



FACULTY	EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES
SCHOOL	EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT	EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE
SUBJECT	TRENDS IN JUNIOR PRIMARY EDUCATION
SUBJECT CODE	E6951CJ
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DURATION	3 HRS MARKS: 100

SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION

EXAMINERS: Dr. P. February, Dr. A. Haufiku, Dr. E. Kleopas, Dr. T. Nghikembua, & Dr. F. Shingenge, (University of Namibia)

EXTERNAL MODERATOR: Dr Zelda Barends (Stellenbosch University)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE:

- 1. This question paper consists of four (4) pages including the cover page.**
- 2. Number your questions correctly.**
- 3. Read the questions carefully before you answer.**
- 4. Please note that cheating in the examination will result in a fail.**

UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

QUESTION 1

This question consists of two options to answer. Answer only **one** question, choosing either Question A or B.

- A) Critically evaluate the extent to which modern learning theories adequately address the needs of diverse learners in 21st-century classrooms.

In your answer:

- i) Analyse the contribution of at least three learning theories. (9)
- ii) Evaluate their effectiveness in addressing diversity (cultural, linguistic, and cognitive). (9)
- iii) Suggest improvements or adaptations to make these theories more responsive to current educational challenges. (7)

[25]

- B) Read the following case study and answer the questions below.

A Grade 2 classroom in a rural-farm school of Otjozondjupa region consists of 51 learners from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. The teacher relies mainly on rote teaching and whole-class instruction. Many learners struggle to grasp numeracy concepts, while others appear disengaged. There is limited access to digital resources, but locally available materials (e.g., stones, bottle tops) are abundant.

Using relevant learning theories and learning styles, critically analyse the situation and propose an improved teaching approach. In your response:

- i) Analyse the teaching challenges using at least four learning theories. (7)
- ii) Discuss the limitations of the current teaching approach. (5)
- iii) Design an improved, theory-informed instructional strategy. (7)
- iv) Justify how your approach supports diverse learners and enhance learner engagement and understanding of the Mathematical concepts. (6)

[25]

QUESTION 2

Read the case study below and answer the questions that follows:

Case Study: Amelia's Learning Journey

Amelia is a 9-year-old girl in Grade 3 attending a rural school in Namibia. She is an enthusiastic learner who enjoys participating in arts and dance activities. Amelia was born in a community where Otjiherero is her home language, and she is currently learning English at school.

Recently, teachers noticed that Amelia has been having difficulty with reading comprehension and writing tasks. She occasionally appears shy during class discussions and prefers working in small groups rather than independently. Teachers also observed that Amelia responds well to visual and kinaesthetic learning activities but struggles with instructions that are lengthy or complex.

The classroom environment is designed to be inclusive, with visual aids, multicultural materials, and flexible seating arrangements. The teacher frequently uses storytelling, group projects, and hands-on activities to support diverse learners. The school also engages with Amelia's parents and community elders to support her overall development.

Questions:

- 2.1 Explain the purpose of Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP) and identify two principles of DAP that are demonstrated in Amelia's classroom. (4)
- 2.2 Describe two instructional strategies used in Amelia's classroom that are consistent with DAP principles to support her learning. (4)
- 2.3 Discuss how the teacher's approach to Amelia's individual learning needs exemplifies differentiated instruction. (4)
- 2.4 Describe how inclusivity is promoted in Amelia's classroom to support learners from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. (4)
- 2.5 Propose two additional strategies or interventions that could further enhance Amelia's literacy and social-emotional development. (4)
- [20]

QUESTION 3

- 3.1. Play-based pedagogies form a critical part of learning and teaching at Junior Primary phase.
- i) Discuss play-based pedagogies highlighting different types of play. (6)
- ii) Critically evaluate the effectiveness of play-based pedagogies in the context of multicultural and multilingual classrooms. (9)
- 3.2. Emerging Technologies and innovative practices are pedagogical approaches used in the Junior Primary phase. Critically examine this pedagogy. The following questions should be considered in your answer.
- i) Define Emerging technologies and innovation in the context of Junior Primary Education.
- ii) How does technology such as educational apps, interactive smartboards and some AI-assisted tools enhance learning outcomes.
- ii) What are the pedagogical benefits and potential risks or limitations when using these tools with young learners.
- (10)
- [25]

QUESTION 4

Evaluate the use of Education Management Information System (EMIS) in Namibian primary schools. [10]

QUESTION 5

Discuss opportunities and challenges in implementing the Language Policy for schools in Namibia (2003).

[10]

QUESTION 6

The Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sport, Arts, and Culture (MEIYSAC) has drafted the Namibia Teaching Profession Bill to set clear standards and frameworks for teachers. The purpose of the Bill is to establish a Teaching Profession Council of Namibia with the mandate to enforce teacher licensing and regulation. Critique the Teaching Profession Bill in Namibia.

[10]

[TOTAL MARKS: 100]