SUMMIT
STUDY GUIDES

LMSW

ASWB Masters Practice Exam

Exam 4

122 Questions • Two sections of 61

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 4

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.

Section 1 Questions 1-61

1. Patricia Owens, an LMSW at a school-based mental health program, is asked by a close friend to counsel the friend's 15-year-old son, who has been having panic attacks before school. The son attends a different school in the district. The friend says local waitlists are long and she trusts only Patricia. What should Patricia do?

- **A.** See the son through her program and share nothing with her friend
- **B.** Help her friend find another qualified provider for her son
- **C.** Meet with the son informally a few times as a family friend

2. Rosa tells the elementary school social worker that her son Diego, 8, is far behind in reading and she wants him tested for special education. Diego has received extra reading help for four months with little progress, and a teacher told her the school plans to continue the reading interventions for the rest of the year before considering testing. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Ask the teacher to review Diego's progress-monitoring data with Rosa at a meeting soon
- **B.** Request a student support team meeting to strengthen his reading intervention
- **C.** Explain that she can request an evaluation in writing and help her submit the request
- **D.** Encourage her to have Diego tested privately by an outside psychologist

3. At a team meeting in a family preservation program, a colleague says that Ms. Duarte, 27, who was physically abused as a child and is now raising two toddlers, "will almost certainly abuse her own kids, because parents who were abused almost always do." Which response to this belief is MOST accurate?

- **A.** About half do, so the history alone strongly predicts abuse
- **B.** Abuse history stops predicting risk once income is considered
- **C.** Most do not, though the history modestly raises the risk

4. A social worker at an outpatient clinic is contracting with Owen Fitzgerald, 33, who wants help with social anxiety. His health plan has authorized eight sessions and does not grant extensions for this service. Owen hopes to feel comfortable dating, speaking up at work, and reconnecting with old friends. What is the MOST appropriate way to proceed?

- **A.** Explain the eight-session limit and have Owen choose which goals to address
- **B.** Begin with the work goal, since it is the most likely to fit in eight sessions
- **C.** Set all three goals now and request more sessions if they are needed

5. Valentina Cruz, 7, tells her social worker at a youth mentoring program that she often stays home alone overnight while her mother works night shifts. She says she sometimes gets scared and does not know whom to call. Her mother, who has missed two scheduled meetings with the worker, cannot be reached today. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Develop an emergency plan with Valentina, including whom she can call
- **B.** Report suspected neglect of Valentina to child protective services
- **C.** Schedule a home visit with the mother to assess the childcare arrangement
- **D.** Consult the program supervisor about whether this meets the threshold

6. Ibrahim, 47, has spent weeks researching experimental treatments and calling specialists for his mother, who has terminal cancer. The medical team has explained twice that no further treatment will help, Ibrahim says he understands, and his mother has chosen hospice. He tells the hospice social worker he cannot stop searching and is exhausted. What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Help him organize his search so it takes less of his time and energy
- **B.** Help him see that his searching may be a way of avoiding her prognosis
- **C.** Arrange a family meeting with the medical team to review her prognosis
- **D.** Help him shift toward coping that supports his grief and time with her

7. Luis, 17, consents to his own outpatient counseling under state law. He says he wants his parents not to know. The clinic plans to bill his parents' health insurance plan, which mails benefit statements to the policyholder. What should the LMSW do?

- **A.** Bill the insurance as usual, since Luis consented to his own care
- **B.** Tell Luis that billing may reveal his visits and review options with him
- **C.** Ask the insurer to send statements to the clinic instead of the home
- **D.** Advise Luis to tell his parents before the first statement arrives

8. Tomasz, 41, has completed the four sessions offered by an agency's crisis program after a sudden job loss. The crisis program is limited to four sessions, and the agency's outpatient unit serves longer-term goals. Tomasz is sleeping, job hunting and back to his usual routines. He now says he would like to keep meeting to understand why he "always ends up in the wrong jobs." What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Close the case and invite him to call the crisis program if he needs it again
- **B.** Review his gains and refer him to the outpatient unit for this new goal
- **C.** Add two more crisis sessions so he can begin exploring this career pattern
- **D.** Continue seeing him for this goal, since a strong working alliance exists

9. During a depression support group at a community mental health center, Wanjiru, 40, quietly says, "Sometimes I think everyone would be better off without me." She does not say more. The group has 30 minutes remaining, and a co-leader is present. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Pause the group and call emergency services for an immediate evaluation
- **B.** Note her comment and follow up at her individual appointment tomorrow
- **C.** Acknowledge it and have the co-leader assess her risk privately now
- **D.** Ask her gently in front of the group whether she is thinking of suicide

10. Hawa Diallo, 28, an asylum seeker served by a refugee resettlement agency, asks her LMSW case manager which immigration options she should pursue and whether her case is strong. She has a hearing in four months. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Help her gather documents that support her account of persecution
- **B.** Explain how asylum claims like hers are generally evaluated in court
- **C.** Refer her to a peer group of asylum seekers who can share experience
- **D.** Connect her with an immigration attorney or accredited representative

11. A foundation's request for proposals asks applicants to show how a proposed job training program for young adults leaving foster care will continue after the three-year grant ends. The funder says it will score highest those plans backed by commitments already secured. Which response BEST addresses this requirement?

- **A.** A description of outcome data the program will use to attract future funders
- **B.** A plan naming partners and funding sources committed to support after year three
- **C.** A timeline for applying to three other foundations during the grant period

12. Nikhil, a new LMSW at a community counseling center, plans to explain the limits of confidentiality to clients once they feel comfortable with him, since he worries that discussing reporting duties in the first meeting could scare them away. What should he do instead?

- **A.** Explain the limits once a client begins to discuss a topic that might be reportable
- **B.** Give a written policy at intake and review it if the client has questions
- **C.** Explain the limits in the first session, before sensitive details are shared

13. Babatunde Adebayo, 70, is hospitalized with a severe foot infection. The psychiatry team has found that he has decision-making capacity, and he refuses a recommended amputation, understanding he may die. He has told staff he does not want to discuss the decision with his family again. His daughter asks the hospital social worker to support a guardianship petition. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Arrange a family meeting so that the amputation decision can be reviewed with him
- **B.** Accept his refusal and help him plan palliative and wound care that fits his choice
- **C.** Help his daughter prepare the guardianship petition that she has asked to file

14. At a syringe services program, Dev Malhotra, 34, tells a new case manager that he is not ready to stop using heroin. He says he wants to stop sharing equipment with his roommate and to start testing his drugs for fentanyl. The case manager's friend had told her the program 'just helps people keep using.' Which response BEST reflects the harm reduction philosophy of the program?

- **A.** Help him first see how much control heroin has gained over his life
- **B.** Match the plan to his readiness by exploring whether to cut down
- **C.** Support his plan to stop sharing and test drugs as worthwhile goals
- **D.** Explain that lasting safety comes only with a period of abstinence

15. Jaylen, 15, has been coming to a youth drop-in center after running away from home. Staff notice he has new expensive shoes and a phone that "a friend" pays for, and he mentions "doing favors" for an older man so he has a place to sleep. Which interpretation of these signs is MOST accurate?

