

# LCSW<sup>Q&As</sup>

ASWB Clinical Level Social Work Licensing Exam

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### QUESTION 1

Bethany, a clinical social worker, discovers that a male colleague has been getting a higher pay grade. They both have the same expertise and work with the same clientele. As soon as this information is obtained, Bethany goes directly to court without first contacting her supervisor. This is legal under what law?

- A. Discrimination Act
- B. Equal Pay Act
- C. Equal Employment Opportunity
- D. Americans with Disabilities Act

Correct Answer: B

The Equal Pay Act requires that men and women in the same workplace receive equal pay for the same work. This includes bonuses, overtime pay and stock options. Gender-based pay discrimination is not tolerated in the field of social work.

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### QUESTION 2

Jenny is 13 years old and has started to pull away from her parents in search of her own identity. The adolescent has joined a peer group in an effort to find a safe haven for testing new ideas. Members of a peer group often demonstrate what behaviors?

- A. Dress alike
- B. Have secret rituals or codes
- C. Participate in the same activities
- D. All of the above

Correct Answer: D

Peer groups during early adolescence often consist of non-romantic friendships. When parents attempt to control the teen's behaviors, rebellion is often the outcome.

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### QUESTION 3

A serious disorder requiring therapy is characterized by systemized delusions and the frequent projection of personal conflicts. The outcome may be hostility towards others where aggressive acts are believed to take place in self-defense. Symptoms of delusion appear slowly, and a patient may be suspicious, jealous, irritable, and bitter.

What type of personality disorder is described above?

- A. Dependent
- B. Paranoia
- C. Self-centered
- D. Cognitive

Correct Answer: B

Mental health professionals diagnose individuals with paranoid personality disorder if they display preoccupied doubts about friends, suspicions that others are plotting against them, reads negativity into positive remarks and is reluctant to confide in peers. People with paranoid personality disorder do not acknowledge their own faults, and delusions become permanently organized.

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#### QUESTION 4

A multidisciplinary team supports the progress and development of individuals with disabilities. The focus of the group is to ensure the person maintains as full a life as possible. Often the members include doctors, occupational therapists, psychiatrists, teachers and clinical social workers. Which of the following areas would a professional social worker typically not engage?

- A. Identifying gaps in service provision
- B. Promoting the rights of disabled individuals
- C. Locating respite and family support
- D. Diagnosing the disability

Correct Answer: D

Clinical social workers stay within their boundaries while acting on a multi-disciplinary team. They help assess the situation, identify community resources, and advocate for the disabled individual.

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#### QUESTION 5

As it relates to human behavior in the social environment, the aging process is marked by loss. Older adults lose many things as they age, including their ability to drive, eat or bathe on their own. Which of the following factors influence the extent to which an elderly person will interact with others?

- A. Support services
- B. Abundant relatives
- C. Health and mobility
- D. Friends of the same age

Correct Answer: C

As the elderly lose the ability to be mobile within society, their large network of social circles start to grow smaller. Eventually, the only people within an older individual's life tend to be a few close relatives. An assessment will see this

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withdrawal as beneficial to the community and elderly.

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#### QUESTION 6

There have been many studies completed on the irrational behavior that causes an individual to have negative feelings towards something. People will determine a set of characteristics, usually unconsciously, that they analyze others things or persons by. This interpersonal behavior is known as:

- A. Empathy
- B. Sympathetic
- C. Antipathy
- D. Hatred

Correct Answer: C

Antipathy is defined as an unconscious dislike for certain characteristics. People, places or things that fall under these descriptions are avoided with distaste. This behavior often resembles irrational, automatic processes.

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#### QUESTION 7

A clinical social worker is helping a client who has had a tumultuous past. The client's main issue is the way his history has come full circle and now presents current problems. After a thorough assessment, the social worker decides to focus on the here and now. What therapy might she utilize?

- A. Holistic therapy
- B. Brief therapy
- C. Gestalt therapy
- D. Cognitive behavioral therapy

Correct Answer: C

Gestalt therapy utilizes the past to solve a current problem. Clients are shown how to expand on their awareness through dialogue and experimental methods. They are taught self-regulation and lead through activities geared toward tackling the past.

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#### QUESTION 8

Rachel is receiving therapy to help her confront negative internal forces and learn to act and think responsibly. Her clinical social worker stresses the belief that each individual is responsible for making his or her own meaning out of life. What kind of principle is the therapist utilizing?

