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Chapter 1: Characteristics of a Profession

1. Professionalism has been historically difficult to define. Early definitions of professionalism included which of the following characteristics?
    A. Expertise
    B. Empathy
    C. Ethical and moral values
    D. Honesty

Answer:

2. A registered nurse (RN) who usually uses public transportation has not renewed her driver's license. During a recent car trip with a friend, she took over driving when her friend became tired. Which of the following is true?
    A. She has acted in a professional manner.
    B. She may lose her RN license for driving without a license.
    C. She should renew her driver's license as soon as possible.
    D. Under the circumstances, she will not be faulted for driving without a license.

Answer:

3. An RN visits a middle school class to discuss the profession of nursing. Which of the following statements is true of nursing?
    A. Nurses must graduate from nursing school in order to obtain a license to practice.
    B. Nursing is a vocation that requires continuous education.
    C. Nurses function autonomously within their scope of practice.
    D. Nurses must adhere to expected professional behaviors in their lives.

Answer:

4. An RN is reviewing professional behavior expectations with a group of new nurses. Which of the following statements should be included in the teaching?
    A. It is OK to discuss your days at work on social media.
    B. When you are passionate about a topic, speak up in blogs and forums.
    C. Your behavior outside of the practice setting is up to you and will not impact your license.
    D. Nurses may lose their licenses for unprofessional actions.

Answer:

5. An RN is explaining to a student nurse what professionalism in nursing means. Which of the following statements, if made by the student nurse, demonstrates teaching has been successful?

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A. "Commitment to others means I should be honest and accountable for my actions."
B. "I should encourage my fellow nurses to talk when they are having a bad day."
C. "I should be flexible with myself and my fellow nurses when it comes to the dress code."
D. "If I need a day off, I should promptly call in sick to give my manager plenty of time to find a replacement."

Answer:

6. As the definition of nursing evolved, which of the following nurse theorists focused on the uniqueness of nursing?
   A. Florence Nightingale
   B. Virginia Henderson
   C. Martha Rogers
   D. Abraham Maslow

Answer:

7. Recent polls have placed nursing as one of the most trusted professions because of which of the following?
   A. Nurses engage in lifelong learning.
   B. Nurses abide by a dress code.
   C. Nurses have the skills needed to care for diverse populations.
   D. Nurses must pass the NCLEX in order to obtain a license to practice.

Answer:

8. The main purpose of the NCLEX examination is which of the following?
   A. Ensure individuals have passed nursing classes.
   B. Provide assurance that the nursing schools are part of the service agency.
   C. Enable potential students to determine the best nursing schools.
   D. Ensure the safety of the public.

Answer:

9. A recent nursing school graduate is preparing to take the NCLEX. The graduate knows which of the following is true?
   A. Upon graduation from nursing school, she can use the title RN.
   B. Because the NCLEX is a national examination, her RN license will allow her to practice in all states and territories of the United States.

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C. If her home state participates in the compact agreement, she may practice in other states participating in the agreement, but should renew her license in her home state.
D. The RN license is a permissive license.

Answer:

10. The Social Security Act of 1935 impacted public health nursing because it contained provisions for care for which of the following vulnerable populations?
A. Disabled children
B. Mentally disabled
C. Older adults
D. Opioid addicts

Answer:

11. The decades between the 1960s and 1980s brought about many changes in nursing. Which of the following is a reason for advances in nursing?
A. Decreased demand for health care
B. Development of specialty care disciplines
C. Gender discrimination
D. Advances in technology leading to more generalized care

Answer:

12. Which of the following is a challenge the profession of nursing faced?
A. Because of fear, nursing contributed to the stigma of AIDS in the 1980s.
B. During the Korean War, nursing practice grew in field hospitals where supplies and equipment were abundant.
C. After the Vietnam War, many nurses were frustrated with the lack of independent functioning of nurses when they returned home.
D. Ethical dilemmas led to a decline in the number of hospice nurses.

Answer:

13. A nurse supervisor is planning an educational session for her staff regarding improving teamwork among different generations. Which of the following recommendations will reduce potential generational conflicts?
A. Involve only millennials in technology decisions.
B. Focus on the team as a whole, rather than individual generations.
C. Involve only the baby boomers in technology decisions.
D. Practice active and assertive communication techniques.