- **A.** Possible survival strategies that call for a referral to youth housing
- **B.** Possible gang involvement that calls for a gang intervention referral
- **C.** Possible commercial sexual exploitation that calls for a private assessment
- **D.** Possible substance-related activity that calls for a substance use screening

16. Ms. Carver's infant son entered foster care last month after a report of neglect. Two years ago, a court involuntarily terminated her parental rights to an older child. The agency asks whether it must make reasonable efforts to reunify her with her son. Under the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA), which statement is MOST accurate?

- **A.** The court may find that reasonable efforts are not required
- **B.** Reasonable efforts are required, since each child's case is separate
- **C.** Reasonable efforts are required until 15 months of services have passed

17. Thomas Blackfeather, 81, lives alone and is fully oriented. After the aging services social worker explains the benefits and risks, Mr. Blackfeather declines home-delivered meals, saying he prefers to cook for himself even though it takes longer. He has not given permission to share information with family. His daughter calls and insists that the worker enroll him anyway because she worries about his weight. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Arrange a one-week trial of meals so he can see whether the service suits him
- **B.** Request a capacity evaluation, given the daughter's concern about his weight loss
- **C.** Document his decision and the alternatives that were discussed with him
- **D.** Share the assessment results with his daughter so she understands his risks

18. Mr. Diallo, 47, keeps arriving at a family agency expecting his case manager to call landlords for him, while she expected him to make the calls. He also thought services would last a year; she planned for 12 weeks. He has already signed the agency's consent and confidentiality forms. Which planning tool would MOST directly address this confusion?

- **A.** A contract that sets out goals, tasks, roles and time frames
- **B.** An informed consent form describing the agency's policies
- **C.** A release of information for the landlords he is contacting
- **D.** A progress review comparing his data with the plan's goals

19. Jaylen, 10, disrupts his math class several times a day. Each time, his teacher sends him to sit in the hallway for the rest of the lesson. Over the past month his disruptions during math have increased. Which explanation is MOST likely?

- **A.** Hallway time is positively reinforcing him with peer attention
- **B.** Removal from math is negatively reinforcing his disruptions
- **C.** Being sent out is punishing the disruptions, but inconsistently
- **D.** His disruptions are entering extinction since he is now ignored

20. A social worker helping a neighborhood association plan youth programs wants to begin by identifying the skills of residents and the resources of local businesses, faith groups, and informal networks that could support young people. Which approach BEST fits this goal?

- **A.** A needs assessment survey
- **B.** Social indicators analysis
- **C.** Mapping community assets
- **D.** Key informant interviews

21. Grace Liu, a hospice social worker, supported the family of Henry Adeyemi through his final weeks. Two weeks after Mr. Adeyemi's death, while Grace is making the hospice's scheduled bereavement follow-up calls, his adult son Kwame asks her to dinner. What should Grace do?

- **A.** Decline, and continue the scheduled bereavement calls with the family
- **B.** Decline, and transfer the family's remaining bereavement calls to a colleague
- **C.** Decline for now, and suggest they reconnect after the bereavement period ends

22. Ethan, 5, has been in foster care for three months, and the goal is reunification with his father. Visits go well, but his foster parents report that Ethan is clingy and cries for an hour after each weekly visit. They ask the caseworker to reduce visits to protect him. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Keep the visit schedule and work with all adults to ease the transitions
- **B.** Ask Ethan's father to avoid talking about going home during visits
- **C.** Shorten each visit to one hour to lessen Ethan's distress afterward
- **D.** Reduce visits to every other week until Ethan settles into the home

23. A school social worker serves on a district committee revising its anti-bullying policy after several LGBTQ+ students reported harassment. One board member proposes a general policy that protects "all students equally" without naming groups, to avoid controversy. Another suggests moving harassed students into separate class sections. Which recommendation is BEST supported by school climate research?

- **A.** Move students who are harassed into separate class sections for safety
- **B.** Adopt a policy that names sexual orientation and gender identity
- **C.** Adopt a general policy that protects every student equally

24. Mr. Haddad, 74, receives problem-solving therapy for depression from an LMSW in a primary care clinic. Over six sessions he defines problems, generates options and carries out plans, such as arranging his own pharmacy delivery and a ride to church. In session one he also learned a breathing exercise, which he says he rarely uses. His depression scores have dropped. Which explanation BEST accounts for his improvement?

A. Changes in the family's structure and the boundaries between its members
B. Lower physical arousal from regular breathing and relaxation practice
C. Insight into unconscious conflicts that were expressed through low mood
D. A stronger sense of control and confidence in handling daily problems

25. Faith Odum, 26, is in counseling for depression. She tells the LMSW that last week she left her 4-year-old alone for several hours while she went to work because her babysitter canceled. She begs the LMSW not to report and promises it will never happen again. What should the LMSW do?

A. Develop a written child care backup plan with her and document it in the record
B. Explain that a report is required and make the report as state law directs
C. Explore the stressors that led to her decision and how her depression played a part

26. Ms. Ferreira, 38, has insomnia that a physician has found no medical cause for. Her social worker, trained in Haley's approach, instructs her to get up and scrub the kitchen floor whenever she is not asleep within 30 minutes. Which technique is this?

A. Behavioral activation, which adds rewarding activity to lift her mood
B. An ordeal, which makes keeping the symptom costlier than giving it up
C. Stimulus control, which links the bed with sleep and nothing else
D. Paradoxical intention, which asks her to try hard to stay awake

27. Client satisfaction surveys at a senior center show low ratings for intake, but the written comments are brief and vague, such as "too much hassle." The next survey is six months away, and the board wants changes this quarter. Staff disagree about what clients mean. The program manager, an LMSW, wants to improve intake. What should she do NEXT?

A. Shorten the intake forms by removing questions staff see as duplicates
B. Interview recent applicants briefly about their intake experience
C. Add open-ended intake questions to the next client satisfaction survey
D. Compare the center's intake ratings with those of similar senior programs

28. Members of an outpatient therapy group spend most of each session describing problems with coworkers and relatives in general terms. They rarely speak to one another directly. The social worker wants to increase members' engagement with one another. Which intervention is BEST?

A. Assign a set topic for each session to keep the discussion focused
B. Teach a problem-solving model members can apply to outside conflicts
C. Ask members how they are reacting to one another right now

29. A social worker at a counseling agency is choosing which client to refer to a group that uses graduated exposure for social anxiety, rather than to a social skills training group. Which client is the BEST fit for the exposure group?

A. A man who has never learned how to start a conversation with coworkers
B. A teen who chats easily with friends but will not talk with his parents
C. A woman who knows how to mingle but is too anxious to attend gatherings

30. Lena Fischer, 46, is overwhelmed by debts, a broken washing machine, her teen's curfew battles and a notice giving her five days to pay back rent or face eviction. The social worker suggests partializing the problems. Lena wants to start with the curfew battles because they "cause the most fighting." What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Start with the curfew battles, the part Lena chose
- **B.** Suggest starting with the rent, then the curfew
- **C.** Ask Lena to rank all four problems before starting

31. Arjun, 37, tells a social worker at a community mental health center that he has unwanted thoughts that he may have hit a pedestrian while driving. He often drives back along his route to check, sometimes for two hours a day. He knows the checking is excessive and feels distressed by it. Which diagnosis is MOST likely?

