

North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (NCDAC) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. Which document is completed by the clerk of court in superior court?**
 - A. AOC-CR-217**
 - B. Gov 2a**
 - C. DCS-111**
 - D. Gov 2**
- 2. What is the classification for defrauding a drug/alcohol screening for the first time?**
 - A. Class I felony or subsequent offense**
 - B. Class H felony**
 - C. Class 1 misdemeanor**
 - D. Class 2 misdemeanor**
- 3. How does NCDAC utilize technology in its correctional practices?**
 - A. For recreational purposes only**
 - B. To monitor inmate behaviors and maintain security protocols**
 - C. Primarily for data entry**
 - D. To communicate with families**
- 4. Identify one strategy used to prevent inmate violence.**
 - A. Solitary confinement for all inmates**
 - B. Implementing conflict resolution programs**
 - C. Avoiding communication training**
 - D. Increasing the number of inmates in each cell**
- 5. What method is effective for de-escalating conflicts among inmates?**
 - A. Administrative sanctions**
 - B. Using trained staff in crisis intervention techniques**
 - C. Increasing solitary confinement**
 - D. Limiting access to recreation**

- 6. What is indicated by "low self-esteem" as a cause of substance abuse?**
- A. Increased confidence**
 - B. Potential vulnerability to addiction**
 - C. Improved social connections**
 - D. Heightened emotional stability**
- 7. What is the significance of inmate education programs?**
- A. They are optional and rarely utilized**
 - B. They provide vital skills for post-release employment**
 - C. They focus solely on theoretical knowledge**
 - D. They are primarily for entertainment purposes**
- 8. A severity 3 (S3) non-compliance level is described as?**
- A. New crime (other than a class 3 misdemeanor)**
 - B. Recurring violations**
 - C. Isolated or non-recurring violations, or Class 3 misdemeanor**
 - D. Circumstances beyond the offender's control**
- 9. What happens during the decoding process in communication?**
- A. The sender writes the message**
 - B. The receiver interprets the message**
 - C. The channel is selected**
 - D. The feedback is given**
- 10. What are the four primary classifications of offenders in the NCDAC?**
- A. Minimum, medium, close, and maximum security**
 - B. Low, moderate, high, and supermax security**
 - C. First-time, repeat, violent, and white-collar offenders**
 - D. Felons, misdemeanants, juveniles, and civilly committed**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which document is completed by the clerk of court in superior court?

A. AOC-CR-217

B. Gov 2a

C. DCS-111

D. Gov 2

The AOC-CR-217 is a document that is specifically used in the context of superior court proceedings within North Carolina. It is a crucial form as it is utilized for the purpose of reporting various information regarding criminal offenses and the disposition of those cases. The clerk of court is responsible for maintaining official records in a court of law, and completing the AOC-CR-217 ensures that comprehensive and accurate information is documented regarding criminal matters. In contrast, the other options do not pertain to the role of the clerk of court in superior court. For instance, Gov 2a and Gov 2 are likely related to state governance or administrative processes rather than specific court documentation. Similarly, DCS-111 does not align with the clerk's duties in relation to superior court. Thus, the AOC-CR-217 stands out as the relevant and correctly associated document that the clerk of court is tasked with completing in superior court.

2. What is the classification for defrauding a drug/alcohol screening for the first time?

A. Class I felony or subsequent offense

B. Class H felony

C. Class 1 misdemeanor

D. Class 2 misdemeanor

The classification of defrauding a drug/alcohol screening for the first time is categorized as a Class 1 misdemeanor. This classification reflects the understanding that this offense is viewed as less severe than felonies, which typically carry harsher penalties and longer prison sentences. Misdemeanors generally result in lighter consequences, such as shorter jail time, probation, fines, or other community service, aligning with the idea that this is a first-time offense. In many jurisdictions, the law recognizes that first-time offenders might benefit from rehabilitative measures rather than punitive ones, particularly for offenses that are intended to avoid accountability for substance use. Thus, a Class 1 misdemeanor serves as a balance between addressing the behavior while providing opportunities for correction and reform without the heavier consequences associated with felony charges.

