and is easy to interrupt, but he never returns to the point of the question. Which entry BEST documents this observation?

**A.** Thought process: circumstantial, with excess detail before reaching the point
**B.** Thought process: tangential, drifting from the question without returning
**C.** Speech: pressured, rapid, and difficult for the worker to interrupt

**70.** Bashir Rahimi, 46, is being discharged from a psychiatric unit. A supportive housing program, which is not a health care provider, asks the social worker to complete its clinical eligibility form with his diagnosis and treatment history. Bashir has said he wants the housing and that the worker can help, but he has signed nothing. What should the social worker do FIRST?

**A.** Have him sign an authorization stating what may be shared with the program.
**B.** Share the eligibility details by phone, since this is discharge coordination.
**C.** Give him the program's form so he can decide what to share on his own.
**D.** Send only the minimum needed to confirm eligibility, such as his diagnosis.

**71.** Marcus Bell, 10, has tantrums at home that his parents describe as "out of control." During assessment, the social worker learns that the tantrums occur almost only on evenings when his parents argue loudly. His teachers report no problems at school or with peers, and his parents set consistent rules. Which intervention approach BEST fits this formulation?

**A.** Individual play therapy to help Marcus express his feelings about home
**B.** Behavioral parent training in consistent consequences for tantrums
**C.** Work with the parents on how their conflict plays out in front of Marcus
**D.** A social skills group to build Marcus's frustration tolerance with peers

**72.** Staff at a community mental health center notice that few clients vote, and many say they do not know how to register. Sophia Rossi, LMSW, is asked to propose a response. Which action BEST fits the Code's standards on public participation and social and political action?

**A.** Share a voter guide comparing candidates' positions on mental health funding
**B.** Refer clients who ask about voting to local party offices for registration help
**C.** Invite a local civic group to the center to explain how elections work
**D.** Offer nonpartisan voter registration help at the center for interested clients

**73.** Rosa, 38, tells a social worker at a community health center that she has decided to stop using opioids and has an appointment to start medication treatment next week. She asks what she should do to get ready. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Explore what led to her decision and what doubts she still has
- **B.** Give her information about the health risks of continued opioid use
- **C.** Schedule a check-in after she starts treatment to review progress
- **D.** Help her plan the steps to start treatment and handle early obstacles

**74.** For twenty years, a state legislature has adjusted its home care program by raising the budget a few percent each year and occasionally tweaking eligibility rules, without reconsidering whether a different approach would work better. Which model of policymaking BEST describes this pattern?

- **A.** Incrementalism
- **B.** Rational-comprehensive model
- **C.** Multiple streams model

**75.** Dmitri, 31, was ordered by a court to attend 12 counseling sessions after an assault charge. The order requires reports only for those 12 sessions. At the twelfth session at a community agency, he tells his LMSW that the work has helped and he wants to keep coming. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Continue services and ask the court whether it wants further reports
- **B.** Offer voluntary services and review how consent and reporting will change
- **C.** Send the court a completion report and close the case as ordered
- **D.** Refer Dmitri to another agency for voluntary counseling going forward

**76.** Kiona, 16, a Diné teen, is seen at a tribal health clinic for depression and has attended four CBT sessions. CBT has strong research support for adolescent depression. Kiona and her grandmother ask that traditional ceremonies be part of her treatment plan, and Kiona says she wants to keep meeting for CBT. The clinic works with traditional healers. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Pause CBT until the ceremonies are complete so the two approaches do not overlap
- **B.** Continue CBT and coordinate with the family and healer to include the ceremonies
- **C.** Refer Kiona to the clinic's traditional healing program and close the CBT episode
- **D.** Continue CBT and suggest that the family hold the ceremonies apart from her plan

**77.** A hospital social work department creates a five-question screen for caregiver strain. For three months, social workers give the screen to 200 caregivers, and the same caregivers also complete a full, well-established caregiver burden assessment that week. Scores on the two measures agree closely. This result is evidence of which property?

- **A.** Criterion validity
- **B.** Content validity
- **C.** Construct validity

**78.** An LMSW at a community mental health agency has accepted a job in another city and will leave in six weeks. She has been seeing Arturo Reyes, 50, for depression for eight months, and he will be transferred to a colleague at the agency who has agreed to take him. What is the BEST way to handle the transition?

