Diagnostic Test

Early Childhood Education

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**XAMonline: Providing teachers with superior certification study tools**

Are you looking for a comprehensive study guide to help you pass the teacher certification exam *the first time*? Do you want a guide that is aligned with current test guidelines, one that includes the exact information without the fluff? XAMonline’s teacher certification study guides offer an easy-to-understand, in-depth review of the actual content that’s on the test. Unlike other study guides XAMonline provides the actual content, not just a list of skills and competencies or study secrets.

In addition to a thorough review, our guides include practice tests with up to 125 questions to prepare you for the actual exam. The practice tests include full answer rationales as well as skill reference and rigor for each question, allowing you to quickly flip back and review the relevant content and identify which topics to devote more study time to.

XAMonline guides are designed to prepare you for success, on both your certification test and in the classroom.

**Developed by a teacher, for teachers**

Founded in 1996, XAMonline began with one teacher-in-training who was frustrated by the lack of materials available for teacher certification exam preparation. From a single state-specific guide, XAMonline has grown to offer over 300 study guides for every state exam, as well as the PRAXIS I and PRAXIS II tests.

Our comprehensive study guides offer more than just the required certification competencies and skills. Their content and structure enables you to go beyond basic skills development and rote memorization to mastery of subject matter, a necessary trait of effective teaching. The content of our PRAXIS and state-specific guides is aligned and weighted to current standards, ensuring you’re studying the right material.

**Quality Content from Quality Teaching Professionals**

XAMonline’s superior quality standards are maintained by seasoned, professional teachers. We choose from a pool of over 1,500 certified teachers to write, review, and edit our guides. Each certification study guide includes an extensive practice test, which features varied levels of rigor and in-depth answer rationale. Just like the study guide, the practice test questions are aligned with the current state or PRAXIS test parameters, providing you with an experience that parallels the real test.
Testing Tips

1. **Do not read anything into the question.** Do not assume that the test writer is looking for something else than what is asked. Stick to the question as written and do not read extra things into it.

2. **Read the question and all the choices twice before answering the question.** You may miss something by not carefully reading and then re-reading both the question and the answers. If you really do not have a clue as to the right answer, leave it blank on the first time through. Go on to the other questions, as they may provide a clue as to how to answer the skipped questions. If later on, you still cannot answer the skipped ones…**guess.** The only penalty for guessing is that you **might** get it wrong. Only one thing is certain; if you do not put anything down, you will get it wrong!

3. **Turn the question into a statement.** Look at the wording of the questions. The syntax of the question usually provides a clue. Does it seem more familiar as a statement rather than as a question? Does it sound strange? By turning a question into a statement, you may be able to spot if an answer sounds right, and it may trigger memories of material you have read.

4. **Look for hidden clues.** It is actually very difficult to compose multiple-foil (choice) questions without giving away part of the answer in the options presented. In most multiple-choice questions, you can often readily eliminate one or two of the potential answers. This leaves you with only two real possibilities and automatically your odds go to fifty-fifty for very little work.

5. **Trust your instincts.** For every fact that you have read, you subconsciously retain something of that knowledge. On questions about which you are not really certain, go with your basic instincts. **Your first impression on how to answer a question is usually correct.**

6. **Mark your answers directly on the test booklet.** Do not bother trying to fill in the optical scan sheet on the first pass through the test. **Mark your answers carefully when you transcribe them to the scan sheet.**

7. **Watch the clock!** You have a set amount of time to answer the questions. Do not get bogged down trying to answer a single question at the expense of ten questions you can more readily answer.
1. The relationship between these two aspects of reading are weaker in the early grades and stronger in the later grades. These two aspects are… (Rigorous)
   A. Phonemic awareness and phonics
   B. Reading and writing
   C. Listening and reading
   D. Vocabulary and phonemic awareness

2. The basic features of the alphabetic principle include: (Average rigor)
   A. Students need to be able to take spoken words apart and blend different sounds together to make new words
   B. Students need to apply letter sounds to all their reading
   C. The teaching of the alphabetic principle usually begins in Kindergarten
   D. All of the above

3. Which of the following is NOT a component of reading fluency? (Easy)
   A. Phoneme knowledge
   B. Accuracy
   C. Rate
   D. Automacy

4. Which number order below displays the appropriate sequence for developing writing skills? (Rigorous)
   1. experimental writing
   2. early writing
   3. role play writing
   4. conventional writing
   A. 1, 4, 2, 3
   B. 3, 1, 2, 4
   C. 3, 2, 1, 4
   D. 1, 2, 4, 3

5. Which letters demonstrate symmetry? (Rigorous)
   A. F, O, J
   B. A, M, T
   C. A, F, O
   D. J, M, A
6. Which type of graph would best be used to represent the weekly height of a plant over the course of two months? (Average rigor)
   A. A bar graph
   B. A pictograph
   C. A stem and leaf plot
   D. A line graph