3. How does NCDAC utilize technology in its correctional practices?

- A. For recreational purposes only
- B. To monitor inmate behaviors and maintain security protocols**
- C. Primarily for data entry
- D. To communicate with families

The correct answer demonstrates that the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (NCDAC) leverages technology primarily to improve monitoring of inmate behaviors and uphold security protocols within correctional facilities. This use of technology is vital as it enhances the ability to oversee inmate activities, ensuring better management of safety risks and maintaining order within the institution. Technological advancements, such as surveillance systems and tracking software, play a crucial role in providing real-time monitoring and data collection related to inmates' behaviors. This helps staff respond promptly to incidents, enforce rules, and manage resources effectively. While technology may also support other functions, such as communication with families or data entry, those purposes do not reflect the primary objective of using technology in a correctional environment. The emphasis on security and monitoring aligns with the overarching goal of maintaining a safe and rehabilitative environment for both inmates and staff.

4. Identify one strategy used to prevent inmate violence.

- A. Solitary confinement for all inmates
- B. Implementing conflict resolution programs**
- C. Avoiding communication training
- D. Increasing the number of inmates in each cell

Implementing conflict resolution programs is an effective strategy to prevent inmate violence as it equips inmates with the skills and tools necessary to manage disputes in a constructive manner. These programs often focus on enhancing communication skills, teaching negotiation techniques, and promoting emotional regulation, all of which can decrease impulsive reactions that may lead to violent confrontations. By empowering inmates to handle conflicts peacefully, the overall atmosphere within the facility can improve, which not only reduces the likelihood of violence but also fosters a more rehabilitative environment. In contrast, other strategies may not effectively address the root causes of inmate violence or could potentially exacerbate tensions. For instance, solitary confinement may isolate individuals but does not offer a solution for conflict management and can lead to increased anger and resentment. Avoiding communication training neglects the importance of interpersonal skills in resolving disagreements. Lastly, increasing the number of inmates in each cell could lead to overcrowding, which often heightens stress levels and competition for resources, further escalating the potential for violence.

5. What method is effective for de-escalating conflicts among inmates?

A. Administrative sanctions

B. Using trained staff in crisis intervention techniques

C. Increasing solitary confinement

D. Limiting access to recreation

Using trained staff in crisis intervention techniques is an effective method for de-escalating conflicts among inmates because it emphasizes communication, empathy, and problem-solving skills. Trained staff are equipped with the necessary skills to recognize the signs of escalating tensions and can intervene appropriately before conflicts escalate further. They are skilled in using verbal strategies to diffuse volatile situations, establish rapport with inmates, and help them express their feelings in a constructive manner. This approach prioritizes maintaining safety and stability within the facility while also addressing the underlying issues that may contribute to conflict. By employing trained personnel who understand therapeutic communication and de-escalation strategies, facilities can reduce the likelihood of violence and foster a more positive environment. In contrast, administrative sanctions and solitary confinement may exacerbate tensions rather than resolve them, while limiting access to recreation can lead to further frustration and unrest among inmates.

6. What is indicated by "low self-esteem" as a cause of substance abuse?

A. Increased confidence

B. Potential vulnerability to addiction

C. Improved social connections

D. Heightened emotional stability

The indication of "low self-esteem" as a cause of substance abuse points to the potential vulnerability to addiction. Individuals with low self-esteem may turn to substances as a way to cope with their feelings of inadequacy, shame, or self-doubt. They might use alcohol or drugs to escape their negative thoughts about themselves or to enhance their perceived self-worth temporarily. This reliance on substances can develop into a pattern of use that leads to addiction, as the individual seeks to repeatedly fill the emotional void created by low self-esteem. In contrast, increased confidence and improved social connections typically relate to positive mental states and outcomes, which do not align with the emotional struggles associated with low self-esteem. Heightened emotional stability also suggests a healthy management of emotions, which low self-esteem often undermines. Thus, recognizing how low self-esteem can lead to vulnerability to addiction is crucial in understanding the psychological factors influencing substance abuse.

