

Capitolo

6

QUESITI SULLE AVVERTENZE GENERALI

Livello di difficoltà: medio/alto

CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER FOR EACH OF THE BLANKS IN THE GIVEN PASSAGE

Test n. 1

Montessori believed that children learn best in a prepared _____, a place in which children can do things for _____. The prepared environment makes learning materials and _____ available to children in an _____ format. Classrooms Montessori described are really what educators _____ when they talk about child-centered education and active learning. _____ is the essential characteristic of the prepared environment. Since children within the environment are free to explore materials of their own _____, they absorb what they find there. Maria Montessori was a master at creating environments for _____ children that enabled them to be independent, active, and _____.

choosing, orderly, themselves, young, environment, experiences, learn, advocate, freedom

Test n. 2

As children use the computer and other forms of technology, they have the _____ to meet the following technology standards. Established by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), these standards are for children ages prekindergarten through second grade (2000).

1. Use input devices (e.g., mouse, keyboard, remote control) and output _____ (e.g., monitor, printer) to successfully operate computers, VCRs, audiotapes, and other technologies.
2. Use a variety of media and technology resources for directed and independent _____ activities.
3. Communicate about technology using _____ appropriate and accurate terminology.
4. Use developmentally appropriate multimedia _____ (e.g., interactive books, educational software, elementary multimedia encyclopedias) to support learning.
5. Work _____ and collaboratively with peers, family members, and others when using technology in the classroom.
6. Demonstrate positive social and ethical _____ when using technology.
7. Practice responsible use of technology systems and _____.
8. Create developmentally appropriate multimedia products with support from teachers, family members, or student partners.
9. Use technology resources (e.g., puzzles, logical thinking programs, writing _____, digital cameras, _____ tools) for problem solving, communication, and illustration of _____, ideas, and stories.
10. _____ information and communicate with others using telecommunications with support from teachers, family members, or student partners.

gather, behaviors, developmentally, devices, resources, tools, opportunity, learning, thought, software, cooperatively, drawing

Test n. 3

Jean Piaget the psychologist credited with forming the theory of _____ development in the late 1920s, created a list of mental _____ for each age. Here's what he said first graders were capable of comprehending:

- _____ can understand symbols. For example, they can connect the fact that a crown can mean a king. But they still learn from concrete evidence, such as adding by counting _____.
- Most of the time you'll understand your child's logic, but she will still _____ together seemingly unrelated things and jump to conclusions.
- Reverse thinking may still be an _____. This means it will still be hard for your child to go backwards through each step to analyze a conclusion. Good luck trying to convince a child of this age that something they believe is incorrect. Even if you lay out the _____, they'll likely have trouble following you.
- First graders are still _____, they believe everyone sees the world as they see it. But the more you expose them to other people, especially children, the faster they'll leave this stage.
- Your child will be able to tell if there is a difference in number or length or volume when _____ two objects. If you show your child two identical cups with an equal _____ of water; and pour one cup into a skinny tall glass and the other cup in a short wide glass, your child will know they still have the same amount of water.

egocentric, limitations, fingers, cognitive, comparing, evidence, first graders, link, issue, amount

Test n. 4

With the school reform called "La buona scuola" over 100 000 _____, who have until now been employed on _____ contracts, will be _____ on a permanent basis in 2015/16. While around half of these teachers will be filling existing positions, the other half will be entering new _____. Their role will be to strengthen the educational programme offered by each school, both in terms of subjects _____ and other aspects, including reducing early school leaving and improving _____ students' proficiency in Italian. The _____ plan is intended to fix the long-standing problem of 'waiting lists' of qualified teachers. Overall, it is a positive measure, provided the government honours its commitment to only allow access to the profession via open _____ from 2016 onwards. A potential issue is that it is unclear to what extent the competences of the additional teachers will really fit _____ schools' needs.

competitions, recruited, individual, teachers, short-term, foreign, posts, taught, recruitment

Test n. 5

On 3 September 2014 the Italian government _____ 'La buona scuola', a reform of the school _____ system. Projections in the 2015 National Reform Programme suggest that, of all the _____ reforms in Italy, the school reform is likely to have the largest positive _____ on GDP in the long-term.