- **A.** Tell Arturo soon, talk about his reactions, and arrange a joint session
- **B.** Tell Arturo at the final session and give him the new worker's contact
- **C.** Ask the supervisor to tell Arturo so the agency manages the transfer
- **D.** Offer to keep seeing Arturo by video from her new city after she leaves

**79.** A workforce agency's job-readiness program reports that 60% of participants were employed six months later, and 95% of participants completed the follow-up survey. The board wants stronger evidence that the program itself caused the employment gains. Which change to the evaluation would BEST provide this?

- **A.** Raise the follow-up response rate so results reflect all participants
- **B.** Add a twelve-month follow-up to see whether jobs were kept over time
- **C.** Compare participants with a similar group that did not get the program
- **D.** Repeat the evaluation at sites in cities with different job markets

**80.** Gloria Ramírez, 44, was linked by her case manager to a rapid rehousing program two weeks ago. The program called today to say she did not attend her intake appointment yesterday. Gloria has not contacted the case manager since the referral. What should the case manager do NEXT?

- **A.** Ask the program to set a new intake date and mail her the details.
- **B.** Begin work on the employment goals listed next in her service plan.
- **C.** Note the missed intake and wait for her to contact the program again.
- **D.** Contact her to learn what got in the way and help her reconnect.

**81.** Andre, 3, has been in a pediatric unit for a week while his parents work long shifts and visit briefly. For the first days he screamed and searched for them. Now he lies quietly, refuses toys and barely eats. A nurse says he has "finally settled in." His parents tell the social worker they could rearrange shifts so one of them stays each evening. What should the hospital social worker do?

- **A.** Request a psychiatric consultation to evaluate him for a depressive disorder
- **B.** Arrange daily child life play sessions to draw him back into activity
- **C.** Work with the parents to increase their presence and assign consistent nurses
- **D.** Suggest shorter visits for now so that goodbyes are less upsetting for him

**82.** Maribel Rivera, 58, tells her case manager that her landlord has ignored her requests for heat repairs for three weeks. It is early fall, nights are cool but not freezing, and she has space heaters. She says she wants to handle it herself but feels nervous about pushing too hard. What is the social worker's BEST response?

- **A.** Report the heating violation to the city housing code office for her
- **B.** Call the landlord on her behalf to request a prompt repair
- **C.** Help her prepare what to say and plan next steps if he does not respond

**83.** Ms. Haddad, a single mother with untreated depression, tells a community mental health social worker that she spends most days in bed, rarely knows where her son, 12, goes after school, and seldom talks with him or sets rules. Which parenting style does this pattern MOST closely resemble?

- **A.** Authoritarian
- **B.** Permissive
- **C.** Uninvolved

**84.** Hoa Tran, a child protective services investigator, is finishing a home visit with the Nguyen family during an open investigation. As she prepares to leave, Mrs. Nguyen offers her a container of homemade spring rolls for the Lunar New Year. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Accept a small portion to honor the holiday and note the gift in her case notes
- **B.** Thank her and decline, explaining that her investigative role limits what she can accept
- **C.** Accept the food, since refusing a holiday custom could weaken the family's trust

**85.** Leilani, 20, in a DBT skills group at a community mental health center, reports that she has been skipping meals, sleeping about four hours a night, and using energy drinks and alcohol to 'get through the week.' Her emotions have felt more intense lately. Which DBT skill set BEST addresses this pattern?

- **A.** Mindfulness skills to observe emotions as they arise
- **B.** PLEASE skills to reduce her emotional vulnerability
- **C.** Distress tolerance skills to survive crisis moments

**86.** Tanisha, 29, a single mother receiving a child care subsidy, has been offered a raise of two dollars an hour. She tells her social worker at a community action agency that she is afraid the raise will cost her the subsidy and leave her worse off, but she does not know the exact income limits. What is the social worker's BEST response?

- **A.** Help her estimate how the raise would change her benefits and net income
- **B.** Refer her to the subsidy office to ask how the raise would affect eligibility
- **C.** Explore what career growth and financial independence mean to her family

**87.** Gladys Hoffman, 84, lives alone and is being assessed by an aging services case manager after a hospital stay for pneumonia. Her cognition was screened in the hospital and is intact. She wants to stay in her home and says she would rather not have strangers coming in if it can be avoided. She needs help with shopping and housekeeping. What should the case manager assess NEXT?