7. What is the significance of inmate education programs?

- A. They are optional and rarely utilized
- B. They provide vital skills for post-release employment**
- C. They focus solely on theoretical knowledge
- D. They are primarily for entertainment purposes

Inmate education programs hold significant importance as they provide vital skills for post-release employment. By equipping incarcerated individuals with educational qualifications and vocational training, these programs aim to enhance their employability upon reintegration into society. This emphasis on practical skills helps reduce recidivism rates, as research indicates that individuals who engage in educational programs while incarcerated are more likely to find stable employment after release, which is a crucial factor in maintaining a law-abiding lifestyle. Moreover, these programs can address gaps in literacy and numeracy, preparing inmates not just for specific jobs but also for the responsibilities of post-release life, such as managing finances, understanding legal rights, and navigating social systems. In contrast to the other options, which either downplay the value of these programs, misrepresent their focus, or diminish their purpose, the correct response underscores the essential role that education plays in facilitating a successful transition back into society.

8. A severity 3 (S3) non-compliance level is described as?

- A. New crime (other than a class 3 misdemeanor)
- B. Recurring violations
- C. Isolated or non-recurring violations, or Class 3 misdemeanor**
- D. Circumstances beyond the offender's control

A severity 3 (S3) non-compliance level is characterized by isolated or non-recurring violations, or instances involving a Class 3 misdemeanor. This classification indicates that the violations are not part of a pattern of ongoing behavior but rather are singular occurrences that do not signify a chronic issue. Understanding this classification is fundamental because it helps distinguish between different levels of non-compliance and their potential implications for the individual involved. If an offender is categorized under severity 3, it suggests that their behavior might not pose a significant risk to public safety or demonstrate chronic disregard for legal requirements. This distinction can play an important role in determining the appropriate response, intervention strategies, or rehabilitative efforts that might be required for the offender.

9. What happens during the decoding process in communication?

- A. The sender writes the message**
- B. The receiver interprets the message**
- C. The channel is selected**
- D. The feedback is given**

During the decoding process in communication, the focus is on how the receiver interprets the message that has been sent by the sender. This interpretation involves translating the encoded information, which can include verbal, non-verbal, or written forms, into meaningful thoughts or understanding based on the receiver's own experiences, knowledge, and context. The effectiveness of this process can significantly impact communication outcomes; if the receiver successfully decodes the message as intended, clear communication occurs. However, if there's a disconnect in understanding, misinterpretation can arise, leading to confusion or misunderstanding. This interpretation is crucial, as it dictates how the receiver will respond or provide feedback to the sender. In this context, the other options represent different aspects of the communication process rather than the decoding phase. The sender writing the message pertains to the encoding process, the selection of the channel is about how the message is transmitted, and feedback occurs after the message has been received and interpreted. Each of these components plays a role in the overall communication process, but decoding specifically refers to the act of the receiver making sense of the message.

10. What are the four primary classifications of offenders in the NCDAC?

- A. Minimum, medium, close, and maximum security**
- B. Low, moderate, high, and supermax security**
- C. First-time, repeat, violent, and white-collar offenders**
- D. Felons, misdemeanants, juveniles, and civilly committed**

The classification of offenders in the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (NCDAC) is based on the level of risk they pose to society and the potential for rehabilitation. The correct answer identifies four primary classifications: minimum, medium, close, and maximum security. Minimum security facilities generally house non-violent offenders who pose a low risk to the community. These facilities typically allow for more freedom of movement and fewer restrictions on daily activities, as the inmates are considered likely to comply with rules and regulations. Medium security facilities are designed for inmates who require a higher level of supervision due to a greater risk of escape or rule violations. They have more restrictions and less freedom compared to minimum security but are not as restrictive as close security. Close security facilities, also called high security, are intended for inmates who are considered a significant risk to public safety and may have a history of violent behavior or escape attempts. Inmates in these facilities are under constant surveillance and have strict limitations on movement and interaction. Maximum security facilities house the most dangerous offenders, typically those convicted of serious violent crimes. These facilities use the highest levels of security and restrict inmates' movements and activities to ensure the safety of staff and the community. Understanding this classification system helps in managing and rehabilitating offenders.