The school reform makes provisions for _____ legislative decrees, _____ the government to legislate on a number of issues in the 18 _____ following adoption of the reform. The _____ significant issues are initial teacher education and the creation of a single _____ system of early _____ education and care for children aged 0-6.

childhood, months, impact, education, most, published, further, ongoing, empowering, integrated

Test n. 6

"Learning Disability" is not a specific term; it is a category containing many specific disabilities, all of which cause learning to be _____. The following definition of "learning disability" is used for legislative, financial, and educational _____ only. It is not a definition of _____, which is one specific learning disability.

The term "learning disability" means a disorder in one or more of the basic processes involved in understanding or written language. It may show up as a problem in listening, thinking, speaking, reading, *writing*, or spelling or _____ in a person's ability to do math, despite at least *average* intelligence.

The term does not include children who have learning problems which are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or physical _____, or mental retardation, or emotional _____, or of environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage.

spoken, dyslexia, difficult, disturbance, purposes, handicaps,

Test n. 7

A child's _____ development is about a child developing or constructing a mental model of the world. Jean Piaget was interested both in how children _____ and in how they thought. Piaget studied children from infancy to adolescence, and carried out many of his own investigations using his three children. Piaget believed that children think differently than adults, and stated they go through 4 universal stages of cognitive development: _____ (0 - 2 yrs.); _____ (2 - 7 yrs.); _____ (7 - 11 yrs.); _____ (11 yrs +).

Development is therefore _____ based and changes as the child matures. Cognition therefore develops in all children in the same sequence of stages. Each child goes through the stages in the same order, and no stage can be _____ out - although some individuals may never attain the later stages. There are individual differences in the rate at which children progress through stages.

Piaget did not claim that a particular stage was reached at a certain age - although descriptions of the stages often include an indication of the age at which the _____ child would reach each stage.

Piaget believed that these stages are _____ - i.e. that the same sequence of development occurs in children all over the world, whatever their culture.

average, Preoperational, Concrete Operational, universal, Sensorimotor, Formal Operational, missed, cognitive, learnt, biologically

Test n. 8

Compulsory school, which is free _____, starts at the age of 6 (with the possibility to be anticipated to 5 1/2) and lasts until the age of 16. The _____ of alphabetization in Italy reaches the almost totality, at 99%. Schools in Italy are mainly public, although some private _____ exist.

Before entering the schooling system, children are usually introduced to _____ **nidi d'infanzia** and **sezioni primavera**, the equivalent of crèches. These sections usually are for children of one to three years of age. They then enter the **scuola dell'infanzia**, the rough equivalent of _____. Here, children begin experiencing a more standardized schooling experience with classes, _____ and little learning sections with tasks. Often, they also at school and spend part of the afternoon there.

classmates, non-compulsory, percentage, kindergarten, exempted, institutions, eat

Test n. 9

Scuola Secondaria di Primo Grado was _____ known as scuola media. Pupils attend it until they turn _____ years old. Formerly at age fourteen, compulsory education was considered complete. Now this limit has been _____ to sixteen. While the schooling is free, books must be _____ at the secondary level. Class size is about 21 students per class. The _____ includes: religion, Italian, English, an alternate foreign language, history, geography, science, math, technology, information _____, art, music and physical education.

At the end of the three years of scuola secondaria di primo grado there is a State exam, similar to the one students will have to take at the end of _____ school.

curriculum, purchased, fourteen, high, formerly, raised, technology,

READ THE TEXTS BELOW. MODIFY THE WORD GIVEN IN CAPITAL LETTERS AT THE END OF SOME OF THE LINES AND FORM A WORD THAT FITS IN THE GAP IN THE SAME LINE

Example: Pictures are *useful* tools for teaching USE

Test n. 10 (1)

It is unclear whether children learn languages better at a young age.	
Many people _____ that they do, however, and a number of different _____ have been offered.	BELIEF
It may simply be, of course, that _____ children have more opportunities	EXPLAIN
than adults. They are learning all the time without having the worries and _____ of adults; their parents, friends and teachers all help them in learning.	YOUTH
	RESPONSIBLE

(1) Questo quesito è stato dato alla prova scritta del concorso a cattedre 2012 per la scuola primaria.

