



PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR DENTAL THERAPY AND ORAL HYGIENE

BOARD EXAMINATION FOR DENTAL ASSISTANTS

Date: August 2017

Time: 3 HOURS (10:00 – 13:00)

TOTAL: 100 marks

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer all the questions.
- No cell phones, books or study material may be brought into the venue
- The paper consists of TWELVE (12) pages including the cover page.
- Mark allocation: 1 mark per fact unless indicated otherwise.
- Your name and ID number must be written on **each** page of the answering sheets
- Question paper and answer sheets (used and unused) must be handed in after the examination

Question 1: [4]

Differentiate between automated instrument washers and ultrasonic cleaners that are used to clean contaminated instruments.

Question 2: [10]

A dental company rep shows you a new protective mask, and informs you that this mask will last an entire day, can be washed and re-used.

2.1. According to your knowledge when would you replace the facial mask in the dental clinic? (2)

2.2. Before assisting your dentist, he informs you to wear protective eyewear while treating patients.

a) Explain the rationale for this statement. (2)

b) Explain how you would prepare the protective eyewear for reuse. (4)

c) Mention two pre-cautions to consider when preparing the protective eyewear for reuse. (2)

Question 3: [10]

a) Why is it important for dental assistants to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when performing tasks that could produce splash, spatter, aerosol, or other contact with body fluids? (2)

b) Give 3 examples of personal protective equipment (PPE) you would use in dentistry. (3)

c) Explain proper hand hygiene for oral health workers (5)

Question 4: [20]

Identify and state the function (uses) of each of the following instruments:

a)



(2)

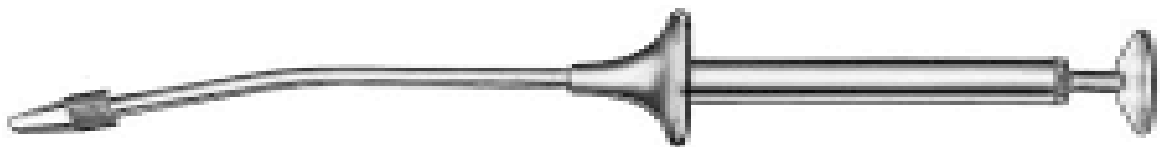
b)



(2)



c)



(2)

d)

(2)



e)



(2)

f)

(2)



g)



(2)

h)

(2)



i)

(2)



k)

(2)

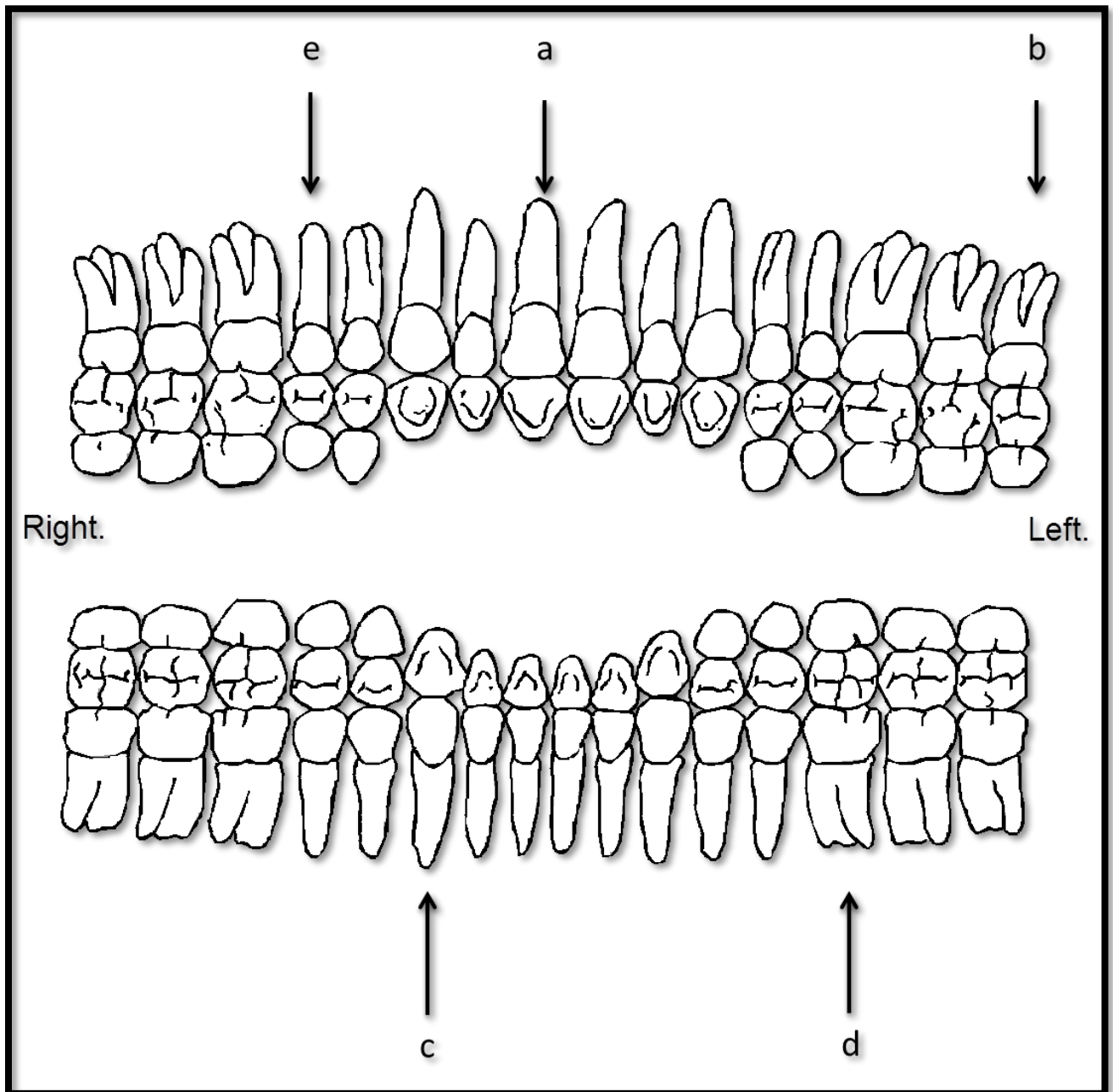


Question 5: [12]

