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LMSW

ASWB Masters Practice Exam

Exam 6

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 6

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. Naomi, 41, came out as a lesbian years ago, but after moving to a new job in a hostile workplace she has begun hiding her identity and feels the old anxiety returning. A social worker uses Troiden's model to understand her situation. Which explanation BEST fits the model?

- **A.** Identity formation can loop back, so earlier concerns may resurface later
- **B.** She has regressed to the identity confusion stage and must rebuild from there
- **C.** Her earlier coming out was premature, so the commitment stage was never reached

2. Mei Lin Huang, LMSW, provides voluntary in-home support to a single father whose 5-year-old has repeatedly missed medical appointments for serious asthma. After several attempts to help, Mei Lin has reasonable suspicion of medical neglect and plans to report. She has no concern that the father will harm the child or flee. What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Tell the father she is making a report and explain what to expect
- **B.** Make the report without telling the father, leaving notice to CPS
- **C.** Give the father one more week to keep the appointment, then report

3. Carmen Alvarez, 88, is cognitively intact and in the hospital after a fall. During a discharge planning meeting, the physician directs every question to her daughter, who answers for her. Mrs. Alvarez looks frustrated and has tried twice to speak. What is the BEST action for the LMSW?

- **A.** Turn to Mrs. Alvarez and ask her the physician's question directly.
- **B.** Ask Mrs. Alvarez after the meeting whether she agrees with the plan.
- **C.** Ask the daughter whether her mother would prefer to answer for herself.
- **D.** Speak with the physician after the meeting about including patients.

4. In a state with a mandatory duty-to-protect law, Raymond, 36, tells the social worker at an outpatient clinic that he has bought a gun and intends to kill his former partner when she picks up their son on Saturday. He gives her name and address and refuses voluntary hospitalization. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Document the threat and his refusal, then consult the clinic's legal counsel
- **B.** Notify the former partner and the police about the threat to her life
- **C.** Develop a safety plan with Raymond that includes removing the gun
- **D.** Ask Raymond's consent to contact his former partner about Saturday

5. Bettina Kruger, 34, joins a domestic violence survivors group led by an LMSW at a community agency. She is in a custody dispute with her former partner. In the second session she asks whether his attorney could obtain what she says in group and use it in court. All members signed a group confidentiality agreement at intake. What should the social worker tell her?

- **A.** That group statements are privileged because a licensed worker leads the group
- **B.** That the signed member agreements keep group statements out of court proceedings
- **C.** That privilege for group statements varies by state and may not protect them

6. A social worker in a community mental health program is helping Teodoro, 39, who drinks heavily, meet his own goals of switching from liquor to beer and never driving after drinking. A colleague says this approach 'enables' his drinking and will make it worse. Which response BEST addresses the colleague's concern?

- **A.** Teodoro chose these goals himself, and his self-determination comes first
- **B.** Reducing harms keeps clients engaged and has not been shown to raise use
- **C.** The plan is only a first step, and abstinence can be added as a later goal

7. The director of a peer-run recovery center describes her role as removing barriers so staff can do their work, listening closely to their concerns, and putting their growth and the community's needs ahead of her own status. She does not set a long-range vision herself, and major decisions are made by a member council rather than staff votes she leads. Which leadership model BEST fits her approach?

- **A.** Transformational leadership
- **B.** Servant leadership
- **C.** Democratic leadership

8. Leonard Fischer, 72, had a frontal lobe stroke. He scores in the normal range on a cognitive screen, including delayed recall, and can recite the risks of driving after a stroke. His wife reports he has had two minor accidents since then, and police reports confirm both, but he insists they never happened and that he drives as well as ever. What is the MOST likely explanation for this discrepancy?

- **A.** His wife's caregiving stress is shaping her account of his driving
- **B.** He is minimizing the accidents to protect his sense of independence
- **C.** His memory for recent events has been impaired by the stroke
- **D.** He can state driving risks but cannot apply them to his own case

9. Tanisha, 26, lives with her mother, Gloria, and her 6-year-old son, Jaylen. Tanisha sets a bedtime and screen limits, and Gloria often lets Jaylen stay up when Tanisha works late. Gloria says she did not know the rules had changed and backs Tanisha when both are home. Jaylen has begun playing one adult against the other. The women rarely argue and want to keep living together. Which assessment BEST fits a structural family perspective?

- **A.** Gloria and Jaylen have formed a cross-generational coalition against Tanisha
- **B.** The adults lack a clear, shared agreement about who holds parental authority
- **C.** Jaylen has been triangulated into conflict between his mother and grandmother

10. Mrs. Delgado, 67, cares for her husband, who has advanced dementia. At an adult day program she tells the social worker that things are 'as bad as they can be' and that nothing she tries makes a difference. Which solution-focused question is MOST appropriate at this point?

- **A.** 'With so much on your shoulders, how have you managed to keep going each day?'
- **B.** 'On a scale from 1 to 10, how would you rate your situation as it is right now?'
- **C.** 'Suppose a miracle happened tonight. What would be different when you woke up?'
- **D.** 'When were things even a little better, and what was different at those times?'

11. At a youth center, a social worker wants teens to adopt a new conflict resolution skill by watching others use it. Many of the teens say they do not trust advice from adults, and they tune out lectures. The center has a staff expert in the skill and a professionally made training video. According to Bandura's social learning theory, a teen is MOST likely to imitate a model who:

- **A.** Is an adult staff member the teens see as an expert in the skill
- **B.** Appears in a training video that shows each step clearly and slowly
- **C.** Is a peer similar to the teens who is seen being rewarded for it

12. A Head Start program measures the vocabulary of 40 three-year-olds in September and again the following June after a year-long language enrichment curriculum. Vocabulary scores rise substantially. There is no comparison group. Which alternative explanation for the gain is MOST likely?

- **A.** Maturation
- **B.** Selection bias
- **C.** History
- **D.** Attrition

13. Ngozi, an LMSW in a primary care clinic, wants to track the depressive symptoms of her client, Mr. Abara, 66, each week over a 12-week course of treatment. Mr. Abara has macular degeneration and cannot read printed forms, though his hearing and memory are good. Which measure is the BEST choice?

- **A.** A brief standardized depression scale he completes on paper each week
- **B.** A brief standardized depression scale she reads aloud to him each week
- **C.** A longer comprehensive depression inventory given at intake and week 12
- **D.** A clinician-rated depression scale completed by his physician monthly

14. Hannah, a social worker at a community mental health center, wants to present the case of a former client who has died at a regional conference because it illustrates an innovative intervention that other clinicians could use. What should she do?

- **A.** Fully de-identify the case or obtain the personal representative's authorization
- **B.** Change the client's name and age and present the other details as they occurred
- **C.** Ask the client's next of kin for verbal permission and then present the case

15. Rosalind, 9, has lived with her maternal aunt in a kinship foster placement for 16 months, in a state that uses ASFA's relative-placement exception. Her mother is still working on her case plan. A new caseworker asks whether the agency must now file to terminate parental rights. Which statement is MOST accurate?

- **A.** The agency must file now, because she has been in care more than 15 months
- **B.** The agency must file only if her mother stops working on her case plan
- **C.** The agency is not required to file, because a relative is caring for her

16. At a community prevention coalition meeting, a parent argues that teens should be allowed to drink at home at 13 so they learn to handle alcohol safely before college. The social worker facilitating the coalition is asked for the research explanation of why early first use is linked with later alcohol use disorder. Which explanation is MOST accurate?

