



Certified Pharmacy Technician Educator Exam

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Practice Questions

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1. According to Bloom's Taxonomy, which cognitive level requires students to break down information into component parts and understand relationships?

- A. Remembering
- B. Understanding
- C. Applying
- D. Analyzing

2. An instructor notices a student has changed their perspective on patient counseling after reflecting on a challenging pharmacy experience. Which learning theory best explains this shift?

- A. Social Learning Theory
- B. Cognitivism
- C. Transformative Learning
- D. Behaviorism

3. In Kolb's Experiential Learning Cycle, which stage involves learners actively testing concepts in new situations?

- A. Abstract Conceptualization
- B. Active Experimentation
- C. Concrete Experience
- D. Reflective Observation

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4. Which component is essential to include in a course syllabus to help students understand how their performance will be evaluated?

- A. Assessment and grading criteria
- B. Instructor's biography
- C. Campus map
- D. Historical program statistics



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5. Which Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principle focuses on providing students with different ways to demonstrate their knowledge?

- A. Provide multiple means of representation
- B. Provide multiple means of engagement
- C. Provide single assessment method
- D. Provide multiple means of action and expression

6. An instructor discovers that a student has plagiarized content in an assignment. What is the most appropriate first step according to educational ethics?

- A. Ignore the incident if it's minor
- B. Publicly announce the violation to the class
- C. Follow the institution's academic integrity policy
- D. Immediately fail the student

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7. Which classroom management strategy is most effective for preventing disruptive behavior before it occurs?

- A. Allowing students to set their own rules mid-semester
- B. Establishing clear expectations and ground rules at the start
- C. Waiting to address problems until they become severe
- D. Avoiding eye contact with potentially disruptive students

8. Which type of question is most effective for promoting higher-order thinking during classroom discussion?

- A. Open-ended questions requiring analysis
- B. Yes/no questions
- C. Questions with single-word answers
- D. Questions requiring only memorized facts

9. An instructor wants to ensure all students feel welcome regardless of cultural background. Which strategy best promotes an inclusive classroom environment?

- A. Treating all students exactly the same without accommodation
- B. Focusing only on mainstream cultural examples
- C. Avoiding discussion of cultural differences
- D. Using diverse examples and acknowledging different perspectives



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10. Which active learning strategy involves students working together in small groups to solve a realistic pharmacy scenario?

- A. Independent reading
- B. Passive video viewing
- C. Case-based learning
- D. Traditional lecture

11. When providing feedback to a student who performed poorly on a compounding practical exam, which approach is most constructive?

- A. Compare the student negatively to higher-performing peers
- B. Provide specific feedback on techniques and offer improvement strategies
- C. Tell the student they lack talent for pharmacy
- D. Only provide a numerical grade without explanation

12. Which instructional method is most appropriate for teaching psychomotor skills such as aseptic technique?

- A. Demonstration followed by supervised practice
- B. Lecture only
- C. Reading assignment only
- D. Unsupervised independent practice

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13. According to Bloom's Taxonomy, which level represents the highest cognitive demand?

- A. Remembering
- B. Understanding
- C. Applying
- D. Creating



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14. Which principle of effective communication is most important when delivering complex pharmacy calculations instruction?

- A. Presenting all steps simultaneously
- B. Using only technical jargon
- C. Breaking information into manageable chunks
- D. Speaking as quickly as possible

15. An instructor wants to assess student understanding during a lecture. Which technique provides immediate feedback?

- A. Only assessing understanding at semester end
- B. Asking questions and checking for understanding throughout
- C. Waiting until the final exam
- D. Never asking questions to save time

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16. Which educational technology tool is most effective for facilitating asynchronous discussion among pharmacy technician students?

- A. Online discussion boards
- B. Live lecture only
- C. Paper-based textbooks only
- D. In-person meetings only

17. When creating performance standards for a sterile compounding lab, which element is most critical to include?

- A. Subjective personal opinions
- B. Vague general statements
- C. Unmeasurable abstract concepts
- D. Observable and measurable criteria

18. Which strategy best supports the Universal Design for Learning principle of providing multiple means of engagement?

- A. Using only one teaching method
- B. Eliminating all student options
- C. Offering choices in assignment topics or formats
- D. Requiring all students to complete identical tasks



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19. A student consistently arrives late and disrupts the class. After private conversation fails, what is the next appropriate step?

