Pre-Test
Competencies 001-010

Date: ______________
Candidate Name: ____________________________

Competency 003

1. Which of the following best describes formative assessment and its purpose?

A. This type of assessment consists of daily written assignments that can be graded quickly and returned to students so that both the students and the teacher can monitor the student’s progress.

B. This type of assessment should be completed at the end of an instructional unit so that both the teacher and student can see if learning goals and objectives were met.

C. This type of assessment is informal, consisting of reflection and questioning by both the teacher and the students to judge the effectiveness of each day’s instruction.

D. This type of assessment is ongoing and utilizes a variety of assessment techniques to allow the teacher to gauge student understanding so that he or she can make appropriate adjustments to instruction.

Competency 001

2. A student who can formulate a hypothesis and work through the steps of the scientific method by isolating influences and identifying cause-and-effect relationships would be functioning at which cognitive stage of development?

A. Concrete operations

B. Formal Operations

C. Preoperational

D. Sensorimotor
Use the information below to answer the question(s) that follow.

Mr. Rios read a newspaper article about an exhibit coming to a local museum that will feature scientific discoveries from around the world. Inspired by the article, Mr. Rios takes advantage of the unexpected learning opportunity and begins brainstorming ideas for a project that will allow his students to use the museum exhibit to express themselves.

**Competency 002**

3. Before introducing the museum project, Mr. Rios must first make his multicultural fourth-grade students aware of the many discoveries of scientists from other parts of the world? Which activity can Mr. Rios use to best accomplish his objective?

   A. Sharing news articles related to scientific discoveries made locally and posting them for students to view.

   B. Having students research and present biographies of famous scientists from their countries of origin.

   C. Giving students an assignment to draw a picture of a scientific invention that is used every day.

   D. Providing students with a list of scientific discoveries made in other countries.

**Competency 004**

4. A third-grade teacher has planned a lesson designed to illustrate a living organism’s need for water. After presenting a mini-lesson, the teacher engages students in a discussion in which they hypothesize effects of the sufficiency of water supply on a living organism. Which activity would best encourage students to reflect and draw their own conclusions about an organism’s need for water?

   A. Research information on the importance of hydration to living organisms from a credible website.
B. Examine a plant that receives water on a regular basis and a plant that does not receive water and record their observations in their science journals.

C. Read information together from a science textbook and have students complete worksheet questions at the end of the chapter.

D. Cut pictures of plants that received water and those that did not from magazines and place them in the appropriate columns in a graphic organizer.

Competency 009

5. Mr. Wallace wants to provide some outside support for a struggling student and is considering copying a computer tutoring software program for the student to use at home. What should Mr. Wallace consider first before copying the program for the students?

A. The copyright laws associated with the program.

B. The compatibility of the program with the student’s home computer.

C. The additional materials that may be needed to support the program.

D. The student’s ability to follow the program independently.

Use the information below to answer the question(s) that follow.

Mr. Perez, a fifth-grade teacher, wants students to become excited about exploring science in his class. At the beginning of the school year, he plans a unit on the differences between insects and arachnids. He plans to divide the class into groups, with half of the groups researching arachnids and half researching insects. He decides that for the final assessment students will design a model of an insect or an arachnid using a medium of their choice.

Competency 008

6. Which would be the most appropriate strategy for Mr. Perez to use on the first day of the unit?

A. Lecture to explain the differences between insects and arachnids.
B. Ask the groups to read encyclopedia articles about arachnids or insects and then produce an oral report.

C. Show the students color pictures of arachnids and insects and ask them to look for differences.

D. Allow the students to use computers to do independent research on the differences between arachnids and insects.

**Competency 010**

7. High school geometry students are making conjectures about triangles when the mathematics teacher discovers some students have a misconception regarding which triangles satisfy the Pythagorean Theorem. With this new insight into the students’ perceptions, which of the following describes the best course of action for the teacher to take?

A. Reminding students of the rules for applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

B. Adjusting instruction to include student exploration of examples and counterexamples of the Pythagorean Theorem.

C. Assigning new homework that requires students to use the Pythagorean Theorem.

D. Dedicating the following day to addressing and clearing up students misconceptions about the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Competency 007**

8. Mr. Martinez is having difficulty getting quality responses from his American History students. He primarily asks questions requiring direct recall of the facts they have been studying. Which is the best example of higher-level thinking question Mr. Martinez could ask his students?

A. How would the United States be different if the South had won the Civil War?

B. Which event caused the United States to enter World War II?
C. How many more members are in the House of Representatives than are in the Senate?

D. What is the capital of Maine?

Competency 006

9. A school-wide assembly has been planned during part of a high school chemistry teacher’s third-period class. When the assembly is finished, there will be 15 minutes of class time left. The chemistry teacher expects that the students will be distracted when they come to class after the assembly. Which of the following would be the most appropriate way for the teacher to maximize student learning during the 15 minutes?

A. Preparing a fun, challenging learning activity related to the chemistry topic the class is studying.

B. Conducting a fast, in-depth chapter review in preparation for an upcoming exam.

C. Beginning the previously planned lesson and finish it the next day.

D. Reviewing the classroom behavior expectations and give a short quiz on the topic.

Competency 005

10. Mrs. Bard set up activities and learning centers in her first-grade classroom to encourage socialization, cooperation and sharing among the students. Which statement describes the reason she is creating these opportunities?

A. Students at this stage will make friends solely by chance.

B. Students at this stage will form short-term relationships.

C. Students at this stage will benefit from these types of relationships based on teacher interventions.

D. Students at this stage will form friendships based on common play interests and interactions.