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Answer:

14. Which of the following is a reason for increasing the use of advanced practice nurses?
    A. A 2010 Institute of Medicine report encouraged nurses to practice to the full extent of their education.
    B. Advanced practice nurses serve as an extension of physicians.
    C. The National League for Nursing promotes the master of science in nursing (MSN) as the terminal degree for nurse practitioners.
    D. Advanced practice nurses do not have the skills to diagnose.

Answer:

15. Which of the following is a reason for conflicts in professional nursing today?
    A. Some nurses who had planned to retire but find themselves forced to continue working because of the current economic situation
    B. Balancing state practice acts, codes of ethics, and standards of practice
    C. Advances in technology
    D. Multiple generations in the workforce

Answer:

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Chapter 1: Characteristics of a Profession—Answers and Rationales

1. Professionalism has been historically difficult to define. Early definitions of professionalism included which of the following characteristics?
    A. Expertise
    B. Empathy
    C. Ethical and moral values
    D. Honesty

ANS: A
Page: 4

	Feedback
A.	This is correct. Older definitions of professionalism only look at knowledge and expertise.
B.	This is incorrect. Empathy is a modern characteristic of professional behavior.
C.	This is incorrect. A code of ethics and moral values are more recent characteristics of professionalism.
D.	This is incorrect. Honesty is a more recent characteristic of professional behavior.

2. A registered nurse (RN) who usually uses public transportation has not renewed her driver's license. During a recent car trip with a friend, she took over driving when her friend became tired. Which of the following is true?
    A. She has acted in a professional manner.
    B. She may lose her RN license for driving without a license.
    C. She should renew her driver's license as soon as possible.
    D. Under the circumstances, she will not be faulted for driving without a license.

ANS: B
Page: 5

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Professionalism requires nurses to avoid illegal behaviors. Driving without a license is illegal.
B.	This is correct. Driving without a license is deemed an unprofessional and illegal behavior for which a nurse may lose his or her license.
C.	This is incorrect. It is up to the individual to decide if she should renew her license.
D.	This is incorrect. Driving without a valid driver's license is illegal, and the nurse may lose her nursing license.

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3. An RN visits a middle school class to discuss the profession of nursing. Which of the following statements is true of nursing?
    A. Nurses must graduate from nursing school in order to obtain a license to practice.
    B. Nursing is a vocation that requires continuous education.
    C. Nurses function autonomously within their scope of practice.
    D. Nurses must adhere to expected professional behaviors in their lives.

ANS: C
Page: 4

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Nurses must graduate from a nursing program to be eligible to take the NCLEX examination. Nurses must pass the NCLEX examination in order to be eligible to obtain a license to practice. Passing the NCLEX examination demonstrates the nurse has received specialized education and training and enables the nurse to obtain a license to practice in the state.
B.	This is incorrect. Although lifelong learning is required in nursing, nursing is a profession rather than a vocation.
C.	This is correct. Rather than being assistants to doctors, nurses are able to function autonomously within their scope of practice. Nurses formulate and deliver a plan of care for clients, utilizing nursing judgment and critical thinking skills to make decisions in client care.
D.	This is incorrect. The state boards of nursing expect nurses to uphold professional standards of behavior in their practice and personal lives in order to maintain their license.

4. An RN is reviewing professional behavior expectations with a group of new nurses. Which of the following statements should be included in the teaching?
    A. It is OK to discuss your days at work on social media.
    B. When you are passionate about a topic, speak up in blogs and forums.
    C. Your behavior outside of the practice setting is up to you and will not impact your license.
    D. Nurses may lose their licenses for unprofessional actions.

ANS: D
Page: 5

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Inappropriate use of social media may lead to a nurse losing his or her license.
B.	This is incorrect. Emotionally charged blogs or forums may be deemed unprofessional behavior.
C.	This is incorrect. Nurses are expected to behave in a professional manner in both their personal and professional lives.

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D.	This is correct. State boards on nursing elaborate the expected professional behaviors, and nurses can lose their licenses for unprofessional or illegal behavior.

5. An RN is explaining to a student nurse what professionalism in nursing means. Which of the following statements, if made by the student nurse, demonstrates teaching has been successful?
    A. "Commitment to others means I should be honest and accountable for my actions."
    B. "I should encourage my fellow nurses to talk when they are having a bad day."
    C. "I should be flexible with myself and my fellow nurses when it comes to the dress code."
    D. "If I need a day off, I should promptly call in sick to give my manager plenty of time to find a replacement."