- **A.** Drinking during rapid brain development can alter reward and control systems
- **B.** Early drinking mainly reflects family conflict, the true cause of later problems
- **C.** Teens feel alcohol's sedating effects less, so they drink more each occasion

17. A school social worker tracks the number of school days each student in an attendance program missed during the fall semester. Some students missed none, and she wants to say that one student missed twice as many days as another. She also records students' grade level and a teacher rating of engagement from low to high. At which level of measurement is the days-missed variable?

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

18. Keisha, 45, a Black woman who uses a wheelchair, tells an LMSW at an employment program that her company's diversity program addresses race and its disability office handles accommodations. She says neither addresses how supervisors treat her as a Black disabled woman, which she describes as different from what Black men or White disabled women at her job face. Which concept BEST explains her experience?

- **A.** Implicit bias that people absorb from culture and act on without awareness
- **B.** Institutional racism, in which policies produce unequal outcomes without intent
- **C.** Intersectionality, in which interlocking systems create distinct experiences

19. Amara, 34, has been living in her car with her two children for a month while on a housing waitlist. She keeps every housing appointment and has applied to four programs. She sings in her church choir twice a week, and choir members have offered leads on apartments. A student intern suggests that, according to Maslow, choir should wait until housing is stable. Which response by the supervising social worker reflects the MOST accurate use of Maslow's hierarchy?

- **A.** Maslow saw needs as overlapping, so higher needs can be active while lower ones are unmet
- **B.** Physiological and safety needs come first, so her time should shift toward the housing search
- **C.** Under severe stress people regress to lower needs, so her interest in choir will likely fade

20. During her first session at a group practice, Mi-rae Cho, 31, asks how much each session will cost once her insurance deductible is met. The LMSW seeing her is not sure of the exact amount. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Check the fee with the billing office and share it before services continue
- **B.** Give her the practice's general fee range and have billing confirm it later
- **C.** Explain that costs depend on her plan and suggest she call her insurer

21. Jordan, 29, a gay man, tells a social worker at an LGBTQ+ community center that his partner checks his phone, controls his social plans, and has threatened to tell Jordan's employer and religious family that he is gay if Jordan tries to leave. Jordan says his partner never insults him and has never followed him. What does the threat MOST likely represent?

- **A.** Emotional abuse that attacks his identity through insults
- **B.** Stalking that extends the monitoring of his phone and plans
- **C.** A control tactic that uses outing to keep him from leaving

22. Daniela Ruiz, 24, attends an outpatient substance use program after a court referral for driving while intoxicated. In her second session she talks about her drinking, her job and her family. The social worker listens for change talk so she can reflect and build on it. Which of Daniela's statements is an example of change talk?

- **A.** Drinking is the only thing that helps me unwind after a long shift.
- **B.** I'm a good mom, and my daughter is doing really well at school.
- **C.** My mom wants me to quit, and she brings it up almost every day.
- **D.** I don't want my daughter to ever see me drunk again, not once.

23. Rosa, 58, has cared for her husband with dementia for three years. She managed well for a long time, but now she has had repeated infections, constant fatigue and says she "can't do this anymore." Which stage of the General Adaptation Syndrome does her situation MOST reflect?

- **A.** Exhaustion
- **B.** Resistance
- **C.** Alarm

24. Lorenzo Vitale, 38, begins counseling with an LMSW in a group practice and plans to use his employer-sponsored insurance. The LMSW has explained the purpose of services, the risks, his right to refuse, and fees, including the private-pay rate. Which topic should the LMSW ALSO cover as part of informed consent?

- **A.** The research support for each approach the LMSW expects to use with him
- **B.** The outcomes the practice has achieved with clients who have similar concerns
- **C.** The information his insurer may require about his diagnosis and treatment
- **D.** The private-pay rate that would apply if his insurance benefits run out

25. Nadia Rahman, a social worker employed by a school district, keeps counseling notes on Dev, 12, in his district student file. Dev's outside therapist, whose practice is a HIPAA covered entity, faxes a request for the notes. Her office manager says no parental consent is needed because HIPAA allows providers to share information with each other for treatment. Which law generally governs Nadia's records in this situation?

- **A.** HIPAA, which permits sharing the notes with another provider for treatment
- **B.** FERPA, which governs records a school district keeps on its students
- **C.** Both laws, with whichever rule is stricter controlling the request

26. During an intake at a family service agency, Mrs. Castellanos, 58, cries as she describes caring for her husband since his stroke. The social worker says, 'Anyone carrying this much would feel worn down. I can see how hard you've been working to keep things going.' In Hollis's classification of procedures, which is the social worker using?

- **A.** Direct influence
- **B.** Sustainment
- **C.** Ventilation
- **D.** Developmental reflection

27. Mr. Greene, 67, a Vietnam veteran, attends a senior center. He tells the LMSW that he sometimes thinks about ending his life late at night. He has no plan or intent today, and they have just completed a safety plan together. He avoids the VA because of past experiences, but he wants a number where he can reach someone who understands veterans. Which should the LMSW add to his plan?

- **A.** Dial 211 and ask to be transferred to local veterans services
- **B.** Call the main line of the nearest VA medical center at night
- **C.** Dial 988 and press 1 to reach the Veterans Crisis Line

28. Leilani, an LMSW, provides counseling at an agency under clinical supervision toward licensure. During informed consent with Mr. Kahale, a new client, she has explained fees, the limits of confidentiality and her treatment approach. Mr. Kahale says he chose the agency because "it's private here, just me and my counselor." Which additional information should she make sure to include?

- **A.** The diagnosis she expects to assign by the end of the first session
- **B.** That she is supervised and that her supervisor will review his case
- **C.** How many years she has practiced since earning her master's degree

29. A nonprofit serving Deaf adults found that few of its clients who use American Sign Language complete referrals to outside mental health services. Last year, in-depth ASL interviews with 12 clients identified five main reasons. The board now wants to know how common each reason is among all 400 Deaf clients so it can decide which barrier to address first. Which approach is BEST?

- **A.** In-depth ASL interviews with a new purposive sample of clients
- **B.** Focus groups in ASL with clients who completed their referrals
- **C.** A closed-ended ASL video survey of barriers offered to all clients

30. To cut costs, a hospital plans to fill vacant social worker positions with staff who have no social work degree while keeping the 'social worker' job title. The state protects the social work title. Farida Rahimi, LMSW, the social work manager, is asked for input. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Accept the plan if the new staff receive training in basic social work practice
- **B.** Decline to supervise the new staff and report the plan to the licensing board
- **C.** Accept the plan, since staffing decisions belong to hospital administration
- **D.** Explain the title law and the risks to patients, and propose a lawful staffing plan

31. Ana Lima, 41, comes to a family service agency overwhelmed by conflict with her teenage daughter. Her social worker asks, 'Suppose tonight while you sleep a miracle happens and the problem is solved. When you wake up, what would be the first thing you notice?' Ana describes calm breakfasts and her daughter laughing at the table. The worker asks follow-up questions. What is the MAIN purpose of this question?

- **A.** Find past times when the problem did not happen or was less severe
- **B.** Draw out how she has managed to cope despite the difficult conflict
- **C.** Have her rate her current progress on a scale running from 0 to 10
- **D.** Help her describe in concrete detail a life without the problem

32. An agency evaluator proposes a study in which participants are told it concerns workplace stress, although it actually measures their reactions to staff behavior. Under what condition may the study's deception be permitted?