Test n. 11

Learning disabilities are generally identified when the student's achievement, as _____ on	MEASURE
individually administered standardized tests, is substantially below that expected _____ the individual's chronological age,	GIVE
measured intelligence, and age-appropriate education.	
Students with _____ disabilities may exhibit characteristics such as: marked difficulty in reading, writing, spelling, and/or	LEARN
using _____ concepts; poor handwriting; disorganization:	NUMBER
trouble understanding or _____ directions	FOLLOW

Test n. 12

The basis of the current schooling system were _____ in 1946,	LAY
when Italy became a parliamentary republic.	
Since then, stata _____ has formed the real backbone of the didactic system in the country.	EDUCATE
_____ school, which last from 6 to 16, is tax exented, which means you do not need	MANDATORY
to pay any _____ fee. From 16 to 18, a minimal registration fee of about 100 euro has to be paid.	REGISTER
_____ who were not born in Italy, receive free public education,	CHILD
even after the end of compulsory school and even if they are regular Italian residents.	

Parte II
QUESITI A RISPOSTA APERTA

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Test n. 13

If up to scuola secondaria di primo grado the Italian _____ system may seem very much the same as the American's, when it comes to high school, things change dramatically.	EDUCATION
Italy is _____ to be one of the few countries in the world	KNOW
where a distinct, well defined _____ about a pupil's future professional career needs to be taken as early as 14. Italian high schools are of different types,	CHOOSE
depending on the main focus of their teachings.	
They must be chosen during the final year of scuola secondaria di primo grado and the pupil _____ attend it until his/her 16th year of age.	HAVE (TO)

Test n. 14

The best academic results are _____ when the use of	FIND
technology is clearly related to other classroom activities and curriculum. For example, when children are using a software program that manipulates items, the _____ places the concrete items	TEACH
on the table next to the computer or incorporates the items into classroom activities.	
Research indicates that using a computer with supporting manipulatives _____ children's skills more than using only the manipulatives or the computer alone.	INCREASING
While there are many cognitive advantages to <i>using</i> computers, there is danger in using too much drill and skill software.	USE
In one study, children's _____ was reduced by 50% after using this type of software.	CREATIVE

Test n. 15

Reading and writing are important and _____ skills for your first grader to learn, but math comes in close behind them.	CHALLENGE
First grade math is generally made up of skills that can be _____ into groups such as number sense, geometry, operations, and problem solving.	DIVISION
Number sense,	
a set of math skills that _____ your child's understanding that numbers represent quantity, and that you can use numbers to count "how many", sits at the center of it all.	DESCRIPTION
To progress in math, your _____ must acquire several conceptual building blocks in this area, including:	CHILDHOOD
- Numbers and counting to 100	
- The language used in math, from concepts such as _____ and money to the technical	MEASURE
- _____ of math, such as greater than, less than, add, subtract, difference, and sum	VOCABLE
- An understanding of ratio and proportion	
- Recognizing colors, shapes, and patterns	

Test n. 16

Scuola primaria (formerly "elementare"), or primary school, begins at age six and continues for five years.	
Class sizes generally run about twenty five _____ per class with a minimum of ten students.	CHILD
Pluriclassi, or mixed-level classes, have between six and twelve students. Municipalities _____ transportation and school meals,	MANAGEMENT
most often asking for contributions but making _____ for needy families.	EXEMPT
The curriculum _____: Italian, English, Geography, History, Math, Science, Technology, Music, Art, Physical Education, Information Technology and Catholicism.	INCLUSION

Test n. 17

In order to received the Diploma di Scuola Superiore also known as the Diploma di Maturità (_____ school diploma), students must pass written and oral exams.	TWO
The first written exam requires an _____, written in Italian, on an aspect of literature, history, society or science.	find a synonyms for COMPOSITION
The second written exam requires the student to write a paper relating to their _____ specialisation. The third exam is more general	CHOOSE
and includes questions _____ contemporary issues and the student's chosen foreign language. After completing the written exams,	REGARD
students must take an oral exam in front of a board of six teachers. This exams covers aspects of _____ final year at school.	THEY
Successful students receive various types of Diploma according to the type of school attended.	
The Diploma di Scuola Superiore is generally recognised as a university _____ qualification, although some universities have additional entrance requirements.	ENTER