- **A.** The help Gladys already gets from neighbors, family, or friends
- **B.** Her eligibility for homemaker services through the aging agency
- **C.** Her cognitive functioning, using a brief screen such as the MoCA

**88.** Nasra, 31, resettled from Somalia two years ago and works at a local hotel. She tells her refugee resettlement case manager that she has had trouble sleeping and wants to talk with a counselor. Her doctor saw her last month, found no medical cause, and suggested counseling. What should the case manager do FIRST?

- **A.** Ask her doctor for a full medical workup to rule out other causes
- **B.** Refer her to the counseling program with the shortest waitlist
- **C.** Ask what she wants in a counselor, such as language or gender
- **D.** Review a list of refugee-serving counseling programs with her

**89.** A social worker at a policy advocacy organization is drafting a brief on maternal health. Data show that Black women with college degrees have higher rates of severe pregnancy complications than White women who did not finish high school, and the gap remains after controlling for insurance, preexisting conditions, and hospital of delivery. Which explanation is MOST consistent with an intersectional analysis?

- **A.** Higher rates of chronic conditions among Black women raise pregnancy risk
- **B.** Gaps in insurance coverage limit Black women's access to prenatal care
- **C.** Residential segregation limits Black women's access to quality hospitals
- **D.** Gendered racism in care, such as dismissal of Black women's symptoms

**90.** A community center studied a peer support program for isolated older adults, comparing 60 participants with 60 adults on a waiting list. Participants' loneliness scores improved more than the comparison group's, $p = .03$. A board member asks what the p-value means. What does this result MOST accurately mean?

- **A.** There is a 3 percent probability that the result was produced by chance alone
- **B.** A difference this large would occur about 3 percent of the time if the program had no effect
- **C.** There is a 97 percent chance that the program would work for a new participant

**91.** Two LMSWs on the same outpatient team at a community behavioral health agency, Abena and Lukas, have begun dating. Neither supervises the other, but Lukas is assigned to review Abena's case records in the agency's quality audits. What should they do?

- **A.** Inform human resources of the relationship and keep current assignments.
- **B.** Have Lukas note the relationship in each audit report on Abena's records.
- **C.** Arrange for another reviewer to take over audits of Abena's records.

**92.** Through house meetings with more than 100 residents, a largely immigrant neighborhood has named many concerns, including rising rents, a dangerous intersection near the elementary school and limited bus service. Residents speak most urgently about the intersection. The new neighborhood group wants to act on all of them. As their community organizer, what should the social worker suggest?

- **A.** Start with the issue that has the most data showing its local impact
- **B.** Start with a specific issue residents feel strongly about and can win
- **C.** Start with rising rents, since they affect the largest number of residents
- **D.** Rank all concerns through a resident survey before choosing an issue

**93.** A social worker in a primary care clinic notices that Mr. Adeyemi, 63, becomes more argumentative each time she suggests ways he could take his medications more regularly. When she asks open questions about his daily routine instead, he talks easily. From a motivational interviewing perspective, what is the MOST likely explanation?

- **A.** He is voicing sustain talk, the side of his ambivalence that favors no change
- **B.** He is in the precontemplation stage and does not yet see a need to change
- **C.** Her repeated suggestions are increasing discord in the working relationship

**94.** Raymond, 47, is required by his employer to attend counseling after a workplace incident. Last week he himself said a stress management class sounded 'probably useful.' Now, each time the social worker proposes an option, including that same class, he immediately says he will not do it. He is not passive or hopeless, and he readily discusses topics he raises himself. This pattern is BEST explained by:

- **A.** psychological reactance to a perceived threat to his freedom of choice
- **B.** ambivalence, in which he holds real reasons both for and against change
- **C.** learned helplessness following repeated experiences of failure
- **D.** a defense against the anxiety of discussing the workplace incident

**95.** At a homeless services drop-in center, Tyrone Mitchell, 58, agrees to a referral to a supported housing program and signs a release allowing the social worker to send information needed for his application. His file includes a detailed account of childhood abuse and past psychiatric hospitalizations. What should the social worker send?

