

MAED COMPREHENSIVE EXAM QUESTIONS

Directions: Your Comprehensive Examination includes questions from four (4) categories. You must provide a written response to ONE (1) question from each of the following categories:

1. Understanding and Addressing Diversity of Students, Parents, and Community
2. Understanding Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
3. Reflecting on Professional Practices
4. Interpreting Research

In responding to each question, you should reference information that you have learned in research articles, textbooks, and classroom instruction from your MAED program.

Category 1: Understanding and Addressing Diversity of Students, Parents, and Community

1. Choose one content area that you teach. Given that content area, assume that your classroom of 25 students includes the following types of students: one student with a learning disability in reading, one student who does not speak English with limited proficiency, one student who is economically disadvantaged, and one student who comes from a background of poverty.
 - (a) Discuss five instructional strategies that you will use in your classroom so that you meet the needs of ALL students in your class. At least one activity should involve the use of technology. (TC Proficiencies 1-2; NBPTS Propositions 1- 2)
 - (b) Describe at least three strategies that you could implement to engage parents of diverse learners and the community in the work of your school and classroom. Include how technology could be used in developing relationships with parents and the community. (TC Proficiency 7; NBPTS Proposition 5)

Category 2: Understanding Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

2. Choose one skill or concept that relates to two or more disciplines taught at your grade level.
 - (a) Discuss the skill or concept and describe at least three activities you could use to have students apply the skill or concept in two or more disciplines. At least one activity should involve the use of technology. Discuss why the activities you selected would be developmentally appropriate for your students. (TC Proficiencies 3 and 5; NBPTS Propositions 2-3)
 - (b) Explain the various methods of formal and informal assessment you would use to show the progress of individual students within your class in learning the skill or concept. Include how you could use technology in assessing learning. (TC Proficiency 4; NBPTS Proposition 3)

Category 3: Reflecting on Professional Practices

3. Choose one content area that you teach. Describe a time when you have revised your instructional or behavioral plan based on what you have learned in your MAED program. Provide details regarding the basis for the change, the actual change, and the results of your change. You should reference information that you have learned in research articles, textbooks, and classroom instruction from your MAED program in your response. (TC Proficiency 6; NBPTS Proposition 4)

Category 4: Interpreting Research

Select **one** of the research articles provided under *Research Articles for Comprehensive Exams* and, drawing upon your understanding of research methods, current research, best practices, and data analysis, discuss it as indicated below.

First, **provide the title of the article** being discussed. Then, address the following questions in detail:

1. The purpose of the study and how it might apply in your classroom
2. What research design was used in the study?
3. Who the participants in the study were (and if there are any problems with who served as participants).
4. What measurement instrument was used (and any problems with it)?
5. What statistical analyses were conducted and their appropriateness?
6. What the overall finding of the study was and any notable deficiencies with the study (Including how these deficiencies might affect the validity of the findings.).