



PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR DENTAL THERAPY AND ORAL HYGIENE

BOARD EXAMINATION FOR DENTAL ASSISTANTS

Date: August 2016

Time: 3 HOURS (10:00 – 13:00)

TOTAL: 100 marks

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer all the questions on the question paper.
- 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 question paper.
- Question papers and answer sheets (used and unused) must be handed in after the examination

Name:

Identification number:

Name:
Identification number:

SECTION A: PATIENT RECORDS – 30 MARKS

QUESTION 1 [5]

Amos, a 14-year old patient, arrives at the dental clinic and upon examination of his mouth, the oral health practitioner states that the patient has a "mixed dentition". The patient also has a few teeth that have been extracted, some are decayed, some have restorations in place, and some need to be extracted.

With reference to the above, answer the following questions:

1. Complete the table below.

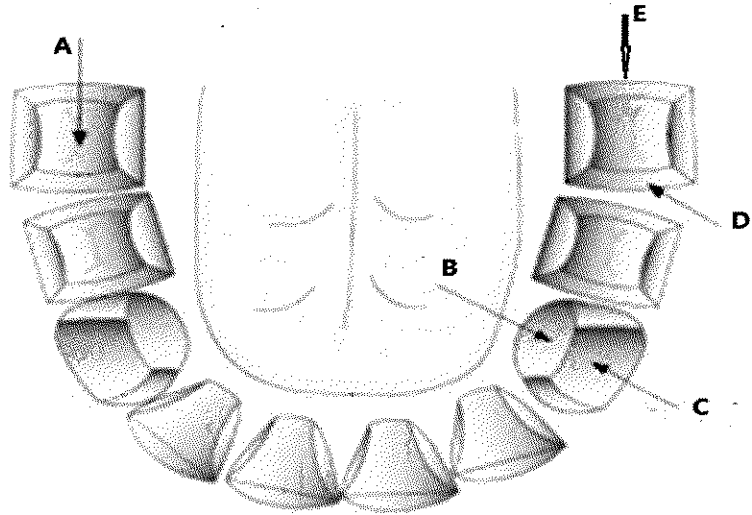
(5 x 1 = 5)

Tooth Number	Eruption Date
51	
74	
21	
33	
46	

Name:
 Identification number:

QUESTION 2 [5]

2. Identify the following surfaces of the teeth shown by entering the correct answer next to the letter that indicates the tooth surface. (5 x 1 = 5)



Letter	Surface
A	
B	
C	
D	
E	

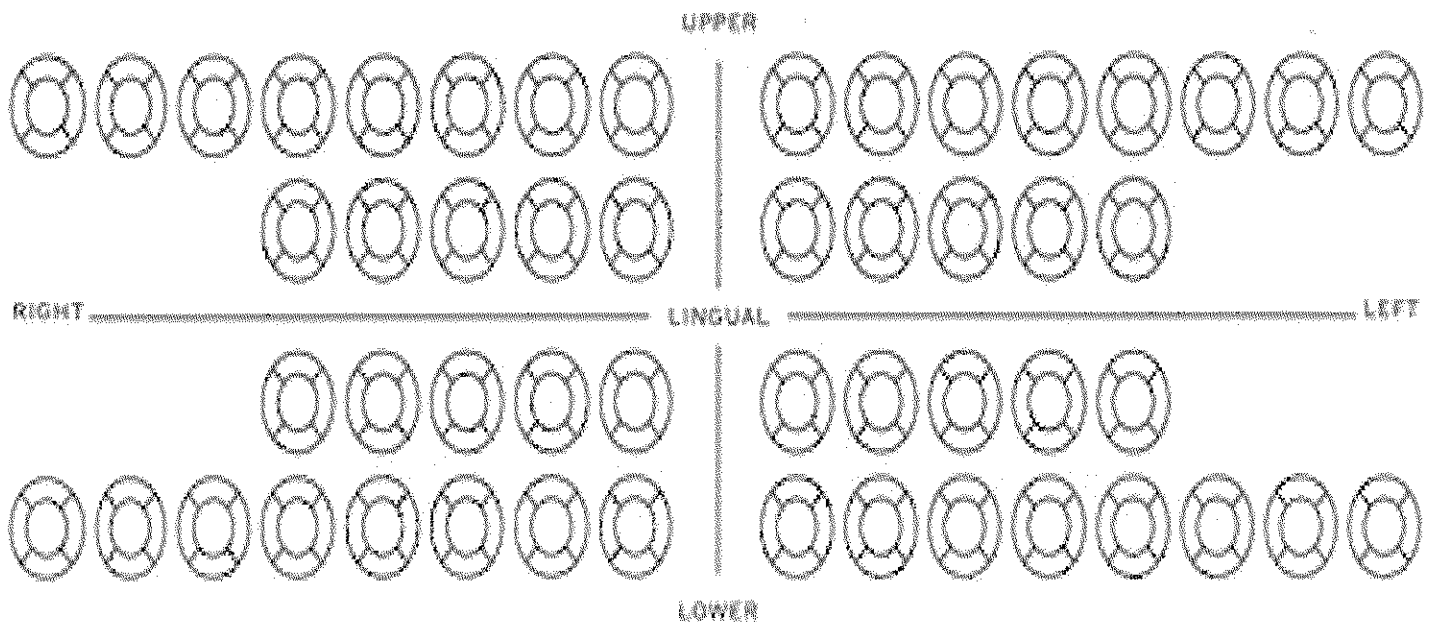
Name:

