

HOSA Dental Terminology Practice (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions

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- 1. What is the Frankl scale used to evaluate?**
 - A. Patient pain levels**
 - B. Patient moral values**
 - C. Patient behavior**
 - D. Patient cognitive function**
- 2. What is acrylic commonly used for in dentistry?**
 - A. Filling cavities**
 - B. Fabrication of appliance parts**
 - C. Dental implants**
 - D. Root canal treatments**
- 3. What term describes the condition where the incisors do not pass one another on the vertical axis?**
 - A. Open bite**
 - B. Closed bite**
 - C. Overbite**
 - D. Prognathia**
- 4. What is the purpose of percussion in dental examination?**
 - A. To fill a canal**
 - B. To assess periodontal health**
 - C. To assess tooth vitality**
 - D. To extract a tooth**
- 5. What does the glottis pertain to in anatomy?**
 - A. The vocal apparatus of the larynx**
 - B. The digestive system's opening**
 - C. The respiratory tract's airways**
 - D. The sensory part of the ear**
- 6. Pulpal necrosis refers to:**
 - A. Inflammation of the pulp**
 - B. Death of pulpal cells**
 - C. Healthy pulp tissue**
 - D. Reversible pulp damage**

- 7. What is an immediate denture?**
- A. An appliance that is placed at the time of surgery**
 - B. A type of permanent denture**
 - C. A temporary filler for missing teeth**
 - D. An appliance used for teeth whitening**
- 8. What is amoxicillin classified as?**
- A. A type of pain reliever**
 - B. An anti-infective antibiotic drug**
 - C. A medication for asthma**
 - D. A vitamin supplement**
- 9. What does obturation in dental treatment refer to?**
- A. Sealing and filling the canal area**
 - B. Cleaning the gum line**
 - C. Administering local anesthesia**
 - D. Extracting a tooth**
- 10. What is the opening at or near the apex of a tooth root called?**
- A. Attached Gingiva**
 - B. Apical Foramen**
 - C. Calcification**
 - D. Buccal Development Groove**

Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. A
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is the Frankl scale used to evaluate?

- A. Patient pain levels**
- B. Patient moral values**
- C. Patient behavior**
- D. Patient cognitive function**

The Frankl scale is specifically designed to assess a patient's behavior, particularly in pediatric dentistry. It provides a standardized way to categorize a child's level of cooperation during dental treatment. The scale ranges from "definitely negative" to "definitely positive," allowing dental professionals to gauge how well the child is responding to the environment and the procedures. When evaluating a pediatric patient's behavior, this scale helps determine how to proceed with treatment plans and manage anxiety, ensuring that the dental experience is as positive as possible. The other options, while relevant in the context of patient care, do not relate to the primary function of the Frankl scale. Pain levels are generally assessed using different pain scales, moral values do not pertain to behavior during dental visits, and cognitive function is evaluated through entirely different means that are not related to the dental context.

2. What is acrylic commonly used for in dentistry?

- A. Filling cavities**
- B. Fabrication of appliance parts**
- C. Dental implants**
- D. Root canal treatments**

Acrylic is widely used in dentistry primarily for the fabrication of appliance parts, making it the correct choice. Its versatility and favorable properties allow it to be molded into various forms, which is essential for creating dental appliances such as dentures, orthodontic retainers, and bite splints. Acrylic is favored due to its lightweight nature, ability to be easily shaped, and its aesthetic qualities, as it can be produced in different colors to mimic natural oral tissues. While filling cavities is typically done using materials such as composite resins or amalgam, and dental implants require materials like titanium for their long-term stability and strength, root canal treatments involve the use of gutta-percha and sealing materials that are specifically designed for that purpose. Acrylic's primary use lies in creating removable or fixed dental appliances, thus showcasing its importance in restorative and orthodontic procedures.

3. What term describes the condition where the incisors do not pass one another on the vertical axis?

- A. Open bite**
- B. Closed bite**
- C. Overbite**
- D. Prognathia**

The condition where the incisors do not pass one another on the vertical axis is known as an open bite. An open bite occurs when there is a discrepancy in the vertical overlap between the upper and lower incisors, leading to a gap or space when the jaws are closed. This condition can impact both aesthetics and function, affecting speech and chewing. The term "closed bite" is not commonly used in dental terminology. Instead, it may refer generally to a normal occlusion or a situation where the incisors touch, which does not accurately describe the condition in question. Overbite refers to the vertical overlap of the upper incisors over the lower incisors, where the upper teeth cover the lower teeth to some degree when the mouth is closed. Prognathia is a condition where the jaw is positioned forward relative to the other jaw and is unrelated to the vertical positioning of the incisors.

4. What is the purpose of percussion in dental examination?

- A. To fill a canal**
- B. To assess periodontal health**
- C. To assess tooth vitality**
- D. To extract a tooth**

The purpose of percussion in dental examination is primarily to assess tooth vitality. When a dentist performs percussion, they gently tap on the tooth to evaluate its sensitivity and the response indicates the health of the tooth. A healthy tooth typically has a certain degree of vitality and will respond differently to percussion compared to a tooth that is inflamed or has an abscess. This method helps determine whether a tooth is alive (vital) or necrotic (non-vital), which is crucial for diagnosing conditions like pulpitis or periapical abscesses. It is an important part of a comprehensive dental examination, allowing the practitioner to make informed decisions regarding further treatment options for maintaining oral health.