- A. Immediately expel the student without documentation
- B. Document the behavior and follow institutional progressive discipline procedures
- C. Publicly shame the student in front of peers
- D. Ignore the continued disruption

20. Which assessment strategy best measures students' ability to apply pharmacy knowledge to real-world situations?

- A. Simulation-based practical examinations
- B. Multiple-choice recall questions only
- C. True/false memorization tests
- D. Fill-in-the-blank vocabulary quizzes

21. Which accreditation body is primarily responsible for accrediting pharmacy technician training programs in institutional healthcare settings?

- A. ABHES
- B. ACICS
- C. CHEA
- D. ASHP

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22. According to PTCB requirements, how many continuing education hours must a certified pharmacy technician complete during each two-year recertification cycle?

- A. 15 hours
- B. 30 hours
- C. 20 hours
- D. 10 hours



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23. Under USP <795>, which of the following is the maximum beyond-use date for a water-containing nonsterile formulation prepared from ingredients in solid form when stored at controlled room temperature?

- A. 60 days
- B. 14 days
- C. 7 days
- D. 30 days

24. A pharmacy needs to prepare 500 mL of a 20% solution from a 50% stock solution. How many milliliters of the stock solution are needed?

- A. 200 mL
- B. 100 mL
- C. 250 mL
- D. 300 mL

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25. According to the AAPT Pharmacy Technician Code of Ethics, which principle emphasizes the responsibility to maintain competency and continually enhance professional knowledge?

- A. Maintaining patient confidentiality exclusively
- B. Maximizing pharmacy profits
- C. Following only federal regulations
- D. Maintaining competency and professional development

26. Under USP <797>, what is the ISO classification required for the buffer area (cleanroom) where compounding of sterile preparations takes place?

- A. ISO Class 8
- B. ISO Class 9
- C. ISO Class 7
- D. ISO Class 5

27. A pediatric patient requires 8 mg/kg/day of a medication divided into three doses. If the patient weighs 22 pounds, what is the dose in milligrams per administration?

- A. 80 mg
- B. 26.7 mg
- C. 58.7 mg
- D. 8 mg



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28. Which ABHES accreditation standard specifically requires pharmacy technician programs to include training in sterile and nonsterile compounding?

- A. Comprehensive curriculum standards
- B. Administrative operations only
- C. Customer service standards only
- D. Financial management standards

29. In Technician Product Verification (TPV), what is the primary role of a specially trained pharmacy technician?

- A. Conducting final verification of all new prescriptions
- B. Counseling patients on medication use
- C. Prescribing medications under supervision
- D. Verifying accuracy of refill prescriptions filled by another technician

30. A pharmacy must prepare 240 mL of a 10% ointment using 5% and 20% ointment bases. Using alligation, how many milliliters of the 20% ointment are needed?

- A. 160 mL
- B. 60 mL
- C. 80 mL
- D. 120 mL



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. D — Analyzing

Analyzing is the fourth level of Bloom's Taxonomy, where learners break material into parts, determine relationships between parts, and understand organizational structure.

2. C — Transformative Learning

Transformative Learning (Mezirow) describes how critical reflection on experiences can lead to a fundamental shift in perspective or frame of reference.

3. B — Active Experimentation

Active Experimentation is the fourth stage of Kolb's cycle, where learners apply what they have learned by testing theories and concepts in new situations.

4. A — Assessment and grading criteria

Assessment and grading criteria clearly outline how student performance will be measured, weighted, and evaluated throughout the course, helping students understand expectations.

5. D — Provide multiple means of action and expression

Multiple means of action and expression allow students to demonstrate their learning through various methods such as written work, presentations, projects, or practical demonstrations.

6. C — Follow the institution's academic integrity policy

Following institutional policy ensures consistent, fair handling of academic integrity violations and protects both student and instructor rights through established procedures.

7. B — Establishing clear expectations and ground rules at the start

Establishing clear expectations and ground rules at the beginning of the course provides students with behavioral guidelines and helps prevent disruptions by setting boundaries proactively.