- **A.** Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder
- **B.** Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- **C.** Generalized anxiety disorder
- **D.** Illness anxiety disorder

32. A social worker asks Olivia Turner, 7, to draw a picture of her family. Olivia draws her mother, her brother, herself, and the family dog, but leaves out her stepfather, who has lived with them for a year. Olivia has not said anything about her stepfather. What is the BEST way to use this drawing in the assessment?

- **A.** As a projective test to be scored for signs of emotional adjustment
- **B.** As a reason to interview the stepfather about his role in the family
- **C.** As a starting point for asking Olivia to tell about her family

33. Lena, 28, calls a crisis line the evening after a miscarriage. She is sobbing and says she cannot stop thinking about the baby. Partway through, she mentions that she has "the pills lined up on the counter." The crisis counselor had planned to spend more time building rapport. What should the crisis counselor do FIRST?

- **A.** Ask directly whether she has taken any pills and what she intends to do with them
- **B.** Offer information about pregnancy-loss support groups that meet in her area
- **C.** Reflect her grief and continue building rapport before raising questions about safety
- **D.** Ask her to describe what happened at her medical appointment earlier today

34. Diego Herrera, 31, has attended an open-ended support group for people living with HIV at a community health center for a year. He tells the facilitator after a meeting that he feels strong enough to stop attending. Members have often said how much his story helps them. What is the BEST response by the facilitator?

- **A.** Respect his decision and tell the group at the next meeting that he has left
- **B.** Invite Diego to have a final meeting with the group to share his progress
- **C.** Ask the group to give feedback on whether Diego seems ready to stop attending

35. Jamal, 10, recently entered foster care and had to change schools, leaving his teacher and friends behind. He is withdrawn in class and anxious at bedtime. His school social worker learns that many foster children in the state change schools with every new placement and wants to intervene at the macrosystem level. Which action BEST fits?

- **A.** Teach Jamal coping skills he can use when he feels anxious in class
- **B.** Set up regular contact between his foster parents and his teacher
- **C.** Ask the county child welfare agency to revise its transfer procedures
- **D.** Work with advocates to change state law on school stability in care

36. Margaret Okafor, 90, is receiving hospice care at home. She tells her hospice social worker that she has asked her lawyer to add the social worker to her will as a thank-you for her support. What should the social worker do?

A. Thank her, decline the bequest, and explain why she cannot accept it
B. Accept the bequest, since it reflects Margaret's own informed wishes
C. Accept the bequest and donate it to the hospice after Margaret dies
D. Accept the bequest if the hospice's ethics committee approves it

37. Destiny Coleman, 28, is meeting with an LMSW at a domestic violence program. She mentions that her partner sometimes reads her messages. The LMSW needs to send her information about a housing appointment next week. What should the LMSW do FIRST?

A. Email the details to the address she listed on her intake form
B. Give her a printed appointment card before she leaves today
C. Ask Destiny which contact method is safe and what messages can say
D. Call her later this week to arrange the safest way to reach her

38. Nkechi, a school social worker, used an AB design to track how often Danny, 9, refused to enter his classroom. During intervention she taught him a breathing and self-talk routine at the door, which he now uses on his own, and refusals dropped sharply. Her supervisor suggests an ABAB design: stop the morning check-ins for two weeks, then restart them. What is the MAIN limitation of this plan for showing the check-ins caused the change?

A. The plan would leave Danny without the check-ins at the end of the study
B. The plan needs random assignment of phases to support a causal claim
C. Danny's new coping skill may persist, so refusals may not return
D. The plan needs data from several students to show the routine's effect

39. Jonah, 19, is afraid of dogs and has stopped visiting friends who own them. He and a social worker at a community mental health center agree to use graded exposure. What should they do FIRST?

A. Teach him a relaxation skill to use during each step of the exposure
B. Explain how exposure works and build a ranked list of feared dog situations
C. Begin with the step he finds least frightening, such as looking at dog photos

40. Ayesha Siddiqui, 27, is in her last session with a social worker at a community counseling center after eight months of work. When the worker mentions that this is their final meeting, she shrugs and says, "It's no big deal," then looks away. They have not yet talked about the ending. Which response is BEST?

A. Acknowledge that endings can matter, and invite any reactions she has.
B. Accept her view and move on to reviewing the progress she has made.
C. Suggest that she may be downplaying sadness about the ending.

41. Mr. Alvarez, 70, is a hospice patient. He tells the LMSW that he stopped attending Mass decades ago and no longer follows church teachings, but he finds deep meaning in his garden and feels connected to his late wife "in some way." The hospice assessment form asks the worker to record religion and spirituality separately. Which entry under religion is MOST accurate?

A. Active search for meaning and connection through nature and memory
B. Not currently involved in an organized faith community or its rituals
C. Guided by a personal moral code that does not depend on any faith

42. Mr. Delgado, 68, is normally independent and runs his own small business. After hip surgery, he whines, insists that nurses feed him even though he can use his hands and calls for his daughter at night. The medical team asks the social worker to help them understand the change. Which defense mechanism is MOST likely?

- **A.** Regression
- **B.** Reaction formation
- **C.** Displacement

43. Marcus, 19, is in a reentry program after release from jail. He tells the social worker he took a friend's car for a joyride because "it felt good right then," without thinking about his probation conditions. A psychodynamically oriented supervisor describes the act as dominated by one part of the personality. Which part?

- **A.** The ego, weighing realistic consequences
- **B.** The superego, enforcing internal standards
- **C.** The id, seeking immediate gratification

44. Ana, 29, is in weekly CBT with a supervised LMSW for social anxiety and has been making steady progress with exposure exercises. She arrives at her session shaken because her apartment was broken into last night, and she says she is afraid to sleep there tonight. What is the BEST way for the social worker to proceed?

- **A.** Refer her to the police victim services unit for help after the break-in
- **B.** Set aside the planned agenda and address the break-in and her plans for tonight
- **C.** Acknowledge the break-in briefly and then continue the planned exposure exercise
- **D.** Reassure her that fear after a break-in is a normal and expected reaction

45. Rahul and Emily married last year. They come to a community counseling center because they argue about which family to visit for holidays and how much to tell their parents about their decisions. According to Carter and McGoldrick's family life cycle, which developmental task are they MOST likely working on?

- **A.** Differentiating oneself from the family of origin as a single adult
- **B.** Realigning relationships with extended families to include the spouse
- **C.** Adjusting the marital system to make space for children
- **D.** Shifting family boundaries to allow growing independence

46. Kwame Asante, 52, has decision-making capacity and plans to waive privilege so his LMSW can testify in his divorce case. The LMSW believes the testimony may reveal information that hurts his case. What should the LMSW do?

- **A.** Review with him what she would likely say, then follow his decision
- **B.** Testify as he requests, since the choice to waive privilege is his
- **C.** Decline to testify, since the disclosure may harm her client's case
- **D.** Share her concerns with his attorney so the attorney can advise him

47. As termination approaches, a social worker is helping Rafael Ortiz, 36, plan to maintain his recovery from alcohol use disorder. He has been sober for seven months and already attends two recovery meetings a week. He says his strongest urges come at family weddings and after arguments with his brother. Which element is MOST important to add to his relapse prevention plan?