7. Three thousand, two hundred nine can be represented in which way? (Average rigor)
   A. 3,209
   B. 3,290
   C. 32009
   D. 3,000,209

8. A third grade class is reading a selection about an event than took place in the year 2000. One student asks how many years ago it took place. The students decide to use subtraction to determine the answer (current year minus 2000 equals how many years ago). What math skills are the students using? (Rigorous)
   A. Connection-making and measurement
   B. Measurement and number operations
   C. Concept of change in mathematics and number operations
   D. Connection-making and number operations

9. What is the term for “the division of a society into different levels based on factors such as race, religion, economic standing or family heritage? (Average rigor)
   A. Social stratification
   B. Class distinction
   C. The Caste System
   D. Assimilation
10. Young children are taught geography skills using which of the following primary types of illustrations? (Average rigor)
   A. Legend, Grid, Scale
   B. Maps, Charts, Graphs
   C. Topography and Demography
   D. Consistent Scales and Conformality

11. Which principle of government stipulates that the government must follow certain procedures in prosecuting a citizen for a crime? (Average rigor)
    A. Majority Rule
    B. Equality
    C. Popular Sovereignty
    D. Due Process

12. Sociologists identify five types of institutions around which societies are structured. Which is the most basic? (Easy)
    A. Religion
    B. Family
    C. School
    D. Local Government

13. Newton’s universal gravitation is an example of a ______. (Average rigor)
    A. theory
    B. hypothesis
    C. law
    D. prediction

14. Thermometers can measure all of the following except ______. (Rigorous)
    A. Fahrenheit
    B. Kelvin
    C. Joules
    D. None of the above

15. The change of seasons on Earth is caused by ______. (Rigorous)
    A. air masses
    B. Earth’s revolution around the sun
    C. climate zones
    D. time changes
16. A ______ would be a good choice when graphing the percent of time students spend on various after school activities. (Average rigor)
   A. line graph
   B. pie chart
   C. histogram
   D. bar graph

17. Which locomotor skill is a game of Fox and Hound most likely to be used to develop? (Average rigor)
   A. creeping
   B. hopping
   C. galloping
   D. leaping

18. The range of motion around a muscle is known as __________. (Easy)
   A. strength
   B. flexibility
   C. vision
   D. endurance

19. The three points of an artistic triangle are creating, performing, and ___________. (Average rigor)
   A. responding
   B. improving
   C. observing
   D. practicing

20. Which subject would be most likely to develop a student’s body awareness and listening skills? (Average rigor)
   A. visual arts
   B. dance
   C. drama
   D. music

21. When describing music, which term refers to the quality of a sound? (Average rigor)
   A. melody
   B. harmony
   C. timbre
   D. texture
22. A student who is observed to often collide with other people while taking part in physical education probably has poor awareness of __________. (Rigorous)
   A. balance  
   B. space  
   C. speed  
   D. force

23. According to Piaget's theory of cognitive development, what is the process of incorporating new objects, information or experiences into the existing cognitive structures? (Rigorous)
   A. Attachment  
   B. Conservation  
   C. Identification  
   D. Assimilation

24. Which of the following are considered a normal part of bilingual language development? (Average rigor)
   A. confusing grammar rules  
   B. using words from both languages  
   C. both A and B  
   D. neither A and B

25. What developmental patterns should a professional teacher assess to meet the needs of the student? (Rigorous)
   A. Academic, regional, and family background  
   B. Social, physical, academic  
   C. Academic, physical, and family background  
   D. Physical, family, ethnic background
26. A teacher notices that a student is quiet, and has several bruises on his head, arms and legs. When asked, the student responds that he hit his arm getting out of bed that morning. The teacher should: (Average rigor)

A. Attempt to get more information from the student
B. Report suspected abuse to the school counselor
C. Consult a colleague and see what they would do
D. Wait and see if other signs of abuse become evident

27. Which of the following help children to develop fine and gross motor skills? (Easy)

A. Tearing newspaper into strips
B. Cutting pictures from magazines
C. Manipulating play dough
D. All of the above

28. Which of the following may be a characteristic of an emotionally disturbed child? (Average rigor)

A. poor sleeping habits
B. inadequate diet
C. socialized aggression
D. lack of medical attention

29. Which of the following is a widely known curriculum model for early childhood programs? (Easy)

A. Montessori method
B. DISTAR method
C. Success for All
D. Voyager

30. Which of the following is one of the MOST valuable and effective assessment tools available to a teacher? (Rigorous)

A. formal evaluations
B. classroom observation
C. performance-based assessments
D. standardized tests
Answer Key

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. D
7. A
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. D
12. B
13. C
14. C
15. B
16. B
17. C
18. B
19. A
20. B
21. C
22. B
23. D
24. C
25. B
26. B
27. D
28. B
29. A
30. B