- **A.** Rigorous review finds it justified, no equally effective alternative exists, and participants are debriefed
- **B.** Participants sign a release of liability and are offered counseling if the study causes distress
- **C.** The deception concerns only the study's topic, and participants receive the findings afterward
- **D.** The deception carries no physical risk, and the agency director approves the study's design

33. Curtis, 37, will be released from state prison in three weeks. He has a long history of opioid use disorder and has been abstinent while incarcerated. The facility has already submitted his Medicaid application so coverage starts on release. The reentry social worker is preparing his release plan. Which step is MOST important to include?

- **A.** Arrange a bed in a recovery residence for his first months home
- **B.** Schedule an intake at a community clinic for his first week home
- **C.** Help him complete a Medicaid application before he is released
- **D.** Link him before release with an MOUD provider and give him naloxone

34. In supervision, Rafael Ortiz, an LMSW, describes four hard situations from his week and calls each an ethical dilemma. His supervisor explains that in a true dilemma, two professional duties point in different directions, while in other cases a clear rule settles the matter even if it feels hard. Which situation is a true ethical dilemma?

- **A.** Keeping a client's confidence may leave a third party at some risk of harm
- **B.** His religious beliefs conflict with a client's decision about a pregnancy
- **C.** He must decide whether to report signs of an elder's financial abuse
- **D.** A client asks him to bill for a session the client did not attend

35. Owen, 17, has relapsed leukemia. He tells the hospital social worker he wants to stop chemotherapy, while his parents want treatment to continue. The state does not have a clear mature minor statute. What is the social worker's MOST appropriate action?

- **A.** Advocate that the team follow Owen's choice, since he is nearly 18 and capable
- **B.** Help Owen's family petition the court to recognize him as a mature minor
- **C.** Request an ethics consultation and a family meeting that includes Owen
- **D.** Support the parents' decision, since they hold legal authority to consent

36. At a hospital team meeting, a resident says intensive rehabilitation would be "wasted on" Mrs. Kowalski, 84, who lived independently and drove until her fall last week. Staff routinely address older patients as "sweetie," and two nurses assume she will go to a nursing home. The LMSW plans a brief staff training on the underlying problem. Which concept BEST names it?

- **A.** Gerontophobia
- **B.** Ageism
- **C.** Senescence
- **D.** Elderspeak

37. Victor, 50, has chronic back pain after a work injury three years ago. His wife and adult children tell a hospital social worker they are frustrated because he 'isn't trying to get better' and still cannot return to his old job. They say they do not mind covering his household tasks. Victor follows his treatment plan and gets no special attention for his pain. Which concept BEST explains the family's frustration?

- **A.** They expect him to meet the sick role's obligation to recover
- **B.** They believe secondary gain from attention is keeping his pain going
- **C.** They resent having taken over his tasks in the family's division of roles

38. A school social worker meets with Jaylen, 16, who was referred for vaping in the school bathroom. Jaylen says, "It's not a big deal. Everybody does it, and I can stop anytime I want." He uses a few times a week and reports no other substances. What is the MOST appropriate approach at this stage?

- **A.** Help him set a quit date and choose ways to handle cravings
- **B.** Help him weigh the pros and cons of vaping and of stopping
- **C.** Build rapport and, with his permission, share facts about vaping
- **D.** Refer him to a substance use counselor for a full assessment

39. Marisol Ortega, 34, arrives for her first session at a community mental health center after a referral from her primary care provider. Before she describes her concerns, she says she has been hurt before by people who repeated her private business, and she wants to be sure that everything she says stays in the room. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Ask her to describe the past experiences that left her worried about privacy
- **B.** Explain the situations in which information may be shared without her consent
- **C.** Explain that updates go to her referring provider only if she signs a release
- **D.** Tell her that federal privacy law protects what she shares in counseling sessions

40. Tomás, 29, has worked as a paralegal for six years. In a counseling session at a community agency he says the choices he made at 22 now feel temporary, and he must decide soon whether to commit to law school or change direction, and whether to marry his partner, before it is "too late." Which period in Levinson's model BEST fits what Tomás describes?

- **A.** The entering the adult world period
- **B.** The early adult transition
- **C.** The midlife transition
- **D.** The age 30 transition

41. On the Professional Quality of Life Scale, Mara, a child welfare investigator, scores high on burnout and high on secondary traumatic stress, with average compassion satisfaction. She reports intrusive images from cases and feeling worn down by the work. Within the ProQOL model, which term BEST describes the combined pattern of her two high scores?

- **A.** Vicarious trauma
- **B.** Emotional exhaustion
- **C.** Compassion fatigue

42. Rosa, an LMSW at a children's advocacy organization, learns that a state law expanding children's mental health services passed last spring. The state health department is now drafting regulations that will set eligibility rules and provider qualifications, and it has posted a notice inviting public input for 30 days. Rosa worries the draft rules will exclude children in foster care. Which action is MOST appropriate at this point?

- **A.** Ask a legislator to sponsor an amendment that rewrites the statute
- **B.** Prepare testimony for the legislative committee that heard the bill
- **C.** Submit written comments to the department during the input period
- **D.** Design a study to measure the program's outcomes for foster youth

43. A social worker in a small farming town holds open meetings at the library where residents name local problems, such as isolated older adults and a lack of youth activities. Residents form volunteer committees, choose their own projects and learn to run meetings, and she steps back as local leaders emerge. Which description of Rothman's models BEST fits her work?

- **A.** Agency staff designing new services that fit the agency's mission
- **B.** Experts using data to plan services that address identified needs
- **C.** Organized groups pressing those in power to shift resources
- **D.** Broad resident participation to build capacity and solve problems

44. Mr. Kowalczyk, 55, a house painter, lost his job and tells his LMSW at a community agency he can no longer afford her fee. Before she responds, he offers to paint the agency's waiting room in exchange for continued sessions. The agency offers a sliding fee scale, which would reduce his fee to a few dollars a session. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Decline the trade and review the agency's sliding fee scale with him
- **B.** Accept if the painting's value roughly equals the usual session fees
- **C.** Accept, since his job loss leaves him unable to pay for needed help
- **D.** Accept if she records the painting's agreed value in his file first

45. Zoe, 5, and her brother each receive the same amount of juice. Zoe's is poured into a tall, thin glass and his into a short, wide one. Zoe insists her brother got less juice, even after watching both being poured from identical cartons. Which concept has Zoe NOT yet mastered?

- **A.** Conservation
- **B.** Object permanence
- **C.** Hypothetical-deductive reasoning

46. Andre Wilson, 36, takes buprenorphine prescribed through an outpatient program, and it is working well for him. He tells his social worker that members of his NA group said he is "not really clean" while on medication. He says he plans to stay on the medication but no longer wants to attend that group, though he still wants peer support. Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Explore whether a slow taper would let him take part in NA more fully.
- **B.** Help him find mutual-help groups that welcome people taking MOUD.
- **C.** Offer to contact the NA group to explain the evidence for MOUD.
- **D.** Help him plan how to respond when members comment on his medication.

47. LMSW Precious Mokoena coordinates a grant-funded food voucher program. Near the end of the grant year, her director asks her to use leftover voucher funds for a staff holiday party, saying the funder will not notice. The grant agreement limits the funds to food assistance for clients. The director has not done anything like this before. What should Precious do?