- **A.** The information the housing program needs to decide on his application
- **B.** His psychiatric and abuse history, since the program serves people with these needs
- **C.** His name and contact details, so the program can complete its own intake

**96.** Mr. Ramirez, 55, a veteran, asks his VA case manager for help applying to a supported housing program run by a community nonprofit. The program asks for information about his mental health history. He has not yet signed any authorization for this program. What should the case manager do FIRST?

- **A.** Send a summary limited to the minimum necessary information
- **B.** Have him sign an authorization naming what may be shared
- **C.** Have him sign a general release covering all of his VA records

**97.** Dmitri, 40, came to the United States from Ukraine 12 years ago. He tells a community mental health social worker that he stopped speaking Ukrainian, avoids the local Ukrainian community, and has built his social life entirely around American coworkers and customs because he wanted to be fully American. He feels at home and has no regrets, though his mother is hurt by his choices. Which acculturation strategy does Dmitri's description BEST reflect?

- **A.** Integration
- **B.** Assimilation
- **C.** Marginalization

**98.** In the Abara family, Chidi, 15, regularly sides with his mother against his father, and the mother confides in Chidi about her complaints about the marriage. The father has become distant. From a structural perspective, what is the MOST likely focus of intervention?

- **A.** Strengthening the parents' alliance and the boundary around them
- **B.** Exploring each parent's family of origin to raise differentiation
- **C.** Helping Chidi express his feelings about being caught between them

**99.** LMSW Rafael works at a transitional housing program that evicts residents after a single positive drug test. Several residents have returned to the streets this year. Rafael has read research supporting Housing First approaches, and program leadership has said it is open to evidence about its rules. What is the MOST appropriate way for Rafael to address the eviction policy?

- **A.** Advocate for each resident facing removal at the eviction review
- **B.** Help residents organize to press the program to change the rule
- **C.** Share the research with leadership and propose a pilot program

**100.** Elena Popescu, LMSW, is policy director at a nonprofit that advocates for nursing home residents. A large nursing home chain recently became the nonprofit's biggest donor. A legislator asks Elena to testify about staffing problems, and some of the most troubling data involve that chain. What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Testify on staffing problems using industry-wide data without naming any chain
- **B.** Ask the nonprofit's board whether she should testify, given the new donation
- **C.** Testify accurately, including the chain's data, and disclose the donor tie
- **D.** Refer the legislator to the state ombudsman, who holds the same data

**101.** Mateo, 9, has been referred to the school social worker because his teacher reports he is inattentive and fidgety this year. His parents say he focuses well at home and at soccer, and they mention that they separated last fall. The teacher asks whether Mateo should be evaluated for ADHD. What should the social worker explore FIRST?

- **A.** Whether the problems occur in other settings and when they started
- **B.** Whether his teacher can complete a standardized ADHD rating scale
- **C.** Whether his pediatrician has ruled out vision or hearing problems
- **D.** Whether classroom supports such as preferential seating help him

**102.** Jaden, 16, receives outpatient counseling at a community mental health center. In this state, minors his age may consent to outpatient mental health care, and Jaden signed his own consent. His mother calls his LMSW asking what Jaden talks about in sessions. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Share general progress without details, since she is his parent
- **B.** Invite her to a family session so she can hear from Jaden directly
- **C.** Refer her to the records office to submit a written request for his file
- **D.** Explain that sharing needs Jaden's consent and offer to ask him about it

**103.** A social worker is starting a closed eight-week support group for family caregivers of people living with dementia at a senior center. The center has no required group rules. Several members arrive eager to tell their stories right away. In the first session, what is the BEST way to establish the group's contract?

- **A.** Discuss the group's purpose and agree with members on norms and the schedule
- **B.** Invite members to share their stories now and set norms together in week two
- **C.** Review a standard set of group rules and have members sign before sharing

**104.** Ahmed Farouk, an LMSW in a state whose duty-to-protect law follows Tarasoff, hears a client make a serious threat against his former girlfriend. A colleague says that under Tarasoff all Ahmed must do is warn her. Their supervisor replies that the second Tarasoff decision in 1976 changed the obligation described in the first decision in 1974. How did the second decision change it?

- **A.** It limited the duty to threats made against an identifiable family member
- **B.** It extended the duty from psychiatrists to all licensed mental health workers
- **C.** It replaced the duty to warn with a mandate to report every threat to police
- **D.** It broadened the duty to warn into a duty to take reasonable steps to protect

**105.** Raj, 52, an engineer with tension headaches, has tried relaxation exercises but says they feel "vague" and he cannot tell whether he is doing them right. He asks for a method that will show him, while he practices, whether his muscles are actually relaxing. Which stress management approach BEST fits his request?