Identification number:

QUESTION 3 [20]

3. The oral health practitioner requests that you complete the patients chart and gives you the following list. Please identify the correct tooth, and then chart the condition or required treatment according to the list below. Use the chart provided below. Ensure that you write the tooth number above the tooth in the case of the maxilla and below the tooth in the case of the mandible.

Tooth Number or description and condition present/treatment required	
1. The first permanent molar on the lower left has a large carious lesion on the occlusal surface and needs to be restored.	(3 x 1 = 3)
2. Tooth 46 has been extracted	(1)
3. All four wisdom teeth have not yet erupted.	(4 x ½ = 2)
4. Both the upper permanent first molars are badly decayed and are to be extracted.	(2 x 1 = 2)
5. All the lower permanent anterior teeth have Class V restorations (sound) as a result of severe pressure applied when tooth brushing.	(4 x ½ = 2)
6. All four upper deciduous molars are still present. They all have occlusal caries that have sound amalgam restorations and which do not require any treatment.	(4 x ½ = 2)
7. The patient fell a few months ago and has a fracture on the mesial incisal surface of the 2.2 which requires a restoration. Chart the fracture.	(2)
8. The 2.1 was also injured, and has been root canal treated. The tooth also has a sound composite restoration on ALL surfaces. .	(2 x 1 = 2)
9. Both the lower first deciduous molars have sound fissure sealants.	(2 x 1 = 2)
10. There is a partial plastic (acrylic) denture that replaces the 1.1 and 1.2 which were extracted after being badly damaged when the patient fell a few months ago.	(2)



Name:
Identification number:

SECTION B: INFECTION CONTROL AND REDUCTION – 30 MARKS

QUESTION 4 [30]

4.1. Define the term Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and give two (2) examples of PPE used in the dental clinic. (2)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4.2. List, and briefly explain, the links in the Chain of Infection. (4)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4.3. Outline the protocol to be followed for a potentially infectious exposure, such as a needle-stick injury (needle stick injury protocol). (5)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Name:
Identification number:

4.4. List three types of gloves and state their uses in dentistry. (3 x 2 = 6)

No.	Type/Category of Glove	Use in Dentistry
1		
2		
3		

4.5. Discuss how a dental assistant should deal with cleaning up amalgam that has fallen onto the floor in the dental clinic. (3)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4.6. Differentiate between **sterilisation** and **disinfection**. (2)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Name:
Identification number:

4.7. Differentiate between intermediate level and high-level disinfection. (2)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4.8. Describe the measures that a dental assistant should take to reduce or prevent infection transmission on receiving the radiographic film from the oral health professional as well as during the processing of the radiograph. (3)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4.9. List the steps involved in cleaning and disinfecting of the dental chair suction tubes. (3)

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name:

Identification number:

SECTION C: CLINICAL PRACTICE – 25 MARKS

QUESTION 5 [25]

5.1. Outline the protocol to be followed in managing a patient that has experienced a medical emergency whilst undergoing dental treatment, and who is not breathing and who has gone into cardiac arrest (heart stopped beating). (5)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5.2. State three (3) precautions that a dental assistant should take in order to reduce the possibility of a known epileptic patient experiencing an epileptic attack whilst undergoing dental treatment. (3)

.....