- **A.** Ask the director to put the request in writing before she proceeds
- **B.** Spend the funds on vouchers, then report the director to the funder
- **C.** Decline and explain that the funds must go to their stated purpose

48. Andre Williams, 31, signed a release so the jail reentry social worker could talk with his grandmother about housing after his release. During the call, the grandmother begins describing Andre's childhood and asks whether he is 'taking his medication again.' What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Answer briefly, since she is family and already knows his history
- **B.** End the call and ask Andre to sign a broader release before continuing
- **C.** Keep the call focused on housing and avoid discussing his treatment

49. At a drop-in center for people experiencing homelessness, a social worker completes a mental status exam with Joe, 58. His clothing is worn and stained, and he has a strong body odor. He is alert, answers questions clearly, and asks where he can take a shower. Which documentation is MOST appropriate?

- **A.** Clothing worn and stained, strong body odor; alert; asked about shower access
- **B.** Clothing worn and stained, strong body odor; drowsy; slow to answer questions
- **C.** Clothing worn, hygiene poor due to self-neglect; alert; asked about a shower

50. A domestic violence advocate completes a danger assessment with Fatima, 28, whose score falls in the extreme danger range: her partner has strangled her, owns a gun and recently threatened to kill her. Fatima has not yet said what she wants to do. What should the advocate do NEXT?

- **A.** Share the results with Fatima and discuss what they mean for her safety
- **B.** Refer Fatima to a legal advocate to discuss filing a protective order
- **C.** Arrange a shelter placement for Fatima and her children starting tonight
- **D.** Report the threats to police so the partner can be investigated and charged

51. Bashir, 40, resettled from Afghanistan six months ago, has frequent nightmares and is open to counseling. His resettlement agency social worker finds two options: a trauma clinic with a Dari-speaking clinician across the city, and a closer clinic that uses telephone interpreters. Bashir has no car, the agency can provide transit passes, and he has not said which matters more to him. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Refer him to the Dari-speaking clinic and arrange transit passes
- **B.** Refer him to the closer clinic and request a Dari interpreter each time
- **C.** Describe both clinics to Bashir and let him decide between them

52. A social worker at an advocacy organization is drafting a brief on rising evictions among older renters. The draft reports how many older adults were evicted last year and the cost of emergency shelter for them. Her director says the problem definition section is not finished yet. What should she add to complete it?

A. Who is affected, what is driving the evictions, and who sees them as a problem
B. The policy change the organization favors and an estimate of what it would cost
C. A personal story from an evicted older renter to engage legislators and reporters

53. In the sixth of 12 planned sessions, Rosa Jimenez, 44, tells her social worker, "I think I'm good now. I'm sleeping again and I went back to my book club." She has met her goals for sleep and social contact; her third goal, a household budget, is not yet done. She says she is open to talking it over. What should the social worker do?

A. Review her progress with her, including the budget goal, and decide together
B. Encourage her to complete all 12 sessions, as they agreed in the contract
C. Explore whether wanting to stop reflects avoidance of the budget goal
D. Agree to end today, since the decision to stop belongs to the client

54. Mrs. Bello, 35, has been referred by child protective services to a parenting program after a neglect finding. At her first meeting with the LMSW, after hearing the program's requirements, she says angrily, "I don't need a class to tell me how to raise my kids." What is the BEST response?

A. Acknowledge her anger and ask what she wants for her family.
B. Review what happens to her case if the class is not completed.
C. Note that many parents feel this way and describe the class format.
D. Ask her to describe, in her own words, what led to the neglect finding.

55. Lily Park, 5, is referred to a community mental health clinic after her parents' divorce because she has started wetting the bed and clinging to her mother. Her mother gave a detailed history at intake, and Lily separated from her easily for this session. In the first session, Lily answers the social worker's questions with shrugs. What is the BEST way for the worker to continue assessing Lily?

A. Bring Lily's mother back in to fill in what Lily is not saying
B. Invite Lily to draw or play with dolls while observing her themes
C. Ask Lily simpler questions about her routines at each parent's home
D. Pause and schedule a joint session so Lily feels more at ease

56. Amira Haddad, a family preservation worker, visits Jolene, 26, who wants help preparing for her eviction hearing tomorrow morning. Amira sees that the apartment's only heat source is a gas oven left open, and Jolene's 18-month-old son is sleeping in the kitchen. Jolene says the furnace broke a week ago and the landlord has not responded. What should Amira address FIRST?

A. An emergency request to the landlord and the city code office for repair
B. Turning off the open oven and arranging safe heat or shelter tonight
C. Preparing Jolene's case for the eviction hearing set for tomorrow
D. A referral to a utility assistance program to cover furnace repairs

57. Rukhsana, 36, is meeting LMSW Peter at a domestic violence program to discuss sexual abuse by her husband. The only Urdu interpreter available on short notice is male. When he joins, Rukhsana lowers her eyes and gives one-word answers, though she was talkative at intake with a female staff member. She is safe at the program, and nothing needs to be decided today. What should Peter do FIRST?

A. Explain the interpreter's duty of confidentiality, then continue
B. Request a female interpreter for the next session and keep today general
C. Ask Rukhsana whether she wants to continue with this interpreter
D. Ask the interpreter privately whether he has interpreted on abuse before

58. In a federally assisted substance use treatment program, Shauna Lee, 26, tells her social worker that last weekend she used methamphetamine and left her 18-month-old son alone in their apartment for several hours. Shauna has not signed any consent to share information outside the program. What should the social worker do?

A. Develop a safety plan with Shauna and arrange childcare during treatment
B. Consult the program's Part 2 compliance officer before any disclosure
C. Ask Shauna to sign a Part 2 consent so a report can mention her treatment
D. Report suspected neglect of her son to child protective services

59. Keisha Moore, 24, has a mild intellectual disability and lives in a group home. She has no guardian. Keisha asks to join a healthy relationships group at the community agency. Group home staff tell the social worker that her parents should sign the consent because 'she won't understand the forms.' What is the BEST way for the social worker to proceed?

A. Ask the group home's behavior specialist to assess her capacity before she enrolls
B. Have Keisha sign the standard consent form and mail a copy to her parents' home
C. Review the consent with Keisha using plain words and pictures, then have her sign
D. Obtain her consent along with her parents' co-signature, given staff's concerns

60. A homeless shelter bars entry after 9 p.m. Marcus, 52, has started a job near the shelter whose shift ends at 10 p.m. and will lose his bed under the rule. His employer has already said the shift cannot change, and Marcus wants to stay at this shelter. The shelter allows the director to approve exceptions. The LMSW case manager believes the rule overlooks working residents. What is her BEST action?

A. Help Marcus ask his employer for a shift that ends before 9 p.m.
B. Arrange with night staff to let Marcus in when his shift ends
C. Request an exception for Marcus and raise the rule's effect on workers
D. Refer Marcus to a shelter that allows later entry for evening workers

61. Late on a Sunday, Bianca Rossi, a social worker at a family service agency, receives a direct message on her personal Instagram account from her client, Zoe Li, 30, asking to move Tuesday's appointment. The agency uses a secure patient portal for scheduling. What is the BEST response?