Test n. 18

Because Piaget's theory is based upon _____ maturation and stages,	BIOLOGY
the notion of ' _____ ' is important. Readiness concerns when certain information or concepts should be taught. According to Piaget's theory	READY
children should not be _____ certain concepts until they have reached the appropriate stage of cognitive development.	TEACH
According to Piaget, assimilation and accommodation require an active _____, not a passive one,	LEARN
because problem-solving skills cannot be taught, they must be discovered.	
Within the classroom learning should be student centred a accomplished through active discovery learning. The role of the teacher is to facilitate learning, rather than direct _____.	TUTIONARY

Test n. 19

INValSI (National Institute for the Educational _____ of Instruction and Training) is a research institute with the status of legal entity governed by public law.	EVALUATE
It is _____ to the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR), and - at least every three years - the Minister establishes the strategic priorities	ACCOUNT
which the Institute must _____ in mind when programming its own activities - although the evaluation of technical-scientific priorities is the Institute's own responsibility.	BORNE
In particular the Institute carries out periodic and systematic checks on students' knowledge and skills, and on the overall quality of the educational offering of schools and vocational _____ institutes, also with a view to lifelong learning. It also runs the National Evaluation System (SNV).	TRAIN
So INVALSI prepares, for Ministry of Education selection, the national tests for the state examination at the end of the education cycles (end of upper _____ education)	SECOND
and studies the cause of student _____ and drop-out, with reference to the social context and typologies of educational offering.	FAIL
Further it provides support and technical assistance to the school administration, regional authorities, local bodies and individual schools and vocational training institutes for implementing autonomous initiatives of monitoring, evaluation and self-evaluation.	

Test n. 20

READ THE TEXT BELOW. SOME OF THE RECOMMENDED PRACTICES ARE NOT CORRECT FOR KIDS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES. WHICH ONE?

Learning disabilities, or learning disorders, are an umbrella term for a wide variety of learning problems. A learning disability is not a problem with intelligence or motivation. Kids with learning disabilities aren't lazy or dumb. In fact, most are just as smart as everyone else. Their brains are simply wired differently. This difference affects how they receive and process information, so the teacher has to use different teaching methods, such as:

1. Provide a syllabus with clear explanations of tasks and specific due dates.
2. Identify your textbooks early so students have time to order them in alternate format as needed.
3. Remind students of deadlines.
4. When possible start each lecture with an oral or written summary or outline of material to be covered.
5. Provide assignment information only in written format.
6. For large projects or long papers help the student breakdown the task into component parts. Set deadlines for each part.
7. Provide prompt, explicit feedback, both in written and oral format.
8. Vary the class format; alternate lecture with presentations and class discussion.
9. If someone does not understand a concept, explain it using the same exact word.
10. Structure opportunities for students to apply concepts and information.
11. Practice flexibility in requiring students to read out loud
12. Never perform calculations at the board.
13. Be open to suggestions from the student about how to best accommodate their needs.
14. Use texts in alternate format, such as "books on tape"
15. Let use the word processor and/or spell check
16. Never use the lap top in class to take notes

Test n. 21

COMPLETE THE CHART BELOW: FILL IN THE EMPTY SPACE WITH THE CORRECT SCHOOL.

Licei	schools focusing on theoretical learning
<i>Liceo classico</i>	focuses on classical languages, philosophy and literatures
	has branches in music and dance
	focuses on biology, chemistry, physics and maths
	focusing on humanities and psychology
	has branches in fine arts, design, photography, sculpture etc.
	focuses on foreign languages
Istituti tecnici	schools focusing on technical skills
	focuses on technical skills such as mechanics, logistics, electronics etc. (divided in branches)
	focuses on administration, accounting, marketing or tourism
Istituti professionali	schools focusing on professional skills
	branches in industrial and artisanal production, technical assistance and maintenance
	has branches in agriculture, health and social services, hospitality and gastronomy, commerce