- **A.** A schedule of recovery meetings near his home and his workplace
- **B.** Monthly check-ins with the social worker after services end
- **C.** A commitment to avoid any event where alcohol is served
- **D.** Plans for handling weddings and arguments with his brother

48. An agency distributes limited emergency rental assistance on a first-come, first-served basis each Monday morning. An LMSW notices that the funds usually go to applicants with flexible jobs and reliable phones, while families facing eviction often apply too late. What is the BEST recommendation?

- **A.** Use a monthly lottery among all eligible applicants so each has an equal chance.
- **B.** Keep first-come, first-served but accept applications by phone and online all week.
- **C.** Prioritize applicants with court eviction notices, using criteria posted publicly.

49. Olga, 36, asks an LMSW in a supervised private practice to begin counseling. During intake, she mentions that she is still seeing a therapist at another agency and does not plan to tell that therapist she is starting elsewhere. What should the LMSW do FIRST?

- **A.** Discuss her current therapy and what seeing two providers could mean for her care.
- **B.** Begin services as she requests, since adults may choose more than one provider.
- **C.** Request her consent to contact her current therapist and coordinate their plans.
- **D.** Advise her to finish with her current therapist before starting at this practice.

50. Ngozi, 45, has completed 14 sessions of cognitive behavioral therapy for depression at an outpatient clinic, and her symptoms are now mild. She and her social worker are preparing to end treatment. She says she cannot take more time off work for regular appointments. Which plan BEST helps prevent a relapse?

- **A.** An open invitation to call the clinic if her depression starts to return
- **B.** A referral to a peer support group to help her keep her progress going
- **C.** A written plan listing her warning signs, skills that helped and when to return
- **D.** Monthly booster sessions for the next year as a precaution against relapse

51. Ruth, 79, scores in the normal range on a brief cognitive screen and can clearly describe the risks of her unpaid utility bills and spoiled food. She says she wants to fix these problems and seems frustrated with herself, yet over several visits she has not followed through on any of the plans she agreed to. Which explanation should the aging services social worker explore FIRST?

- **A.** Ambivalence about change that motivational interviewing could resolve
- **B.** A personal choice to live this way that should be respected as such
- **C.** Problems with executive function that a brief screen may not detect

52. A social worker at a family shelter learns that front-office staff at the local school district have turned away five children from different shelter families this month for lacking proof of a permanent address. Each time, the shelter called the district's homeless education liaison, who enrolled the child within a day. New families keep facing the same refusal. Which response is MOST appropriate?

- **A.** Keep calling the liaison to resolve each new refusal as it happens.
- **B.** Bring the pattern to district leaders and press for a practice change.
- **C.** Have shelter staff go with each family to enroll so refusals are less likely.

53. Rafael, 33, tells his social worker at a private practice group, where she practices under supervision, that his main goal is 'to feel calmer at work.' Another clinician in the group says feelings cannot be written as measurable objectives. Which approach BEST makes Rafael's goal measurable?

- **A.** Keep the goal as stated and judge progress from what he describes in sessions
- **B.** Drop the feeling goal and write objectives only about Rafael's actual job performance
- **C.** Have Rafael rate his calm at work from 0 to 10 each day and set a target average
- **D.** Ask Rafael's manager for monthly reports on how calm Rafael seems at work

54. A volunteer facilitator at a widows' support group presents Kubler-Ross's five stages as the roadmap members should expect to follow. Nadia, an LMSW intern, wants to raise a limitation of using the model this way with the group's supervisor. Which fact about the model's origin is MOST relevant to her concern?

- **A.** It was drawn from spouses in the first year after a partner died
- **B.** It was drawn from survivors who lost relatives in a natural disaster
- **C.** It was drawn from interviews with people facing their own death

55. LMSW Gwen, practicing under supervision in a group practice, is treating Jae-won, 33, for panic disorder, and he is making good progress. Jae-won now discloses a serious gambling problem and asks for help with it. Neither Gwen nor her supervisor has training in gambling disorder, and a nearby gambling treatment program accepts clients who are in other therapy. Jae-won wants to keep seeing Gwen. What should Gwen do?

- **A.** Refer Jae-won for gambling treatment while continuing their work on panic
- **B.** Transfer Jae-won's care to a clinician who can treat both of his problems
- **C.** Treat the gambling problem with close oversight from her clinical supervisor

56. Jamal Wright, 23, is brought to a mobile crisis team by his roommate. Jamal says he needs a new apartment because the neighbors are "beaming thoughts" into his room. He has not eaten in two days, is drinking little water and is pacing. He denies wanting to harm anyone and agrees to see a doctor today if his roommate comes along. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Arrange same-day medical and psychiatric evaluation, with his roommate along
- **B.** Start an involuntary hold, since he is not caring for his basic needs
- **C.** Schedule an outpatient psychiatric appointment for later this week
- **D.** Help Jamal look at apartment listings as a way to build trust

57. Brianna, 26, tells her family support worker that she left her 3-year-old alone overnight while she worked an extra shift. The worker must report suspected neglect. Brianna is calm, and nothing suggests that telling her would endanger the child. What should the worker do?

- **A.** Make the report and tell Brianna about it at their next scheduled visit
- **B.** Tell Brianna that she will make a report and explain what to expect
- **C.** Encourage Brianna to report herself to child protective services this week

58. A strategic family therapist works with the Delgado family, whose 10-year-old son refuses to go to bed. She asks the father, who rarely handles bedtime, to take full charge of it for the next week while the mother takes an evening walk. This assignment is BEST described as:

- **A.** A directive
- **B.** A reframe
- **C.** An enactment

59. A community benefits center relies on volunteers who have completed confidentiality training and signed confidentiality agreements. Staff are short this month, and the LMSW volunteer coordinator is reviewing which tasks volunteers may take on. Volunteers have asked to help with intake, records and eligibility decisions. Which task should remain with paid professional staff?

- **A.** Helping clients complete benefit applications at intake
- **B.** Deciding whether clients meet the program's eligibility rules
- **C.** Updating clients' contact details in their case records

60. A hospice social worker leads a widows' support group that focuses on sharing memories and feelings. Leticia, 67, says she appreciates the group but also needs help learning to drive and handle the taxes her husband used to manage. Based on the dual-process model, what is the BEST adjustment?

- **A.** Add sessions on new skills and roles alongside the sharing of memories
- **B.** Refer her to the agency's financial counselor for help with the taxes
- **C.** Keep the current focus, since the group's stated purpose is processing loss
- **D.** Shift the group's focus to practical skills now that members are coping

61. Hana, an LMSW at a community clinic, is assigned Mr. Begay, 58, a Diné man referred for depression after a work injury. Before the first session, Hana notices she has assumed he will want traditional healing included, because a training she took said this improves engagement with Native clients. Consistent with the 2021 revision of the Code's cultural competence standard, what should Hana do?

- **A.** Share her own cultural background so the two can compare their perspectives
- **B.** Arrange a traditional healer in advance, since the training linked it to engagement
- **C.** Complete a formal cultural self-assessment before she meets with Mr. Begay
- **D.** Note her assumption and ask Mr. Begay what role, if any, he wants healing to play

Section 2 Questions 62-122

62. Rafael, 17, meets weekly with his high school social worker about stress at home after his parents' divorce. At a school concert, Rafael's father chats with the social worker and then asks her to have dinner with him the next weekend. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Decline and keep her contact with the father focused on Rafael
- **B.** Accept once Rafael has been assigned to another school social worker
- **C.** Decline and ask the principal to handle future contact with the father

63. Inés Romero, an LCSW, supervises an LMSW who recently began using exposure therapy with anxious clients. In reviewing session recordings, Inés sees the LMSW making significant errors in pacing the exposure. What should Inés do?