A. Confirm the new time briefly in the direct message, then discuss the channel in session
B. Reply through the patient portal about the appointment and remind Zoe how to reach the agency
C. Leave the message unanswered and talk with Zoe about the contact at Tuesday's session
D. Block the account and ask the front desk to call Zoe about rescheduling her appointment

Section 2 Questions 62-122

62. In supervision, LMSW Lorena Diaz describes a colleague who began dating a former client three years after services ended, at the former client's initiative. Lorena asks why the NASW Code places the burden on the social worker, rather than on the former client, to show that such a relationship is not exploitative. What is the BEST explanation her supervisor can give?

- **A.** Former clients cannot give legally valid consent to such relationships
- **B.** Such relationships are illegal in most states for licensed social workers
- **C.** Influence from the professional role can persist after services end

63. An LMSW at a refugee resettlement agency completes a certificate course on Hmong culture and tells her supervisor, 'Now I really understand Hmong families.' She has three Hmong families on her caseload, each with different concerns, and plans to use the course content in each family's next service plan. What is the supervisor's BEST response?

- **A.** Invite her to present what she learned in the course at the next team meeting.
- **B.** Ask her how each of her three Hmong families differs from what the course described.
- **C.** Have her use the course content to revise the cultural section of each family's plan.

64. Three weeks after a flood, a social worker doing follow-up outreach visits Mrs. Haddad, 48. She reports that she cannot sleep, has frequent nightmares, avoids driving past her old street, and has stopped going to work. Her distress has not decreased since the first week. She has no thoughts of harming herself and is staying safely with her brother. What is the BEST action?

- **A.** Refer her for a mental health assessment and help her arrange the first appointment
- **B.** Continue weekly psychological first aid visits focused on practical needs and coping
- **C.** Teach her a sleep routine and relaxation skills to use at night when she cannot sleep
- **D.** Arrange a psychiatric hospital admission to stabilize her sleep and daily functioning

65. A county suicide prevention coalition learns that several deaths over the past five years have occurred at the same local bridge. Members ask the coalition's social worker which strategy has the STRONGEST evidence for preventing deaths at that site.

- **A.** Installing physical barriers on the bridge
- **B.** Gatekeeper training for county residents
- **C.** Caring contacts after hospital discharge

66. A fee-based counseling agency tells staff not to mention a nearby free program that offers the same services. Ahmed, 38, is paying out of pocket and says the fees are straining his family's budget. The agency has no sliding scale, and his hardship request was denied last month. What should his social worker do?

- **A.** Ask the agency to reconsider his fee through its hardship review process
- **B.** Inform Ahmed about the free program and raise the directive in supervision
- **C.** Help Ahmed review his budget to find room for the counseling fees
- **D.** Ask the agency's ethics committee to review the directive before acting

67. An emergency department physician calls a substance use treatment program at night. A patient of the program, Sam Wilder, has been brought in unresponsive, and the physician asks which medications he receives from the program. There is no consent on file allowing disclosure to the hospital. What should the on-call social worker do?

- **A.** Decline to confirm that he is a patient, since no consent for the hospital is on file
- **B.** Give the physician the information needed for the emergency and document the disclosure
- **C.** Reach the program's medical director to authorize any release before sharing anything
- **D.** Send the physician his full treatment record so the hospital has complete information

68. To check a new anxiety scale, an LMSW in a research unit gives it to 50 adults on a clinic waiting list. Two weeks later, with no treatment in between, she gives the same version of the scale to the same adults. Scores at the two times are highly correlated. She has not yet examined how the items relate to one another or used a second version of the scale. This finding is evidence of which property?

- **A.** Internal consistency
- **B.** Parallel-forms reliability
- **C.** Test-retest reliability

69. Mrs. Oyelaran brings her husband, 58, to an outpatient clinic asking for anger management. She says that over the past month he has become irritable and has had angry outbursts that are very unlike him. Six weeks ago he fell from a ladder and hit his head but did not see a doctor. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Enroll him in the next anger management group the clinic will be offering
- **B.** Teach him relaxation skills he can start using as soon as he notices any irritability
- **C.** Recommend that he receive a medical evaluation before anger services begin
- **D.** Explore recent stressors in the family that might be triggering his anger

70. At a school workshop led by the school social worker, a parent asks why her 15-year-old can explain risks clearly yet still takes more chances than she did at 25. Which pattern of brain development BEST explains why risk-taking tends to peak during adolescence?

- **A.** Synaptic pruning in adolescence temporarily weakens the brain's reasoning capacity
- **B.** Myelination is largely complete by early adolescence, so impulses move very quickly
- **C.** Prefrontal control systems mature first, while reward systems develop more slowly
- **D.** Reward systems become highly responsive before prefrontal control fully matures

71. Hiroshi Tanaka, 78, is referred to an aging services social worker because his physician reports that he is "noncompliant" with his heart medications. The referral gives no other details. Mr. Tanaka is pleasant and fully oriented, and he says he takes his pills "when I can." What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Review his pharmacy refill history, with his consent, to see which doses are missed
- **B.** Offer him a weekly pill organizer and a daily reminder call from an agency volunteer
- **C.** Ask Mr. Tanaka how he takes the pills each day and what makes that difficult

72. During a supervised visit at a child welfare agency, the social worker observes Noor, 15 months. When her mother steps out, Noor shows little visible distress and keeps playing. When her mother returns and calls her, Noor glances away and moves to a toy across the room. This pattern is MOST consistent with which attachment classification?

- **A.** Disorganized
- **B.** Ambivalent-resistant
- **C.** Avoidant
- **D.** Secure

73. Ingrid Larsen, 44, meets with a social worker at a primary care clinic. She says, "I know I drink too much, but it's the only way I can relax after work." Which response is MOST consistent with motivational interviewing?

- **A.** Drinking to relax every night can turn into dependence over time.
- **B.** What would it take for you to start cutting back on drinking this week?
- **C.** Have you thought about other ways to relax, like exercise or a bath?
- **D.** Drinking helps you relax, and you're also worried you drink too much.

74. Teresa, an LMSW who directs quality improvement at a family service agency, plans to interview clients about their experiences with services and publish the findings in a journal. The executive director has approved the plan, and the agency's funders are eager to see the results. Teresa has drafted a consent form. What should she do NEXT?

- **A.** Ask caseworkers to suggest clients who would be good interview participants
- **B.** Send funders the study timeline and the plan for publishing the results
- **C.** Begin recruiting clients with the consent form the director has approved
- **D.** Submit the study for review by an IRB or an equivalent ethics committee

75. Ms. Tran's son, 2, is in foster care, and agency policy requires a concurrent plan for children under 3. At a case planning meeting, she learns that the foster family is being assessed as possible adoptive parents. Upset, she asks the caseworker why this is happening when her goal is to bring her son home. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Suggest she discuss the backup plan with her attorney before the hearing
- **B.** Explain that a backup plan is required and reunification is still the goal
- **C.** Acknowledge her distress and turn the discussion to her recent progress
- **D.** Explain that the foster family will be assessed only if her progress stalls

76. Gavin O'Neill, 46, takes lithium for bipolar disorder. During a home visit, his case manager notices that he is unsteady on his feet, has a coarse tremor and seems confused. He says he has had diarrhea and vomiting for two days. He is breathing normally and can walk to a car with help. What should the case manager do?