- **A.** Guided imagery practice
- **B.** Autogenic training
- **C.** Biofeedback training

**106.** Near the end of a first session at a community health center, a social worker tells Mr. Lindqvist, 62: 'Let me pull together what you've told me today. You want to keep working, your doctor is worried about your blood sugar, and you're not sure insulin is right for you. Did I miss anything?' Which OARS skill is the social worker MAINLY using?

- **A.** A summary of themes
- **B.** An affirmation
- **C.** A double-sided reflection

**107.** Ji-ho Song, 11, tells the school social worker that a physical education teacher grabbed him by the neck and shoved him into a locker, leaving red marks the worker can see. School policy requires informing the principal of any concern about staff. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Inform the principal, who handles complaints involving school staff
- **B.** Report to the agency state law designates, and also inform the principal
- **C.** Report the incident to the district's human resources office for review
- **D.** Inform the principal and Ji-ho's parents, and document the visible marks

**108.** Thomas, 46, drives a school bus. He arrives at his afternoon outpatient session smelling strongly of alcohol, slurring his words, and says he will leave in 20 minutes to drive his route. He refuses to call his supervisor. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Urge him to call in sick and schedule a session to discuss his drinking
- **B.** Explore the stress behind today's drinking before he leaves the session
- **C.** Tell him he cannot drive impaired and that she will alert his employer or police
- **D.** Consult her own supervisor about the limits of confidentiality before taking any action

**109.** A policy advocacy organization posts an online survey about the transportation needs of adults aged 65 and older in its region. The platform allows one response per device. Of the 900 responses, 80% come from people under 65 who use the internet daily. What is the MOST important concern about these results?

**A.** Some respondents may have answered more than once, inflating certain needs
**B.** Nine hundred responses are too few to estimate the needs of the region
**C.** Most respondents fall outside the population the survey is meant to describe

**110.** Nadia cares for her mother, who has moderate dementia. During a hospital admission, Nadia tells the hospital social worker she is exhausted and admits she grabbed her mother's arm hard enough to leave bruises when her mother refused to bathe. In a state where social workers are mandated reporters, what should the social worker do FIRST?

**A.** Arrange respite services to reduce Nadia's caregiving strain
**B.** Report the incident to Adult Protective Services as required
**C.** Teach Nadia ways to calm her mother when she refuses care
**D.** Ask the team to plan a discharge setting other than Nadia's home

**111.** Two years after closing a brief case management case, an LMSW runs into her former client Soo-ah, 46, at the library. Soo-ah invites her to join her monthly book club. During the chat, Soo-ah mentions that she expects to come back to the agency for housing help next year, and the LMSW is the agency's only case manager. What is the BEST response to the invitation?

**A.** Accept, and agree not to discuss Soo-ah's past services at the club
**B.** Decline, since Soo-ah is likely to need her services again soon
**C.** Accept, since the case was brief and closed two years ago

**112.** Keisha, 34, an Air Force veteran, tells an LMSW at a community clinic that she was sexually assaulted by a fellow service member and never reported it. She says she has trouble trusting people and wants help, but she is not sure the VA would help her since she never reported. What should the LMSW do NEXT?

**A.** Tell her that VA provides MST-related care even if the assault was never reported.
**B.** Help her request her service records to document the assault for a VA claim.
**C.** Refer her to a community rape crisis center for confidential counseling.
**D.** Begin trauma processing in this session while she feels ready to talk.

**113.** At a discharge meeting, the physician and nurse manager decide that Mr. Petrov, 70, who uses a wheelchair, will go to a homeless shelter tomorrow. The LMSW learned this morning that the shelter cannot accommodate wheelchairs, but the team has moved on to the next patient. What should the LMSW do FIRST?

**A.** Arrange the placement as directed and record her concerns in the chart.
**B.** Tell the team now that the shelter cannot accommodate his wheelchair.
**C.** Tell Mr. Petrov about the shelter's limits so he can raise them himself.
**D.** Request an ethics committee review of the discharge plan.