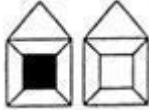

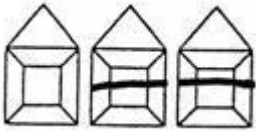
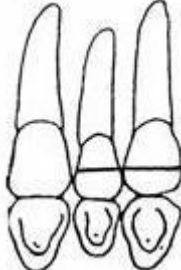
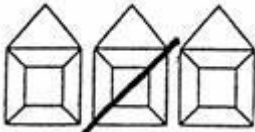
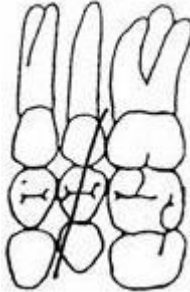



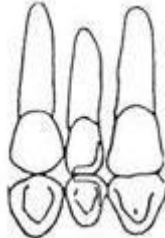
a)	Patients who are diabetic should not eat supper or breakfast before coming for dental treatment?	True	False
b)	Informed consent is to obtain written permission from the patient prior to providing treatment	True	False
c)	Dental handpieces must be oiled every day, in the afternoon	True	False
d)	A local anaesthetic with vasoconstrictors should be avoided for patients with severe hypertension/high blood pressure and heart problems	True	False
e)	Talking to your friends about your neighbour who was a patient visiting the practice is breaching of confidentiality.	True	False
f)	It is important for dental assistants to maintain skills and knowledge on a regular basis.	True	False
g)	Patient records can be made available to a court based on a court order even it without the patient's consent.	True	False
h)	As a dental assistant you can change or alter a patients chart/records if there is a complaint and the dentist/oral hygienist tell you to do so.	True	False
i)	Dental assistants must check expiry dates every day in all dental consumables before they are used.	True	False
j)	You do not have to obey laws and regulations which affect your work because you always work under the supervision of a dentist/oral hygienist.	True	False
k)	It is not your duty as an oral health professional to report child abuse, as you are the dental assistant.	True	False
l)	Patients' dental records should be kept for 2 years.	True	False

Question 6: [10]

Identify the following tooth numbers present in the permanent dentition



Identify and name the following symbols used for dental charting

f)		
g)		
h)		
i)		
j)		

Question 7: [5]

List 5 functions **within the scope of practice** of the dental assistant

(5)

Question 8: [5]

One of the duties of a dental assistant in management of a dental practice is to do stock control, please list 5 more duties.

(5)

Question 9: [12]

1. The tooth number 36 is also known as a
 - a. Pre-molar
 - b. Molar
 - c. Incisor
 - d. Canine
2. The tooth number 23 is also known as a
 - a. Premolar
 - b. Molar
 - c. Incisor
 - d. Canine
3. Disinfection is the process of destroying most
 - a. Micro- organisms
 - b. Viruses
 - c. Spores
 - d. All of the above
4. Sterilization is the process of destroying and eliminate all
 - a. Micro organisms
 - b. Viruses
 - c. Spores
 - d. All of the above

5. General waste are examples of
 - a. Paper
 - b. Mercury
 - c. Blood
 - d. Extracted teeth
6. Infectious and regulated waste are examples of
 - a. Paper mixing pads
 - b. Empty containers
 - c. Extracted teeth
 - d. Mercury
7. In an examination set the following instruments are present
 - a. Mouth mirror; explorer probe and cotton pliers (tweezers)
 - b. Mouth mirror, dental floss; and periodontal probe
 - c. Mouth mirror; gauze; explorer probe
 - d. Mouth mirror, explorer probe and cotton rolls
8. What colour of plastic bag must infections waste be collected in?
 - a. Black
 - b. Red
 - c. Yellow
 - d. Transparent
9. The rongeurs instrument is used for
 - a. Extraction of teeth
 - b. Probing periodontal depths
 - c. Trim and remove excess bone
 - d. Restore a cavity
10. A dentist specializes in braces is called an
 - a. Maxillo-facial surgeon
 - b. Periodontist
 - c. Prostodontist
 - d. Orthodontist

11. A dentist specializes in dental implants

- a. Maxillo-facial surgeon
- b. Periodontist
- c. Prostodontist
- d. Orthodontist

12. A dentist specializes in extraction of difficult wisdom teeth

- a. Maxillo-facial surgeon
- b. Periodontist
- c. Prostodontist
- d. Orthodontist

Question 10: [8]

As a dental assistant, how would you answer the following patient questions regarding dental x-rays?

- a. Are dental x-rays really necessary? And why? (2)
- b. Why do use a lead apron? (2)
- c. Should x-rays being taken during pregnancy and why? (2)
- d. Why do you leave the room when x-rays are taken? (2)

Question 11 [4]

- a) What is the function of a curing light? (2)
- b) List two isolation techniques to decrease moisture during a dental procedure (2)