- **A.** Help him drink fluids and recheck his symptoms later this evening
- **B.** Call his prescriber's office to report symptoms and request a level
- **C.** Advise him to skip his next lithium dose until he is feeling better
- **D.** Arrange for him to be taken to the emergency department right away

77. Mr. Okeke, 26, has schizophrenia, and his hallucinations have been well controlled on medication for a year. His mother tells a community mental health social worker that he now sits for hours, speaks very little, shows almost no facial expression and has no interest in activities. He denies feeling sad, guilty or worthless, and his speech, though sparse, is logical. Which explanation is MOST likely?

- **A.** Cognitive symptoms affecting attention and planning
- **B.** Negative symptoms of his schizophrenia
- **C.** A co-occurring major depressive episode
- **D.** Disorganized thinking that disrupts his speech

78. A middle school social worker consults with a counselor about Marcus, 13, who went through puberty well before his classmates. He was just elected team captain, is popular, and seems confident. The counselor asks what research on pubertal timing suggests about students like Marcus. Which conclusion is MOST consistent with that research?

- **A.** His social advantages are typical of early maturers of either gender
- **B.** His status is typical of early-maturing boys, though early drinking is a risk
- **C.** His status is unusual, since early maturers of either gender are less popular

79. Tomás Herrera, 52, a rancher who recently lost his health insurance, offers to repair his social worker's fence in exchange for counseling sessions. The rural family agency where she works offers a sliding fee scale. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Accept the trade, setting the hours and their dollar value in a written agreement
- **B.** Accept the trade, since labor exchanges are an accepted practice in the community
- **C.** Decline the trade and review whether he qualifies for the sliding fee scale

80. Esperanza, 66, cares for her husband after his stroke. In a mindfulness-based stress reduction group at a senior center, the leader guides a body scan and breathing practice. Which statement BEST describes the aim of these exercises?

- **A.** To identify and dispute irrational beliefs about her caregiving
- **B.** To notice sensations and thoughts in the present without judging them
- **C.** To relax each muscle group in turn to lower her physical tension
- **D.** To picture a calm, safe place she can return to when she is stressed

81. Svetlana, 27, is in a hospital emergency department after being sexually assaulted last night. She is medically stable. A nurse explained the forensic exam and her reporting options an hour ago. Svetlana says she does not want family or friends told yet, and tells the social worker, "I can't think. I don't know what to do about anything." Which response is BEST?

- **A.** Ask whether a friend or relative could come to help her decide
- **B.** Encourage her to talk about the assault and how she feels now
- **C.** Offer her two or three simple choices about what happens next
- **D.** Review her reporting options and the timeline for evidence collection

82. Femi, 24, tells a social worker at a community mental health center that he has saved up pills and plans to take them tonight. He says he intends to die and will not agree to a safety plan. He lives alone. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Refer Femi to an intensive outpatient program that has an opening later this week
- **B.** Work out a safety plan with Femi and schedule a follow-up visit for tomorrow morning
- **C.** Arrange an immediate emergency psychiatric evaluation for possible hospitalization
- **D.** Call the 988 Lifeline with Femi so that a counselor can support him through tonight

83. In a psychoeducation series for adults with bipolar disorder, a social worker presents research on early warning signs, then asks members to apply it by writing their own relapse-prevention plans, noting that each of them is the expert on their own life. Which practice principle does this approach MOST directly reflect?

- **A.** Empowerment, building clients' capacity to act on their own behalf
- **B.** Normalization, helping clients see reactions as common and expected
- **C.** Harm reduction, lowering risk without requiring full abstinence first

84. A social worker at a VA medical center runs groups for veterans. She notices that men who served in Vietnam often describe returning to public hostility and silence, while many post-9/11 veterans describe public thanks but long, repeated deployments. Which life course principle BEST accounts for these differences?

A. Timing of lives
B. Historical time and place
C. Human agency

85. Arjun, an LMSW, has arranged weekly supervision with an LCSW at his agency and plans to count the hours toward clinical licensure. His state board has specific rules on supervisor qualifications and on registering supervision plans before hours count. The LCSW assures him that she has supervised others and that agency HR has approved the plan. Before he begins counting supervised hours, what should he do?

A. Confirm with his state board that the supervisor and plan meet its rules
B. Verify that his supervisor holds an active clinical license in the state
C. Ask the agency's human resources office whether the hours will qualify

86. Keiko Tanaka, 35, is in cognitive therapy for depression. She reports that when her manager did not answer her email yesterday, the thought 'I'm going to be fired' popped into her head and her mood dropped. Over several sessions she has also said, 'I've always been incompetent,' and 'If I make a mistake, people will reject me.' In Beck's model, the thought about being fired is BEST described as:

A. An intermediate belief, a rule linking her core belief to behavior
B. A core belief about herself formed early in her life
C. An automatic thought, quick and specific to the situation
D. An irrational demand of the kind disputed in the ABC model

87. Imogen, 38, tells her LMSW at an outpatient clinic that she has a loaded gun at home and plans to use it tonight. She says that ending her life is her right and refuses to talk about safety planning or call anyone. What should the social worker do?

A. Respect Imogen's right to decide while clearly expressing concern for her safety
B. Schedule an urgent session for tomorrow morning to revisit her plan with her
C. Explore the reasons behind Imogen's wish to end her life before deciding next steps
D. Arrange an emergency evaluation for Imogen, even though she objects

88. Farah, 31, tells a social worker at a primary care clinic, "I know smoking is bad for my asthma, and I keep meaning to quit. But it's the only thing that calms me down at work, so I'm not sure I can." She has no plan or date to quit. Which stage of change BEST fits Farah?

A. Precontemplation, since she doubts that she is able to quit
B. Preparation, since she says she intends to quit smoking
C. Contemplation, since she is weighing reasons on both sides

89. Dorothy Kowalski, 79, is hospitalized after tripping over a rug at home. Her physician's notes describe her as alert and fully oriented. She refuses discharge to a rehabilitation facility, can explain her fall risk and how she would manage at home, and says she would 'rather risk a fall than live in a facility.' Her son asks the social worker to have her declared incapable. What is the BEST response to her son?

A. Tell him the team will request a formal capacity evaluation before discharge
B. Ask her physician whether the fall points to a new cognitive problem
C. Explain how he can petition a court for guardianship if he still disagrees
D. Explain that nothing so far gives the team reason to question her capacity

90. At a flood reception center, Mrs. Nguyen, 70, tells a volunteer social worker that she has type 2 diabetes and has not taken her insulin since yesterday morning because it was left behind. She asks for help getting a refill at a pharmacy. As they talk, she seems confused about where she is, looks pale and is breathing quickly. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Bring medical staff to evaluate her right away
- **B.** Get her juice and a snack from the food table
- **C.** Help her arrange an urgent insulin refill nearby

91. A community health social worker notices that many children on her caseload from the same apartment complex have asthma attacks. Families report mold and leaks that the landlord has ignored for months, and several say they fear eviction if they complain on their own. Which response BEST reflects anti-oppressive practice?

- **A.** Help tenants organize collectively to press the landlord for repairs
- **B.** Refer each child for an individual asthma action plan with a specialist
- **C.** Teach each family ways to reduce mold and other asthma triggers at home

92. Mr. Petrakis, 80, lives in his own home and receives meals through a local senior program. During a home visit, a social worker sees bank statements showing large withdrawals by a nephew who recently gained access to his account. Mr. Petrakis seems confused about where the money went. The social worker's state requires reporting suspected financial exploitation. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Report the suspected exploitation to Adult Protective Services
- **B.** Contact the long-term care ombudsman program about the concern
- **C.** Refer him to the Area Agency on Aging for case management help
- **D.** Report the nephew to the state's Medicaid fraud control unit

93. During a session, Brianna Scott, 37, shows her LMSW threatening texts she received from her ex-partner and says they may matter for a protective order. The LMSW wants a record of what the texts say. What should the LMSW do?