.....

.....


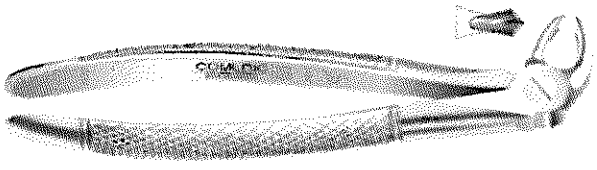
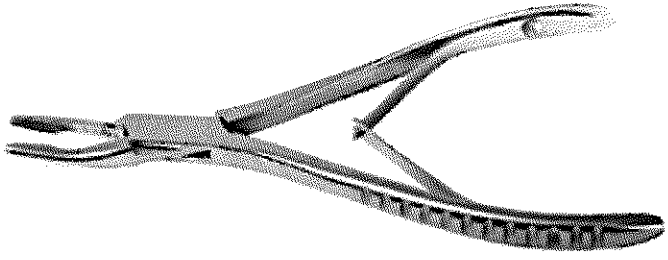
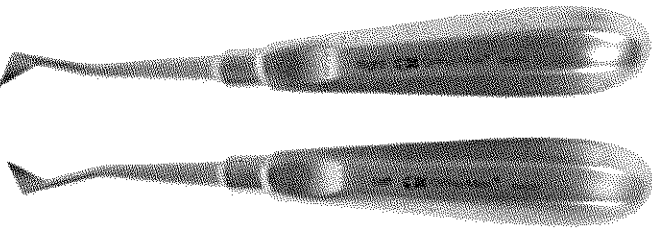
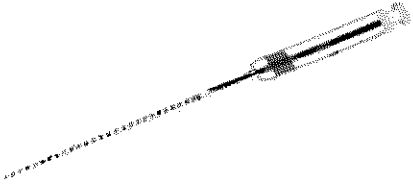
.....

.....

.....

Name:
 Identification number:

5.3. Identify and state the function (use) of each instrument below by completing the table. (10)

Instrument	Name and Use
5.3.1. 	
5.3.2. 	
5.3.3. 	
5.3.4. 	
5.3.5. 	

Name:

Identification number:

5.4. Discuss five (5) things that you would check prior to using a local anaesthesia ampule in order to ensure that it is safe to use. (5)

5.5. Describe the position in which you would seat a 7-month pregnant patient on the dental chair, and give a reason for your answer. (2)

Name:

Identification number:

SECTION D: PATIENT ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT – 15 MARKS

QUESTION 6 [15]

6.1. Anita is the mother of a 6-month old baby. She informs you that she has been told that her child could suffer with a condition called “Nursing Bottle Caries” (Early Childhood Rampant Caries) and asks for oral health advice so that she can take the necessary steps to ensure that her child’s teeth remain healthy. Discuss what oral health preventive education and promotion you would give to her. (5)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6.2. The oral health professional asks you to make a series of appointments for Mrs Jones (65-years old) who will require a full set of dentures as she is presently edentulous. Inform Mrs Jones of the number of appointments that she would require, and what will happen at each appointment. She has not been to a dental practice for an assessment as yet. (5)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Name:

Identification number:

6.3. The questions below refer to the current Scope of Practice of a Dental Assistant. Indicate whether the statement is **True** or **False**. (5)

6.3.1. _____ Dental Assistants are allowed to place radiographic films in the patients mouth and then “take” the radiograph by pressing the activating button/switch.

6.3.2. _____ Dental Assistants are not allowed to write the charting and patient treatment notes in the file, even if the oral health professional signs off the entry at the end of the entry.

6.3.3. _____ Dental assistants have to register with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, and once registered the HPCSA allows them to work without supervision.

6.3.4. _____ A dental assistant may, if instructed by the oral health professional, undertake non-invasive procedures such as the scaling and polishing of a patients teeth.

6.3.5. _____ If a dental assistant works mainly in the reception area, and on the odd occasions work with patients, he/she does not have to register as a dental assistant with the HPCSA.

TOTAL: 100

---The End---