**114.** Naledi, 27, uses a wheelchair and has been accepted into a job training program, but the classes are held on a second floor with no elevator. She has missed three sessions. From the ecological perspective developed by Germain and Gitterman, her difficulty is BEST understood as:

**A.** Low self-efficacy about succeeding in a demanding new role
**B.** A poor fit between her needs and her environment's resources
**C.** A coping difficulty with the ongoing demands of her disability
**D.** Role strain from balancing training with other responsibilities

**115.** Carmen, 62, cares for her husband, who has moderate Alzheimer's disease. After a full assessment, the aging services social worker learns she sleeps about four hours a night, has stopped seeing friends, and feels guilty for wanting a break. She says she understands the disease well from his neurologist and that what she misses most is sleep and an afternoon with friends now and then. Her husband is safe and well cared for. What is the BEST intervention?

**A.** Discuss respite options, such as adult day services, and her need for regular time off
**B.** Refer her to a caregiver support group that meets weekly at the senior center
**C.** Refer her for individual counseling to work through her guilt about wanting a break
**D.** Give her information on the stages of Alzheimer's disease to prepare her for changes ahead

**116.** An LMSW is the only social worker in a remote town. Ms. Begay, the teacher of the social worker's 9-year-old daughter, asks to start counseling for grief after her brother's death. The nearest in-person provider is two hours away, but the regional clinic offers counseling by video, and Ms. Begay has reliable internet at home. What should the social worker do FIRST?

**A.** Begin counseling and agree on how they will handle contact at school
**B.** Refer Ms. Begay to the in-person grief counselor two hours away
**C.** Help Ms. Begay arrange video counseling through the regional clinic

**117.** A school-based program limits services to eight to twelve sessions. Each family names up to three problems it wants to work on, agrees on specific tasks to complete between sessions, and begins each meeting by reviewing which tasks were done and what got in the way. The social worker helps plan tasks but leaves problem selection to the family. Which practice model does this program follow?

**A.** Solution-focused brief therapy
**B.** The task-centered model
**C.** Crisis intervention
**D.** Narrative therapy

**118.** Brian, 47, tells an employee assistance social worker that he started betting on sports a year ago with small amounts but now places much larger bets to feel the same excitement. When he tries to cut back, he becomes irritable and restless. His mood and sleep are otherwise normal, and he reports no unusual stress at work or home. Which statement BEST describes his situation?

**A.** A manic episode, since increased risk-taking is a core feature of mania
**B.** An impulse-control disorder, as gambling was classified in DSM-IV
**C.** A coping response to stress that should ease once stress is reduced
**D.** Gambling disorder, which DSM-5-TR groups with addictive disorders

**119.** A school social worker notices that several sixth graders whose parents recently divorced seem sad, worried, and distracted in class. None show severe symptoms or safety concerns, and several have told her they feel like the only ones going through it. Which type of group is MOST appropriate to offer?

**A.** a psychoeducational group that teaches facts about divorce and family change
**B.** a therapy group that works on the emotional effects of the divorce
**C.** a support group where members share experiences and ways of coping

**120.** An outreach worker has met several times with Walter Greene, 58, who has been living outside for two years. Walter agrees to work on getting a state ID but says he will not sign any papers, "not for anybody." The agency does not require written agreements for outreach services. What is the BEST way to contract with him?

**A.** Ask a peer outreach worker he trusts to go over a written agreement with him
**B.** Agree aloud on the goal, each person's tasks, and the next visit, and note it
**C.** Explain how a signed agreement would protect him and ask him to reconsider

**121.** During an in-home assessment, Mr. Delgado, 86, gives answers that do not match the questions and often says 'What?' His daughter tells the social worker that her father 'gets mixed up these days.' What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Check whether he can hear the questions and adjust how they are asked
- **B.** Ask his daughter when the confusion began and how it has changed
- **C.** Give a brief cognitive screen to check him for possible dementia

**122.** A VA social worker is preparing a literature summary on veterans' reintegration after military service. Her team wants only studies that can show how individual veterans' adjustment changes over time. She is reviewing four studies. Which study uses a longitudinal design that meets the team's requirement?

- **A.** Veterans were surveyed at discharge and again one and three years later
- **B.** Veterans of three service eras were each interviewed once in depth
- **C.** A single survey compared veterans discharged 1, 5 and 10 years earlier
- **D.** Veterans' discharge records were coded once for reintegration needs