- **A.** Photograph the texts on her personal phone and upload them to the record
- **B.** Suggest Brianna save screenshots herself and give them to her attorney
- **C.** Record the relevant content of the texts in the agency record
- **D.** Photograph the texts on an agency tablet and save them to a staff folder

94. Lamar, 34, had an objective of attending ten outpatient substance use group sessions over five weeks, with the goal of staying alcohol-free. He attended all ten sessions, but he reports drinking heavily on three of the five weekends. How should the social worker evaluate his progress?

- **A.** The attendance objective was met; the alcohol-free goal was not
- **B.** The alcohol-free goal was partly met, since most weekends were sober
- **C.** Neither can be judged until drug screens confirm his own report
- **D.** Both were met, since he completed every step the plan asked of him

95. Sergio Marquez, 35, whose daughter is in foster care, is developing a case plan with his child welfare worker. The next court review is in three months. He asks the worker to write into the plan that his daughter will come home in three months if he completes every service. How should the worker respond?

- **A.** Write the three-month date in as his goal so he has a clear target to work toward
- **B.** Explain that the judge decides on return, and note the review date and what it weighs
- **C.** Agree to recommend return at three months if he completes all of the services
- **D.** Explain that the court sets timelines and leave all dates out of the case plan

96. Dorothy Kowalski, 81, lives in an assisted living facility and has chronic arthritis pain that she says makes her "wound up all the time." When the social worker suggests a brief mindful body scan, she laughs and says she is "not the meditating type," adding that she pictures "sitting cross-legged and chanting." What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Accept her answer and suggest gentle stretching for the tension instead
- **B.** Share research showing mindfulness can reduce chronic pain and stress
- **C.** Describe what the exercise involves and invite her to try a short version

97. Elena, an LMSW at a research and evaluation unit, designed a study, analyzed the data, and wrote most of a journal article. Her supervisor, who reviewed the draft and secured the grant, lists himself as first author. What should Elena do FIRST?

- **A.** Discuss authorship order with her supervisor based on contributions.
- **B.** Accept the order, since the supervisor secured the grant funding.
- **C.** Ask the journal's editor for guidance on authorship criteria.
- **D.** Raise the order with the IRB that approved the study's protocol.

98. Tanya, 31, a single mother, works two part-time jobs with schedules that change weekly. She has missed two of four appointments at a family resource center and forgot to submit her childcare subsidy renewal, which she says she meant to do. A colleague tells the LMSW that Tanya "just isn't motivated." Which explanation is BEST supported by research on scarcity?

- **A.** Chronic financial strain uses up mental bandwidth, which looks like poor follow-through
- **B.** Repeated setbacks have worn down her drive, much as learned helplessness theory predicts
- **C.** Families pass down habits that discount planning, as the culture of poverty view holds

99. Sophie, 22, has seen an LMSW at a community clinic for six months for binge eating and depression. Her symptoms have not improved, and she is losing hope. A nearby program specializes in eating disorders and has openings. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Increase sessions to twice a week to see whether more contact speeds her progress
- **B.** Discuss the lack of progress with Sophie and help her connect to the program
- **C.** Continue the current sessions, since ending now could feel to Sophie like abandonment
- **D.** End services and give Sophie the specialized program's number to call on her own

100. Sven, 41, sees an LMSW at a community clinic for depression. He has decided to move across the country to reunite with his former wife, who has asked him to come. He has already given notice at work and bought his ticket, and he asks for help planning his care after the move. The social worker privately thinks the move is unwise. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Explore whether Sven has fully thought through the risks of moving
- **B.** Share her concern that the move could undo the progress he has made
- **C.** Discuss her reaction to his choice with her supervisor before responding
- **D.** Help Sven arrange care in his new city before he leaves

101. A social worker at a day program for adults with serious mental illness is starting a social skills group. Today the group will learn a new skill, politely disagreeing with someone, for the first time. Members have not yet seen or discussed the skill. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Demonstrate the skill in a brief role-play with a co-leader.
- **B.** Discuss why the skill matters and break it into clear steps.
- **C.** Have members try the skill in a role-play to gauge their level.

102. Ethan, 13, shows the school social worker edited photos of him that a classmate has been posting on social media, with mocking comments from other students. The posts were made from home over the weekend but are being talked about at school. The school's bullying policy covers off-campus online conduct that disrupts school. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Help Ethan report the posts to the platform so they are taken down quickly
- **B.** Help Ethan save screenshots and report the posts under the school's bullying policy
- **C.** Contact the classmate's parents and ask them to have the posts removed today

103. According to the toxic stress framework from developmental science, what MOST determines whether a child's exposure to chronic adversity, such as deep poverty, becomes toxic?

- **A.** How many different adversities the child faces at the same time
- **B.** Whether supportive adult relationships buffer the stress response
- **C.** The age at which the child first begins facing the adversity

104. An LMSW who leads an outpatient support group for caregivers wants to video record one session for supervision. Seven of the eight members agree. The eighth member, Mr. Abara, declines and says he does not want any recording of his face or voice. What should the LMSW do?

- **A.** Not record the session, since every member present must consent
- **B.** Record the session and edit out Mr. Abara's comments before review
- **C.** Ask Mr. Abara to sit out of the camera's view for that session only
- **D.** Offer Mr. Abara a place in another group so recording can proceed

105. Mr. Chukwu, 70, completed a living will last year stating he did not want mechanical ventilation. Now hospitalized and alert, he tells the social worker he has changed his mind. His physician documented this morning that he has decision-making capacity. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Have an attorney draft a revocation before the team changes his orders
- **B.** Ask the team to assess his capacity before acting on the change
- **C.** Tell the team now and help him document his current wishes

106. Deshawn Miller, 41, comes to a homeless services drop-in center. He lost his job and phone service and has no ID. He has a shelter bed confirmed through Friday and hopes to see his daughter on her birthday next month. The center's ID clinic runs only today, and both the job program and housing applications require ID. He says, "I can't think straight." The social worker has reflected his distress. What should the social worker do NEXT?

- **A.** Focus today on replacing his ID, since the other steps depend on it.
- **B.** Focus today on finding him a shelter bed so he is safe tonight.
- **C.** Focus today on contacting his daughter, the goal he cares most about.
- **D.** Focus today on enrolling him in the job program to rebuild income.

107. Sam and Jordan, married six years, brought their 3-month-old to a pediatric clinic. Jordan tells the social worker that since the baby arrived, the couple rarely talk, Sam's mother visits daily, and Jordan feels 'shut out' of the bond between Sam and the baby. Which family life cycle task is MOST relevant?