8. A — Open-ended questions requiring analysis

Open-ended questions require students to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information rather than simply recall facts, promoting critical thinking and deeper engagement.

9. D — Using diverse examples and acknowledging different perspectives

Using diverse examples and acknowledging different perspectives helps all students see themselves represented in the curriculum and validates varied cultural experiences and viewpoints.

10. C — Case-based learning

Case-based learning presents students with realistic scenarios that require them to apply knowledge, analyze situations, and develop solutions collaboratively.

11. B — Provide specific feedback on techniques and offer improvement strategies

Specific, behavior-focused feedback identifies exactly what needs improvement and provides actionable guidance, helping students understand how to improve their performance.



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12. A — Demonstration followed by supervised practice

Demonstration followed by supervised practice allows students to observe proper technique, then practice the skill with immediate feedback and correction from the instructor.

13. D — Creating

Creating (or Synthesis in the original taxonomy) is the highest level, requiring students to generate new ideas, products, or ways of viewing things by combining elements.

14. C — Breaking information into manageable chunks

Breaking complex information into manageable chunks prevents cognitive overload and helps students process and retain step-by-step calculation procedures more effectively.

15. B — Asking questions and checking for understanding throughout

Asking questions during lecture and using techniques like show of hands or polling allows instructors to gauge understanding in real-time and adjust instruction accordingly.

16. A — Online discussion boards

Online discussion boards allow students to post, read, and respond to course-related topics at their own pace, promoting thoughtful reflection and participation outside of class time.

17. D — Observable and measurable criteria

Observable, measurable criteria allow objective assessment of student performance and ensure consistency in evaluation across different students and evaluators.

18. C — Offering choices in assignment topics or formats

Offering choices in assignment topics or formats increases student interest and motivation by allowing them to connect learning to personal interests and preferred working styles.

19. B — Document the behavior and follow institutional progressive discipline procedures

Documented behavior patterns and escalation to program administration ensure proper handling of persistent problems while maintaining records and following institutional procedures.

20. A — Simulation-based practical examinations

Simulation-based assessments require students to demonstrate practical application of knowledge in realistic scenarios, evaluating both cognitive understanding and practical skills.

21. D — ASHP

ASHP (American Society of Health-System Pharmacists) is the primary accrediting body for pharmacy technician training programs, particularly those in institutional and health-system settings.

22. C — 20 hours

PTCB requires certified pharmacy technicians to complete 20 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain their certification, with at least 1 hour in pharmacy law.

23. B — 14 days

USP <795> specifies that water-containing nonsterile formulations prepared from ingredients in solid form have a maximum beyond-use date of 14 days when stored at controlled room temperature.

24. A — 200 mL

Using the dilution formula $C_1V_1 = C_2V_2$: $(50\%)(V_1) = (20\%)(500 \text{ mL})$. Solving: $V_1 = (20 \times 500) / 50 = 200 \text{ mL}$



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of stock solution needed.

25. D — Maintaining competency and professional development

The AAPT Code of Ethics includes a principle requiring pharmacy technicians to maintain competency and continually enhance professional knowledge and expertise throughout their careers.

26. C — ISO Class 7

USP <797> requires that the buffer area (cleanroom) where sterile compounding occurs must be ISO Class 7 or better to maintain appropriate air quality and particle count standards.

27. B — 26.7 mg

First convert weight: 22 lbs / 2.2 = 10 kg. Daily dose: 8 mg/kg × 10 kg = 80 mg/day. Per dose: 80 mg / 3 doses = 26.67 mg, which rounds to 26.7 mg per administration.

28. A — Comprehensive curriculum standards

ABHES accreditation standards require comprehensive curriculum coverage including both sterile and nonsterile compounding techniques as essential components of pharmacy technician education programs.

29. D — Verifying accuracy of refill prescriptions filled by another technician

In TPV programs, specially trained and authorized pharmacy technicians verify the accuracy of medication products that have been filled by another technician, specifically for refill prescriptions, under state-specific regulations.

30. C — 80 mL

Using alligation: Parts of 20% = (10 - 5) = 5 parts; Parts of 5% = (20 - 10) = 10 parts. Total = 15 parts. For 20%: (5/15) × 240 mL = 80 mL of 20% ointment needed.



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