ANS: A
Page: 5

	Feedback
A.	This is correct. Commitment to others involves accountability for one's actions, lifelong learning, and commitment to colleagues.
B.	This is incorrect. Gossip and negative comments should be avoided.
C.	This is incorrect. Dress codes should be followed according to the employer's expectations.
D.	This is incorrect. Honesty is part of commitment to others and professionalism. When a day off is needed, a personal day or vacation day should be taken. One should only call in sick when one is really sick.

6. As the definition of nursing evolved, which of the following nurse theorists focused on the uniqueness of nursing?
    A. Florence Nightingale
    B. Virginia Henderson
    C. Martha Rogers
    D. Abraham Maslow

ANS: B
Page: 5

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Florence Nightingale's description of nursing involved putting the client in the best place for healing.
B.	This is correct. Virginia Henderson's definition of nursing focused on its uniqueness.

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C.	This is incorrect. Martha Rogers upheld the importance of all people, not just the ill.
D.	This is incorrect. Abraham Maslow was not a nurse theorist.

7. Recent polls have placed nursing as one of the most trusted professions because of which of the following?
    A. Nurses engage in lifelong learning.
    B. Nurses abide by a dress code.
    C. Nurses have the skills needed to care for diverse populations.
    D. Nurses must pass the NCLEX in order to obtain a license to practice.

ANS: C
Page: 5

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Although nurses do engage in lifelong learning, this is not the main reason why recent polls show nursing to be one of the most trusted professions.
B.	This is incorrect. Although nurses do abide by a dress code according to their organization, this is not the main reason why recent polls show nursing to be one of the most trusted professions.
C.	This is correct. Nurses are one of the most trusted professions because they have the knowledge, expertise, and ability to care for diverse populations.
D.	This is incorrect. Although it is true that nurses must pass the NCLEX examination to obtain a license to practice nursing, this is not the main reason why recent polls show nursing to be one of the most trusted professions.

8. The main purpose of the NCLEX examination is which of the following?
    A. Ensure individuals have passed nursing classes.
    B. Provide assurance that the nursing schools are part of the service agency.
    C. Enable potential students to determine the best nursing schools.
    D. Ensure the safety of the public.

ANS: D
Page: 6

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Transcripts, and not the NCLEX, demonstrate that individuals have passed nursing classes.
B.	This is incorrect. Nightingale considered schools of nursing to be educational institutions, not part of a service agency. This is not the purpose of the NCLEX examination.
C.	This is incorrect. The purpose of the NCLEX is not to rate schools of nursing, but to ensure the safety of the public.

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D.	This is correct. The purpose of the NCLEX examination is to ensure the safety of the public by establishing a minimum standard to indicate that an individual has the knowledge and skills necessary to practice nursing safely and effectively.

9. A recent nursing school graduate is preparing to take the NCLEX. The graduate knows which of the following is true?
    A. Upon graduation from nursing school, she can use the title RN.
    B. Because the NCLEX is a national examination, her RN license will allow her to practice in all states and territories of the United States.
    C. If her home state participates in the compact agreement, she may practice in other states participating in the agreement, but should renew her license in her home state.
    D. The RN license is a permissive license.

ANS: C
Page: 6

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. The title RN may only be used after the graduate has obtained an RN license.
B.	This is incorrect. State boards of nursing issue licenses for their state. Although some states have joined together to form a "compact," it may be necessary to obtain a license from another state if she wishes to practice in that other state.
C.	This is correct. The state in which the nurse lives is considered her home state. Although the nurse may practice nursing in other states participating in the compact, she should renew her RN license in her home state.
D.	This is incorrect. The RN license is mandatory, meaning that a license is required for practice.

10. The Social Security Act of 1935 impacted public health nursing because it contained provisions for care for which of the following vulnerable populations?
    A. Disabled children
    B. Mentally disabled
    C. Older adults
    D. Opioid addicts

ANS: A
Page: 7

	Feedback
A.	This is correct. The Social Security Act of 1935 strengthened public health services, particularly for dependent mothers and children, the blind, and disabled children.

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B.	This is incorrect. The Social Security Act of 1935 did not focus on mentally disabled individuals.
C.	This is incorrect. Amendments to the Social Security Act provided access for older adults.
D.	This is incorrect. The Social Security Act of 1935 did not provide care for opioid addicts.