- **A.** Give specific feedback and let the exposure work continue as planned
- **B.** Give specific feedback and require more training before exposure resumes
- **C.** Observe several more sessions before deciding whether to intervene
- **D.** Reassign the LMSW's exposure clients to staff trained in the method

64. A hospital asks a social worker to start a psychoeducational group for adults newly diagnosed with cancer. The oncology nurses have already sent a list of topics they think patients need, and staff have offered to present at sessions. What should the social worker do FIRST in planning the group?

- **A.** Ask the oncology staff which topics patients most often need help with
- **B.** Ask newly diagnosed patients what questions and needs they have right now
- **C.** Review published cancer-coping curricula for one with strong outcome evidence

65. Gwen, 58, has believed for two years that her neighbor is poisoning her water supply. She has filed several complaints with the city. She continues to work full time, has no hallucinations, and her speech and behavior are otherwise organized. A social worker at a community mental health center is completing her assessment. Which diagnosis is MOST likely?

- **A.** Delusional disorder
- **B.** Schizophrenia
- **C.** Paranoid personality disorder

66. Ana Ferreira, a foster care caseworker, has been dating Luis for six months. While reviewing kinship options for Sofia, 4, a child on her caseload, Ana learns that Luis is Sofia's paternal uncle and is being considered as a placement. What should Ana do FIRST?

- **A.** Disclose the relationship to Sofia's parents and the court at the next hearing
- **B.** Keep the case and ask a colleague to complete the home study on Luis's household
- **C.** Tell her supervisor about the relationship so the case can be reviewed for reassignment
- **D.** Document the relationship in the record and step back from the placement decision

67. Amira, 42, tells an LMSW at a family service agency that she has been 'feeling off' and sleeping poorly since her mother died two months ago. She asks what help is available. The agency employs a grief specialist and runs a bereavement support group. The social worker has not yet asked Amira any questions about her situation. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Refer Amira to the agency's grief specialist for individual counseling
- **B.** Screen Amira for prolonged grief disorder with a standard measure
- **C.** Give Amira information about the agency's bereavement support group
- **D.** Ask about her symptoms, supports, and what she wants from services

68. A community clinic adopts a policy requiring LMSW therapists to see 10 clients a day in 30-minute sessions. Several therapists believe the shorter sessions are not enough for clients in trauma treatment. The policy allows staff to submit proposed changes through a quality committee. What is the MOST appropriate response?

- **A.** Keep 50-minute sessions for trauma clients and record the clinical reasons
- **B.** Report the clinic to the state licensing board for unsafe clinical practice
- **C.** Document clinical concerns and propose alternatives through the committee
- **D.** Follow the policy and refer trauma clients to providers outside the clinic

69. At a psychiatric hospital, a colleague tells Destiny, a social worker, that she accidentally gave a patient's discharge papers to the wrong family yesterday. The colleague asks Destiny to say nothing and to help her fill out the incident form so it looks like the papers were never given out. What should Destiny do?

- **A.** Decline to help and urge the colleague to report the incident accurately
- **B.** Help her contact the family to retrieve the papers before filing anything
- **C.** Keep the conversation confidential, as colleagues may confide in each other
- **D.** Report the incident to the hospital administrator without speaking to her

70. Jordan, 17, attends a community youth drop-in center. Jordan tells the social worker they are nonbinary, use they/them pronouns, and go by Jordan. Their parents do not know, sometimes call the center, and have signed releases for the center's records. Jordan asks the worker to use Jordan in their meetings. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Update Jordan's name and pronouns in all center records and tell all staff
- **B.** Use Jordan and they/them, and ask where Jordan wants them used or kept private
- **C.** Explore whether and how Jordan might share their identity with their parents
- **D.** Connect Jordan with the center's LGBTQ+ youth group for peer support

71. A school social worker co-leads an ethics discussion group for eighth graders. Several girls resolve dilemmas by asking who would be hurt and how to keep relationships intact. A colleague scores their answers with Kohlberg's scheme and concludes the girls are less morally mature than the boys, who cite rules and rights. Which critique of the colleague's approach is MOST accurate?

- **A.** The scheme was built on male samples and ranks care-based reasoning lower
- **B.** The scheme assumes the stages unfold in the same order in every culture
- **C.** The scheme measures reasoning about dilemmas rather than moral conduct
- **D.** The scheme underestimates how early children separate rules from customs

72. Priya, 22, a graduate student, sees a university counseling center LMSW for stress. She says, "If I change my major, I will be letting my whole family down." The worker has been teaching cognitive distortions, and Priya asks whether this is one. This is the first time she has mentioned her family, and the worker knows little about them. What should the worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Explore what this choice means in her family and how decisions are made there
- **B.** Examine the evidence for and against the thought that she would let them down
- **C.** Weigh the pros and cons of each possible major with her using a decision grid
- **D.** Suggest a joint session so she and her parents can discuss the change openly

73. A program evaluator asks clients to rate their satisfaction as very dissatisfied, dissatisfied, neutral, satisfied, or very satisfied, and then codes the answers 1 through 5 for analysis. At which level of measurement are these ratings?

- **A.** Nominal
- **B.** Ordinal
- **C.** Interval
- **D.** Ratio

74. A man calls a domestic violence program's main line. He says he is Rania's husband, that their son is sick, and that he urgently needs to reach her. The staff member who answers knows Rania is staying at the shelter. Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Neither confirm nor deny that Rania receives services there
- **B.** Transfer the call to the supervisor to decide what to say
- **C.** Take a message and say it will be passed on to her
- **D.** Confirm that she is a client but share no other details

75. In a professional association's online forum, several social workers argue that the profession should stop using a widely taught assessment tool they believe is culturally biased. Thomas Becker, LMSW, finds their evidence partly persuasive. Which response BEST reflects his responsibility to the profession?

- **A.** Stop using the tool in his own practice until the association reviews it
- **B.** Ask the tool's developers to respond to the bias concerns in the forum
- **C.** Contribute evidence to the discussion and support a formal review of the tool
- **D.** Post that the tool should be banned, since biased assessment harms clients

76. Denise Grant, 47, receives care at an integrated health center. A primary care screening flagged risky drinking, she sees a therapist in the primary care clinic, and she attends the center's federally assisted outpatient addiction program, a separately identified unit. A social worker preparing records for a release asks which ones carry 42 CFR Part 2 protection. Which records do?

- **A.** Records from the identified addiction program showing she is a patient there
- **B.** All of her records that document alcohol use, including the primary care screen
- **C.** Her psychotherapy notes from counseling sessions held in the primary care clinic

77. Two child protective services caseworkers independently rate the same ten recorded home visits using the agency's safety checklist. They disagree on almost half of the items, mostly items about "adequate supervision," which the checklist manual does not define. Both workers completed the agency's standard checklist training last month. What should their supervisor do FIRST to address the problem?