- A. Empowerment
- B. Cognitive-behavioral therapy

- C. Humanism
- D. Collaboration

Correct Answer: A

The social worker is utilizing the principle of empowerment to help Rachel confront negative internal forces.

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#### QUESTION 9

Sandra is the single mother of two teenage girls. She has very few demands on her children and does not expect anything in return. Both girls refuse to help around the house, even though their mother is working two jobs. When Sandra's daughters want something, they will cry until they get it. Avoiding confrontation appears to be Sandra's main focus, and she tries to keep peace in the home. What parenting style is Sandra demonstrating?

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

Correct Answer: B

Sandra is demonstrating permissive parenting, which is sometimes referred to as indulgent parenting. Children with these caretakers are rarely disciplined due to low expectations for self-control and maturity. Permissive parents are more lenient and avoid confrontation. They prefer to be a friend to their children instead of a parent.

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#### QUESTION 10

Alysha meets with a clinical social worker and discusses self-perceived problems. She reports complex mood swings that last for weeks and sometimes months. Alysha's main concern is that her manic behaviors may one day become life threatening. When the client is in a more sullen mood, she feels sad but somewhat safer. When completing a full assessment, what might the social worker diagnose Alysha as having?

- A. Dissociative identity disorder
- B. Major depressive disorder
- C. Bi-polar disorder
- D. Post-traumatic stress disorder

Correct Answer: C

Individuals with bi-polar disorder suffer from both euphoric periods that can lead to risk-taking behaviors and sudden bouts of depression with symptoms of sadness, crying, and a sense of worthlessness.

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#### QUESTION 11

A clinical social worker meets with the Robertson family to determine parental behavior by completing a comprehensive family assessment. Information will be collected on who lives in the home, health history, employment and stability.

Which of the following possible contributing factors should the social worker consider?

- A. Social Skills
- B. Bank Account
- C. Education
- D. Sibling Status

Correct Answer: C

When completing a comprehensive family assessment, the clinical social worker should consider possible contributing factors, including domestic violence, alcohol/drug usage, educational background, and employment status. All of these concerns are addressed to ensure the permanency and safety of the children. A clinical social worker cannot determine a working service plan without this information.

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#### **QUESTION 12**

When there is death of a loved one, basic assumptions about relationships and emotions begin to change. This is a disruption of what principle of organization?

- A. Homeostasis
- B. Continuity
- C. Holistic
- D. Endurance

Correct Answer: A

Homeostasis is the principle where systems attempt to remain constant and consistent. A disruption to the system(s) requires adaption by reorganizing in new ways of thinking or behaving.

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#### **QUESTION 13**

Clinical social workers providing treatment to individuals have the responsibility to allow full participation of the client when determining goals. Expected outcomes and the treatment of termination should be clearly specified and understood by both parties. What is the best way to develop this mutual understanding?

- A. Therapeutic observation
- B. Treatment contracts
- C. Court order
- D. Task-centered education

Correct Answer: B

Treatment contracts help define interventions, length of treatment, goals established and the method of termination. If changes occur along the way, both client and social worker will reestablish the contract. Services that may reach

beyond the agreement should be specified.

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#### QUESTION 14

A clinical social worker meets with a client in a quiet spot at the local library. This is a spot the client describes as supportive. Both the client and social worker enjoy reading, finding it relaxing. The social worker acts as an active listener and demonstrates sensitivity towards the client. Which of the following types of therapy is described above?

- A. Complimentary therapy
- B. Self-centered therapy
- C. Person-centered therapy
- D. Behavioral therapy

Correct Answer: C

Professionals providing person-centered therapy create a close relationship with their client. The clinical social worker seeks to increase self-understanding and insight through informal questions and to sympathize with the client's situation.

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#### QUESTION 15

One of the most studied topics in psychology has to do with an individual's belief in their capacity to organize and act on prospective situations. People who look forward to challenging tasks with high confidence levels have a strong sense of what?

- A. Self-confidence
- B. Self-efficacy
- C. Ego
- D. Determinants

Correct Answer: B

Bandura describes self-efficacy as the main determinant in how individuals feel, behave, and think. High levels give the belief that difficult situations are not beyond a person's capabilities and they quickly recover from setbacks.

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