11. The decades between the 1960s and 1980s brought about many changes in nursing. Which of the following is a reason for advances in nursing?
    A. Decreased demand for health care
    B. Development of specialty care disciplines
    C. Gender discrimination
    D. Advances in technology leading to more generalized care

ANS: B
Page: 7

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. A demand for increased access to health care resulted in the creation of the advanced practice role for nurses to meet the primary health-care needs of the public.
B.	This is correct. Specialty care disciplines developed because of advances in intensive care, neurosurgical techniques, and cardiothoracic surgery.
C.	This is incorrect. Gender discrimination did not advance the profession of nursing. In 1964, the Civil Rights Act prohibited gender discrimination in the workplace.
D.	This is incorrect. Advances in technology led to the creation of specialty care disciplines.

12. Which of the following is a challenge the profession of nursing faced?
    A. Because of fear, nursing contributed to the stigma of AIDS in the 1980s.
    B. During the Korean War, nursing practice grew in field hospitals where supplies and equipment were abundant.
    C. After the Vietnam War, many nurses were frustrated with the lack of independent functioning of nurses when they returned home.
    D. Ethical dilemmas led to a decline in the number of hospice nurses.

ANS: C
Page: 8

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Nursing was instrumental in public education about AIDS and caring for infected individuals.

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B.	This is incorrect. During the Korean War, nurses often cared for those at or near the front lines, where they lacked necessary supplies and equipment.
C.	This is correct. During the Vietnam War, many nurses functioned independently in mobile hospital units performing lifesaving procedures for wounded soldiers. Many felt restricted by the lack of independent practice when they returned home.
D.	This is incorrect. Increased use of life support systems led to ethical dilemmas in critical care areas and a growing support for hospice nurses. Because of renewed interest in hospice nursing, the numbers increased.

13. A nurse supervisor is planning an educational session for her staff regarding improving teamwork among different generations. Which of the following recommendations will reduce potential generational conflicts?
    A. Involve only millennials in technology decisions.
    B. Focus on the team as a whole, rather than individual generations.
    C. Involve only the baby boomers in technology decisions.
    D. Practice active and assertive communication techniques.

ANS: D
Page: 9

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Although millennials are often more comfortable with technology, it is essential to involve all generations in technology decisions.
B.	This is incorrect. Each generation has a core set of values that must be taken into consideration for the team to function cohesively.
C.	This is incorrect. All generations should be involved in technology decisions.
D.	This is correct. Active and assertive communication will assist each generation to value the others' skills and perspectives.

14. Which of the following is a reason for increasing the use of advanced practice nurses?
    A. A 2010 Institute of Medicine report encouraged nurses to practice to the full extent of their education.
    B. Advanced practice nurses serve as an extension of physicians.
    C. The National League for Nursing promotes the master of science in nursing (MSN) as the terminal degree for nurse practitioners.
    D. Advanced practice nurses do not have the skills to diagnose.

ANS: A
Page: 9

	Feedback
A.	This is correct. A 2010 Institute of Medicine report stated nurses should be allowed to practice to the full extent of their education.

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B.	This is incorrect. Advanced practice nurses are board certified and licensed in the states in which they practice. They practice according to their own license, and are not extensions of physicians.
C.	This is incorrect. The National League for Nursing and the American Association of Critical Care Nurses both promote the doctorate of nursing practice (DNP) as the terminal degree for nurse practitioners.
D.	This is incorrect. Advanced practice nurses are qualified to diagnose and treat certain conditions.

15. Which of the following is a reason for conflicts in professional nursing today?
    A. Some nurses who had planned to retire but find themselves forced to continue working because of the current economic situation
    B. Balancing state practice acts, codes of ethics, and standards of practice
    C. Advances in technology
    D. Multiple generations in the workforce

ANS: D
Page: 9

	Feedback
A.	This is incorrect. Having more experienced nurses on the staff does not directly cause conflict.
B.	This is incorrect. State practice acts, codes of ethics, and standards of practice guide professional behavior.
C.	This is incorrect. Technological advances do not directly cause conflict in professional nursing, but they are a reason for nurses to be lifelong learners.
D.	This is correct. Multiple generations in the workforce today with multiple viewpoints can lead to conflict.

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