- **A.** Define the vague items clearly and have the workers practice rating together
- **B.** Have both workers repeat the agency's standard checklist training this month
- **C.** Have a third trained rater score the visits to settle each disagreement
- **D.** Review each worker's recent cases for a pattern of over- or under-rating

78. Kofi Mensah, 42, takes an SSRI for depression and says it has helped his mood. In a session he hesitantly reveals that he has been skipping doses because of sexual side effects. He says he would rather raise it with his psychiatrist himself but does not know how to bring it up, and his next appointment is in two weeks. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Ask for Kofi's consent to tell his psychiatrist about the side effects
- **B.** Help Kofi plan how he will raise the side effects with his psychiatrist
- **C.** Explore whether relationship stress may be adding to the sexual problems
- **D.** Suggest he ask his psychiatrist to switch him to another antidepressant

79. A qualitative researcher wants to understand long-term caregiving for spouses with early-onset dementia. Through two caregiver support groups in her city, she deliberately selects 14 caregivers who have provided care for at least five years, because they can describe the full course of the experience. Which sampling method is this?

- **A.** Snowball sampling
- **B.** Quota sampling
- **C.** Convenience sampling
- **D.** Purposive sampling

80. Park Sun-hee, 39, asks her social worker how a psychiatric advance directive would work if she became acutely ill again. She has been stable for a year, understands her treatment well, and wants to know when such a document would apply. Which explanation is MOST accurate?

- **A.** It will let you refuse any involuntary hospitalization in the future.
- **B.** It is written while you are well, to guide care if you can't decide later.
- **C.** It takes effect only after a court finds that you are legally incompetent.

81. Walter, 82, is cognitively intact and tells his senior center social worker that his grandson has been taking money from his account. He asks the worker not to tell anyone because he does not want his grandson in trouble. The state requires social workers to report suspected elder financial exploitation. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Honor his request, since he is a competent adult declining help
- **B.** Help him contact his bank to secure his accounts against transfers
- **C.** Encourage him to report his grandson himself and offer support
- **D.** Make the required report and let Walter know it is being made

82. In behavioral activation at a primary care clinic, Hye-jin, 38, rates each completed activity from 0 to 10 for mastery and pleasure. Her log shows paying bills rated 8 for mastery and 1 for pleasure, and calling her sister rated 2 for mastery and 8 for pleasure. Which conclusion about her log is BEST supported?

- **A.** Paying bills adds little to her recovery, so it can be dropped from her plan.
- **B.** Paying bills is a form of avoidance and should give way to pleasant activities.
- **C.** Her mood depends mainly on social contact, so tasks can be set aside for now.
- **D.** Both activities help her: one builds a sense of accomplishment, one enjoyment.

83. Ruth, an LMSW at a women's health clinic, holds religious beliefs opposed to abortion. She has worked well with her client, Nadia, 23, for several months. Nadia is now unexpectedly pregnant and wants help thinking through all of her options. Ruth notices strong feelings rising as Nadia talks. What is Ruth's BEST course of action?

- **A.** Tell Nadia about her personal conflict and offer a transfer to a colleague
- **B.** Arrange a transfer to a colleague who can discuss all options freely
- **C.** Seek supervision on her reactions while continuing to support Nadia's process
- **D.** Ask a colleague to join the session to cover the abortion option with Nadia

84. Tomasz, an LMSW hospice supervisor, meets with Aaliyah, a second-year hospice social worker. Three of her patients died this week, and she arrives at supervision tearful, saying she wonders whether she is cut out for this work. Her visits and documentation are up to date, and she has not said what would help. What should Tomasz do FIRST?

A. Offer to pause her new admissions for the next two weeks
B. Suggest she attend the team's bereavement debriefing on Friday
C. Refer her to the employee assistance program for counseling
D. Ask how the recent losses are affecting her and what she needs

85. A maternal health program's social worker reviews data showing that Black women in the county have higher rates of preterm birth than white women at every income and education level, even among women who deliver at the same hospitals and begin prenatal care in the first trimester. Which explanation is MOST supported by research?

A. Differences in individual health behaviors such as diet and exercise
B. Neighborhood segregation that limits access to high-quality hospitals
C. Cumulative physiological wear from chronic exposure to racism
D. Differences in when women in each group begin prenatal care

86. A child welfare LMSW visits Rosa Mendoza, who speaks Spanish, to explain voluntary family support services and obtain consent. The agency has a telephone interpreter line available now. Ms. Mendoza says she would rather have her 12-year-old daughter interpret, because she does not trust strangers on the phone. Her daughter speaks English well. What should the social worker do?

A. Let her daughter interpret today, as Ms. Mendoza prefers, and note it
B. Address her worry about strangers and use the telephone interpreter
C. Postpone consent until a Spanish-speaking worker can visit the home

87. Priya Nair, an LMSW at a hospital, spends two Saturday mornings a month counseling uninsured day laborers at a free clinic. When the clinic later offers her a stipend, she declines it. A colleague praises her for fighting injustice, but Priya says she is not trying to change any policy; she simply wants to offer the skills she has to people who cannot pay for them. Which core value does Priya's activity MOST directly express?

A. Social justice
B. Competence
C. Service
D. Integrity

88. Mrs. Patel tells a family services LMSW that her child, 17, came out as nonbinary three months ago and uses a new name. She loves her child but keeps using the old name and says she feels she has lost the child she raised. She already attends a monthly support group for parents. Her child says the old name hurts. What is the BEST approach with Mrs. Patel?

A. Acknowledge her sense of loss and share research on family support and youth well-being.
B. Refer her to a support group for parents of LGBTQ+ youth to work through her grief.
C. Have her practice using the new name in session through role-play with the LMSW.

89. A current client posts an unsolicited, glowing review of LMSW Olumide's practice on a public review site, mentioning by name that she is being treated for depression. Olumide did not request the review or know about it in advance, and the site allows business owners to post replies under reviews. What is the MOST appropriate response to the review itself?

- **A.** Reply with a short public thank-you that omits any clinical details
- **B.** Ask the client to remove the review because it breaks ethics rules
- **C.** Make no reply on the site that would confirm a professional relationship

90. A social worker writes: 'Ms. Ito's anxiety increased after her employer changed shift schedules, which disrupted the care she provides to her mother.' Which assessment approach does this statement BEST illustrate?

- **A.** Cognitive assessment, linking anxiety to distorted beliefs about daily events
- **B.** Person-in-environment, linking functioning to changes in surrounding systems
- **C.** Diagnostic assessment, linking anxiety to a specific DSM-5-TR disorder
- **D.** Psychodynamic assessment, linking anxiety to unresolved early life conflicts

91. Tomasz, 45, an accountant, tells a social worker at his employee assistance program that for about eight months he has worried most days about his job, his children's safety, money and his health, even when things are going well. He finds it hard to stop worrying and reports muscle tension, irritability and trouble sleeping. He denies sudden surges of intense fear and says he is comfortable at social events. Which diagnosis is MOST likely?

- **A.** Generalized anxiety disorder
- **B.** Panic disorder
- **C.** Social anxiety disorder

92. Darnell Hughes, 31, has schizophrenia and was hospitalized four times last year. He misses most clinic appointments, moves between shelters and a friend's couch, and has stopped returning his case manager's calls. A county planner recommends assertive community treatment (ACT) for him. Which description fits the ACT program he would receive?