5. What does the glottis pertain to in anatomy?

- A. The vocal apparatus of the larynx**
- B. The digestive system's opening**
- C. The respiratory tract's airways**
- D. The sensory part of the ear**

The glottis is an essential part of the anatomy related to the vocal apparatus of the larynx. It specifically refers to the opening between the vocal cords and is crucial for sound production during speech. When air passes through the glottis, it causes the vocal cords to vibrate, creating sound. This function makes the glottis integral to phonation and the overall mechanics of human voice production. Understanding the glottis in the context of the larynx helps clarify its role, especially since it is involved in both breathing and speaking. Other options, while related to anatomical structures, do not correctly define the glottis. The digestive system's opening refers to a different structure, and the respiratory tract's airways cover a broader area that includes parts of the glottis but do not specifically pertain to it. Similarly, the sensory part of the ear is unrelated to the glottis, which emphasizes the importance of recognizing its specific function in the vocal mechanism.

6. Pulpal necrosis refers to:

- A. Inflammation of the pulp**
- B. Death of pulpal cells**
- C. Healthy pulp tissue**
- D. Reversible pulp damage**

Pulpal necrosis specifically indicates the death of the cells within the dental pulp, which is the innermost part of the tooth composed of nerves and blood vessels. This condition often arises due to untreated dental caries, trauma, or prolonged inflammation, which can compromise the vitality of the pulp tissue. Once necrosis occurs, the pulp is no longer able to carry out its functions, leading to a lack of sensation and contributing to further dental complications, such as infections or abscess formation. Recognizing pulpal necrosis is crucial for appropriate dental treatment, as it typically requires interventions such as root canal therapy or tooth extraction to prevent further issues. Understanding the other options helps clarify why they do not fit the definition; inflammation signifies a state of irritation and not cellular death, healthy pulp tissue indicates a non-pathological state, and reversible pulp damage suggests that the pulp is still alive and can possibly heal, which is contrary to the concept of necrosis.

7. What is an immediate denture?

- A. An appliance that is placed at the time of surgery**
- B. A type of permanent denture**
- C. A temporary filler for missing teeth**
- D. An appliance used for teeth whitening**

An immediate denture is defined as an appliance that is placed at the time of surgery. This type of denture is designed to be inserted right after tooth extraction, allowing the patient to have teeth immediately after losing their natural ones. This is especially beneficial for aesthetic and functional reasons, as it provides the patient with a full set of teeth during the healing process, mitigating the potential embarrassment of being without teeth. Once the gums heal and the shape of the mouth changes, adjustments to the immediate denture may be necessary. This distinguishes it from permanent dentures, which are typically fitted after the healing process is complete, and from temporary fillers, which serve only to allow for some chewing function until a more permanent solution can be employed. Immediate dentures are not associated with teeth whitening treatments, as they focus primarily on the restoration of lost teeth rather than improving the color of existing ones.

8. What is amoxicillin classified as?

- A. A type of pain reliever**
- B. An anti-infective antibiotic drug**
- C. A medication for asthma**
- D. A vitamin supplement**

Amoxicillin is classified as an anti-infective antibiotic drug, which means it is specifically designed to fight bacterial infections. It works by inhibiting the growth of bacteria, allowing the body's immune system to effectively eliminate the infection. Amoxicillin is commonly prescribed for a variety of conditions, including respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, and skin infections, among others. The classification as an antibiotic differentiates amoxicillin from medications used for other purposes, such as pain relievers, asthma medications, or vitamin supplements, all of which have different mechanisms and therapeutic uses. This understanding is crucial in a clinical setting to ensure the appropriate treatment is applied for various health conditions, highlighting the importance of proper classification for effective patient care.

9. What does obturation in dental treatment refer to?

- A. Sealing and filling the canal area**
- B. Cleaning the gum line**
- C. Administering local anesthesia**
- D. Extracting a tooth**

Obturation in dental treatment specifically refers to the process of sealing and filling the canal area within a tooth, particularly in the context of root canal therapy. This procedure is critical because after the infected or damaged pulp has been removed from the root canal system, it is important to fill the space to prevent future infections and to restore the tooth's function. The materials used for obturation, such as gutta-percha, help create a seal that protects the tooth from bacteria and helps maintain its structure and integrity. While cleaning the gum line, administering local anesthesia, and extracting a tooth are all important procedures in dentistry, they do not pertain to the definition of obturation. Each of those tasks serves a different purpose in dental treatment, but obturation specifically focuses on the management of the interior of a tooth post-treatment.

10. What is the opening at or near the apex of a tooth root called?

- A. Attached Gingiva**
- B. Apical Foramen**
- C. Calcification**
- D. Buccal Development Groove**

The opening at or near the apex of a tooth root is called the apical foramen. This is a crucial anatomical feature of the tooth because it serves as the entry point for nerves and blood vessels that supply the tooth. The apical foramen allows these vital structures to enter the pulp chamber, ensuring that the tooth remains nourished and functioning properly. Understanding the role of the apical foramen is important in various dental procedures, as it is often the target area when performing root canal treatments. The presence of this opening is also significant in cases of dental infections, where the health of the pulp and surrounding tissues can be affected. The other options refer to different aspects of dental anatomy or conditions. Attached gingiva pertains to the gum tissue that firmly adheres to the surface of the underlying alveolar bone. Calcification refers to the process where calcium salts are deposited in body tissues, which can involve teeth but is not specifically related to the apex of a tooth root. The buccal development groove is a feature noted in certain teeth morphology but does not pertain to the root structure.