- **A.** Committing to the new couple system and realigning ties with families
- **B.** Shifting family boundaries to allow children more independence
- **C.** Adjusting the couple system to make room for the new child
- **D.** Separating from the family of origin to form an adult identity

108. Ethan Brooks, an LMSW in a group practice, is using a dating app when he receives a message from a current client, Daniel, 33, that says, 'Small world! Guess we have more in common than I thought.' What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Unmatch without replying and let Daniel decide whether to bring it up
- **B.** Not reply on the app, and consult his supervisor on addressing it in session
- **C.** Refer Daniel to a colleague, since the outside contact has compromised the work
- **D.** Reply on the app briefly to say they should talk about it at the next session

109. A child welfare social worker observed Ms. Rahimi with her son, 5, during four scheduled home visits and wrote narrative notes. A second worker joined two visits and recorded the same observations. Each visit showed calm, patient parenting. Her son later tells his teacher, "Mom is only nice when the visitor comes." Which limitation of observation does this MOST likely reflect?

- **A.** People may act differently when they know they are being watched
- **B.** A structured checklist can miss behaviors it was not built to count
- **C.** An observer's expectations can shape what she notices and records

110. Aung Min, 45, resettled from Myanmar four months ago. At the resettlement agency, he tells the LMSW that his main need is a job so he can support his family. He mentions poor sleep and occasional nightmares but says they are 'not a problem now.' He denies thoughts of self-harm. What is the BEST approach?

- **A.** Screen for PTSD now with a brief standardized tool before setting any goals.
- **B.** Refer him to his primary care provider to evaluate the sleep problems.
- **C.** Make employment the first goal and revisit sleep and nightmares at later meetings.
- **D.** Offer a referral to a refugee trauma program alongside employment services.

111. A social worker in a juvenile detention center notices that most of the youths on her unit explain right and wrong mainly in terms of avoiding punishment and getting rewards. She wants to design a group activity that, according to Kohlberg, would MOST likely advance their moral reasoning. Which activity BEST fits?

- **A.** Small-group dilemma debates that include peers reasoning one stage higher
- **B.** Mentoring by adults who model honesty and fairness in everyday situations
- **C.** A unit reward system that consistently reinforces honest, helpful behavior
- **D.** Lessons that teach the facility's values and the reasons behind each rule

112. Marisol, 42, who grew up in Puerto Rico, is seen by a hospital social worker after an episode in the waiting room when she learned of her brother's death. She screamed, cried, shook, and felt heat rising in her chest, then calmed within minutes. She has no history of similar episodes apart from other times of grave loss, and her family calls it an ataque de nervios. How should the social worker MOST likely understand this episode?

- **A.** As a panic attack that calls for a careful screen for panic disorder
- **B.** As an acute stress reaction that calls for crisis counseling
- **C.** As a dissociative episode that calls for a trauma assessment
- **D.** As a cultural concept of distress to understand in its context

113. Mr. Chen, 72, is planning his return home after rehabilitation for a stroke. He tells the social worker that decisions in his family are made together and asks that his son and daughter-in-law join the planning meeting. He has full decision-making capacity, signed a release for both of them yesterday and repeated the request when the two met alone this morning. What should the social worker do?

- **A.** Meet with Mr. Chen alone first to confirm what he wants the family to hear
- **B.** Ask Mr. Chen to sign a release before his family joins the meeting
- **C.** Invite his son and daughter-in-law to join the planning meeting
- **D.** Hold the meeting with Mr. Chen and send his family a summary afterward

114. Brianna, 16, uses cannabis daily and is failing two classes. She completed 12 weeks of weekly outpatient counseling without reducing her use. An assessment shows no withdrawal risk or safety concerns, and her home is stable. Her parents want a residential program. Brianna wants to stay in school and says she is willing to attend a program after school. What should the social worker recommend?

- **A.** A residential program near home that allows weekly family visits
- **B.** Weekly outpatient counseling that adds family therapy sessions
- **C.** An adolescent intensive outpatient program held after school
- **D.** An adolescent partial hospitalization program on school days

115. Jamal Price, 31, tells his counselor at an outpatient substance use program that he is thinking of quitting because 'nobody here knows what it's like to be hooked.' The counselor, an LMSW, has been in recovery for ten years, and the agency permits staff disclosure of recovery status. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Describe her own path to recovery in some detail so Jamal sees change is possible
- **B.** Connect Jamal with the program's peer recovery specialist, who has lived experience
- **C.** Briefly share that she is in recovery and then return the focus to Jamal's goals
- **D.** Explore Jamal's doubts about the program without bringing in her own history

116. Margaret Wilson, 74, is referred to an aging services program by her daughter for 'forgetfulness.' During the assessment, Margaret mentions that she takes lorazepam 'whenever I need it,' prescribed by two different doctors, and has a glass of wine each evening. What should the social worker do FIRST?

- **A.** Arrange a medical review of her lorazepam and alcohol use
- **B.** Refer her to a support group for older adults who use substances
- **C.** Ask her daughter how the forgetfulness has developed over time
- **D.** Give a standardized cognitive screen to measure her memory now

117. Raymond Fox, 45, meets criteria for an adjustment disorder. His insurer covers more sessions for major depressive disorder, and he asks his social worker, who diagnoses under supervision, to use that diagnosis so that he can afford more care. What is the BEST response?

- **A.** Use the depression diagnosis, since several of his symptoms overlap with its criteria
- **B.** Ask her supervisor to make the diagnosis so that the decision is not hers alone
- **C.** Keep the accurate diagnosis and limit treatment to the sessions his plan covers
- **D.** Keep the accurate diagnosis and explore other ways to fund the care he needs

118. Mr. Begay, 58, has stayed at a homeless services shelter for a week and tells his case manager he has not had groceries for days. She calls a nearby food pantry, confirms its intake hours and documents needed, and gives Mr. Begay written directions and the intake worker's name. The pantry has not refused anyone, and no other agencies are involved yet. Which case management function is she MAINLY performing?

A. Linking
B. Advocacy
C. Coordination
D. Monitoring

119. Sofia, 9, cries and complains of stomachaches on school mornings, though her pediatrician has found no medical cause. Her father lets her stay home most days. At home she spends the day alone in her room doing schoolwork while he works, and her stomachaches ease within an hour. What is the MOST likely effect of this pattern?

A. Her father's attention at home positively reinforces her complaints of illness
B. Her stomachaches point to a medical cause that has not yet been identified
C. Relief from escaping school negatively reinforces avoidance and keeps her fear

120. Gloria, 63, attends a caregiver support program at a senior center. She tells the social worker that her adult daughter's marriage has just ended in divorce. Gloria says, "This happened because I didn't raise her right. If I had been a better mother, she would still be married." Her daughter has said the divorce was a mutual decision. Which cognitive distortion does Gloria's statement BEST illustrate?

A. Should statements
B. Magnification
C. Personalization

121. Oksana, 24, tells a social worker at a women's health clinic that the owner of the massage business where she worked kept her wages and threatened her family. She left two days ago, is staying with a friend whose address the owner does not know, and says she does not want police involvement. The state has no mandatory reporting requirement for adult trafficking victims. What is the BEST response?

A. Explain that a police report is the main way to obtain victim protections
B. Develop a safety plan with her and describe the specialized services available
C. Arrange an emergency shelter placement for her tonight through a local program
D. Schedule a follow-up visit to discuss services once she feels more settled

122. After two sessions at a family service agency, a social worker writes: 'Ms. Diaz fell behind on rent after her hours were cut in March. She wants to keep her apartment, and her careful budgeting is a strength to build on.' The worker plans to share this statement with Ms. Diaz before they set goals. The statement is BEST described as:

A. a presenting problem
B. a strengths assessment
C. a problem formulation