- **A.** A clinic team that offers weekly therapy and medication visits on site
- **B.** A case manager who links him to services run by other providers
- **C.** A shared-caseload team that serves him in the community at all hours
- **D.** A member-run center where people join work and social programs

93. Priya Nair, 54, takes sertraline. Her primary care doctor recently added tramadol for back pain. At a case management visit she is sweaty, shaky, confused and restless, with diarrhea and muscle twitching that began yesterday. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Arrange immediate medical evaluation for a possible drug interaction
- **B.** Call the primary care doctor to request a dose review this week
- **C.** Assess for a panic attack and teach her a grounding technique
- **D.** Encourage her to stop the tramadol until her next doctor visit

94. The city housing authority is redesigning a public housing complex. Residents have told Ana Lucía Torres, a social worker at a tenant advocacy organization, that no one has asked for their input. Last month her organization surveyed residents, and several resident leaders now say they want to speak at the authority's public planning session in three weeks but are unsure how. Which action BEST reflects the value of social justice?

- **A.** Help resident leaders prepare to present their priorities at the upcoming session
- **B.** Present the survey findings at the session on behalf of the residents who responded
- **C.** Begin a resident leadership course so tenants can lead advocacy in future planning cycles

95. A state NASW chapter's legislative committee is ranking bills. One bill would protect adult farmworkers held in debt bondage by labor recruiters. A member argues the bill falls outside the Code's call for special regard because the workers are working-age adults without disabilities and are employed. Under the Code's standard on social and political action, special regard is owed to which group?

- **A.** Children, older adults, people with disabilities, and their families
- **B.** Low-income, unemployed, uninsured, and underserved populations
- **C.** People and communities whose rights have been limited by law
- **D.** Vulnerable, disadvantaged, oppressed, and exploited people and groups

96. Rosa Alvarez, 38, tells her community mental health social worker that she sometimes wishes she would not wake up. After a full risk assessment, the worker finds no plan, no intent, no access to lethal means and no past attempts, and Rosa names her sister as a strong support. Rosa's former clinician had her sign a no-suicide contract, and she asks whether she should sign another one. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Build a written safety plan with her that lists warning signs, coping steps and people to call
- **B.** Have her sign a renewed no-suicide contract and attach the 988 number and her sister's phone
- **C.** Arrange a same-day emergency psychiatric evaluation for her before she leaves the clinic today

97. A client at a community clinic tells the social worker that she scored 4 on an Adverse Childhood Experiences questionnaire she took online, and asks what that number says about her. She has not yet described her history to the worker. Which statement is accurate?

- **A.** She has about four times the average risk of later health problems
- **B.** She went through four separate traumatic events before age 18
- **C.** She reported four of ten categories of adversity in her childhood

98. A strategic family therapist gave the Brennan family a directive to hold a 15-minute family meeting each evening. At the next session, the family says they did not hold any meetings. Which response is MOST consistent with Haley's approach?

- **A.** Ask the family to recommit to holding the meetings this coming week
- **B.** Shift the focus to exploring feelings about the presenting problem
- **C.** Treat it as information about the family's patterns and adjust the task

99. Leila, 15, who is deaf, did well at a school with sign language interpreters and signing classmates. After her family moved, her new school offers captioning only on request and has no other students who sign. She now eats lunch alone and is failing two classes, though her abilities and motivation are unchanged. Which concept from the ecological life model BEST describes what has changed?

- **A.** Coping: her efforts to manage the demands of a stressful event
- **B.** Goodness of fit: how well her needs match the setting's resources
- **C.** Competence: her sense of being able to act effectively in her world

100. A research team testing a new measure of caregiver burden plans to give it twice to the same group of family caregivers to check test-retest reliability before using it in a larger study. A team member suggests waiting six months between administrations so that caregivers forget their first answers. The lead researcher recommends one to two weeks instead. What is the BEST reason for the shorter interval?

- **A.** So caregivers are less likely to remember and repeat earlier answers
- **B.** So internal consistency can also be calculated from the same data
- **C.** So real change in the burden being measured is unlikely to occur

101. Mr. Lee has kept his apartment for two years despite an unstable income. At today's home visit he shows the social worker an eviction notice for late rent and asks for help contacting legal aid. Which case note entry BEST reflects strengths-based documentation for this visit?

A. "Mr. Lee received an eviction notice and asked for help contacting legal aid."
B. "Mr. Lee has kept his apartment for two years despite an unstable income."
C. "Mr. Lee received an eviction notice due to his poor money management."
D. "Mr. Lee is pleasant and motivated, and his housing outlook remains good."

102. Farhan, 41, arrived from Afghanistan eight months ago and is referred to a refugee resettlement agency's counseling program. A psychiatric evaluation confirmed major depressive disorder, and he asks for sessions in English, which he speaks fluently. The best-supported brief intervention was tested mainly with U.S.-born adults diagnosed with major depression in primary care. Which question should the social worker weigh MOST carefully before using it with him?

A. Whether a version of the manual has been translated into Dari or Pashto
B. Whether the study samples resembled him in culture, migration, and setting
C. Whether his symptoms meet the criteria used to enroll the trial participants

103. Mr. Petrov, 74, is receiving hospice care at home, and the team expects he has a few weeks to live. He tells the hospice social worker he wants to reconcile with his son, from whom he has been estranged for years. The son lives abroad; the family has no phone number or address for him, only an email address that has not answered in years. What objective is MOST appropriate for his care plan?

A. Mr. Petrov will reach his son by phone, with the social worker's help, this week
B. Mr. Petrov will review his life story with the chaplain over the next two weeks
C. Mr. Petrov will hold a family meeting with his son and the hospice team within three months
D. Mr. Petrov will write or record a message to his son, with support, within the next week

104. Keanu Kahale, 33, has alcohol use disorder and has kept drinking despite six months of weekly outpatient counseling. He has no withdrawal history or medical complications, lives with a supportive partner who does not drink, and wants to keep his job. The assessment shows he needs more structure than weekly sessions provide. Which level of care BEST fits his needs?

A. Several hours of structured treatment on several days a week at home
B. Twenty-four-hour care in a residential setting staffed by clinical personnel
C. Counseling sessions once a week or less in an outpatient office setting

105. Nkechi Obi, a new LMSW, tells her supervisor she faces an ethical dilemma. Her client, who missed a week of sessions while caring for a sick parent, asked her to record sessions on those dates so his insurer will keep covering his care. Nkechi's salary does not depend on billing, and she sincerely wants to help him keep treatment he needs. Using Reamer's definition, how should the supervisor classify this situation?

A. A true ethical dilemma, since loyalty to the client conflicts with honesty
B. A conflict of interest, since the client's coverage benefits the agency
C. A dilemma of agency policy, since the insurer's rules limit his care
D. An ethical violation with a clear answer, not a conflict between duties

106. Esperanza Ruiz, 82, is in hospice care at home. Seeing religious images in her room, the hospice LMSW asks the daughter whether the family would like a Catholic priest to visit. The daughter says the family is evangelical and that people often make that assumption about them. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Arrange a visit from the hospice chaplain, who serves families of every faith tradition.
- **B.** Offer to contact a pastor from a local evangelical church to visit Mrs. Ruiz at home.
- **C.** Note the error and ask the daughter what spiritual support, if any, the family wants.

107. Ruth, 44, in a DBT-informed program, tells her social worker that whenever she makes a mistake she thinks 'I'm so stupid' and then calls the thought itself stupid. The worker wants to teach a mindfulness skill. Which skill fits BEST?

- **A.** Challenging the evidence for each critical thought
- **B.** Pushing unwanted thoughts out of awareness
- **C.** Replacing critical thoughts with positive ones
- **D.** Describing thoughts nonjudgmentally as they arise

108. Darius, 16, was referred to an adolescent substance use program after being caught with cannabis at school. He first tried cannabis three months ago. His two close friends are on the debate team and do not use substances, and no one in his family has had a substance use problem. His parents both work late and rarely know where he is after school or who he is with. Which factor is MOST strongly linked to his risk for substance use?

- **A.** Limited parental monitoring of his activities
- **B.** Close friends who use alcohol or other drugs
- **C.** Onset of substance use before age thirteen
- **D.** A family history of substance use disorder

109. During a hiring freeze, the director of a youth services program asks Devon, the LMSW volunteer coordinator, to have trained volunteers conduct full suicide risk assessments at intake while a counselor position stays vacant. Volunteers currently greet families and help with paperwork. What is Devon's BEST response?

- **A.** Explain that risk assessment needs qualified staff and propose other roles
- **B.** Have volunteers conduct the assessments after a day of suicide prevention training
- **C.** Have volunteers conduct the assessments only when a clinician is on site that day
- **D.** Ask the board to approve volunteer risk assessments as a temporary measure

110. The development office of a family shelter asks case managers to send the names and phone numbers of clients with 'inspiring stories' so staff can invite them to speak at a fundraising gala next month. What should a case manager do?

- **A.** Send names only of clients who have said they enjoy sharing their stories
- **B.** Ask clients privately whether they want to be contacted before sharing
- **C.** Share details for clients who signed the agency's general release at intake
- **D.** Share contact details only for clients whose cases are now closed

111. LMSW Anika reviews her caseload in supervision to decide whether any clients should be referred to other professionals. Her supervisor asks her to apply the Code's standard on referral, not agency custom. According to the NASW Code of Ethics, which client situation MOST clearly calls for a referral?

- **A.** A client who needs expertise Anika lacks and has stopped making progress
- **B.** A client whose religious views on divorce conflict with Anika's own views
- **C.** A client who has missed three scheduled appointments in a row this month
- **D.** A client whose case has stayed open longer than the agency's usual period

112. Sofia, 14, refuses to go to school because of a small pimple, insisting that everyone will stare at her all day. Later she tells the school social worker that no one has ever felt heartbreak as deeply as she does over a recent breakup. She is doing well in her classes and has close friends. According to Elkind, which developmental source BEST explains these beliefs?

A. Insecure attachment formed in infancy and early childhood
B. Identity diffusion from a lack of exploration and commitment
C. Adolescent egocentrism linked to emerging formal operations
D. Preoperational egocentrism lingering from early childhood

113. Rafael Gutierrez, 70, is unconscious in an intensive care unit after a stroke. His wife of 40 years arrives and asks the hospital social worker what happened and what to expect over the next few days. Rafael has no advance directive on file. What should the social worker do?

A. Explain that only the attending physician may discuss his condition with family
B. Share information relevant to her involvement in his care, using judgment
C. Ask her for documents showing she is his legal health care representative
D. Share details once the hospital has formally named a surrogate decision-maker

114. Budget cuts have eliminated the training line at a county family services agency for the coming year. Several staff ask the agency's LMSW director how they will keep their skills current, since new child welfare guidelines take effect soon. Under the NASW Code of Ethics, which response by the director BEST reflects her responsibility as an administrator?

A. Arrange low-cost options such as in-house sessions and free webinars
B. Explain that each worker is responsible for license renewal hours
C. Approve outside training requests again once funding is restored

115. A school social worker is forming an anger management group for eighth graders. Of the seven students referred, only one is a girl. The group is scheduled to begin in three weeks. What is the BEST approach?

A. Add a second girl or delay the group so she is not the only one
B. Include her as planned, since the shared problem matters more
C. Place her in the group and have the leaders watch for isolation

116. Priya, 22, an Indian American college student, tells the counseling center social worker she speaks and acts one way with her family and another way on campus and feels like a fraud in both places. Over two sessions she has described in detail what each setting expects of her. Today she asks, "Do I really have to pick one?" What is the social worker's BEST response?

A. Ask her to describe further what each setting expects and how she responds
B. Help her weigh which identity fits her values best as she plans her future
C. Help her identify strengths from each setting that she can draw on in both

117. Jun Takahashi, an LMSW at a homeless services agency, is asked to help launch a peer-support app for clients. No generally recognized practice standards exist yet for this kind of tool. How should Jun proceed?

A. Wait to take part until a national body issues standards for such apps
B. Pilot the app with a small group and adjust it based on client ratings
C. Adapt the agency's existing telehealth policy and proceed under it
D. Use careful judgment and build competence through study and consultation

118. A crisis worker using Roberts' seven-stage model has met with Tamika, 26, after a sudden eviction. The worker has completed a psychosocial and lethality assessment, which found no immediate danger, and has established rapport. According to the model, what is the NEXT stage?

- **A.** assess lethality and immediate safety needs
- **B.** explore the client's feelings and emotions
- **C.** generate and explore alternative ways of coping
- **D.** identify the major problems and what set off the crisis

119. Tomasz, 41, tells a social worker at an outpatient clinic that his panic attacks happen 'all the time.' His physician ruled out a heart problem last month. When asked how many attacks he had last week, he says he cannot put a number on it. The social worker wants to write an objective stating how much the attacks will decrease over eight weeks. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Request his primary care records to rule out a medical cause of the attacks
- **B.** Ask Tomasz to log each attack and its circumstances over the coming week
- **C.** Ask Tomasz to estimate how many attacks he has had in a typical recent week
- **D.** Begin teaching paced breathing now so that progress can start right away

120. Ingrid, 70, is caring for her husband, who is in home hospice with advanced heart failure. She tells the hospice social worker she cries often, already pictures life without him, and sometimes feels guilty for planning ahead. She is sleeping and eating adequately. These responses are MOST consistent with

- **A.** prolonged grief disorder
- **B.** anticipatory grief
- **C.** an adjustment disorder with depressed mood
- **D.** a major depressive episode

121. The advocacy committee at a neighborhood center asks Kwame Mensah, an LMSW, to recommend one project for the coming year that best fits the Code's description of where social workers' social change efforts under the value of social justice should be focused. Three proposals are on the table. Which proposal should Kwame recommend?

- **A.** A campaign against hiring bias that keeps many local residents unemployed
- **B.** A program helping clients voice their own choices in agency service plans
- **C.** A family program that strengthens ties among parents, children, and elders

122. Raymond Fiske, 47, screened positive on the AUDIT at his primary care visit, and the clinic psychiatrist then diagnosed moderate alcohol use disorder. He is referred to the clinic's LMSW, who is asked to complete an ASAM Criteria assessment before any services begin. What will this assessment chiefly add to what is already known?

- **A.** A brief measure of his risk level that primary care can repeat
- **B.** A count of the criteria he meets and a rating of severity
- **C.** A measure of his stage of change using a standard scale
- **D.** A recommendation for the level and intensity of care he needs