Essentials of Interviewing

Question from chapter 1

1) Which method of conducting an assessment emphasizes the client’s specific strengths and weaknesses?
   a) psychometric perspective
   b) psychiatric paradigm
   c) personality profile
   d) psychological assessment approach

2) Which is NOT mentioned as 1 of the 3 broad areas of necessary interviewing skills?
   a) interviewing skills
   b) marketing skills
   c) diagnostic skills
   d) documentation skills

3) The most important question for the interviewing clinician to answer is the
   a) diagnosis question
   b) third party question
   c) client’s question
   d) referral question

4) Today’s most widespread decisive factor regarding 3rd party payment for mental health services is
   a) provider panels
   b) licensure
   c) medical necessity
   d) premorbid functioning

Question from chapter 2

5) Morrison (1993) estimates what percentage of time is used in the interview for personal and social history; evaluation of character pathology?
   a) 10%
   b) 15%
   c) 20%
   d) 25%

6) In (full or partial) remission is known as
   a) a rule out
   b) a qualifier
   c) wildly optimistic
   d) a tag

7) What term suggests that a diagnosis is prevalent but more information is needed to fully validate it?
   a) conditional
   b) interim
   c) pro tem
   d) provisional
8) What type of impairment identifies aspects of the client’s life that can be impaired due to a mental health condition for which services are medically necessary?
   a) vocational
   b) ADL
   c) functional
   d) physical

9) Which DSM axis addresses Psychosocial and Environmental Problems?
   a) I
   b) II
   c) III
   d) IV

Question from chapter 3

10) “Constantly checking the clock” is which area in which clients demonstrate resistance?
    a) diversionary tactics
    b) gross motor tics
    c) temporal shifts
    d) voluntary behaviors

11) Malingering is the purposeful fabrication of signs and symptoms of a physical or mental disorder.
    a) True
    b) False

12) What type of questions allow for individual, variable responses and cannot be answered with a yes or no response?
    a) leading
    b) ice-breakers
    c) open-ended
    d) reflective

13) Which quadrant has the structured questioning sequence intersecting with the open-ended style of questions?
    a) 1
    b) 2
    c) 3
    d) 4

14) Which term is used when clinicians suspect that a client is suffering from a particular disorder, but more information is needed for confirmation?
    a) confirm
    b) clarify
    c) rule-out
    d) surmise
Question from chapter 4

15) What refers to a genuine, honest presence of the therapist?
   a) congruence
   b) empathic attunement
   c) being there
   d) temporal honesty

16) Sue & Sue (1999) report that African Americans tend to communicate nonverbally at a lesser rate than Caucasians.
   a) True
   b) False

17) Sue & Sue (1999) report that Asian Americans tend to control and train their children via
   a) shame and guilt
   b) modeling
   c) corporal punishment
   d) praise and rewards

18) Native Americans have the highest rate of completed suicide of any ethnic group.
   a) True
   b) False

Question from chapter 5

19) In the SNAP acronym, the “P” stands for
   a) Preferences
   b) Perception
   c) Padawan
   d) Paradigm

20) A history of legal problems may indicate disorders which include all EXCEPT
   a) mania
   b) kleptomania
   c) depression
   d) antisocial personality disorder

21) An overactive thyroid may be misdiagnosed as
   a) depression
   b) diabetes
   c) dementia
   d) mania

22) Contacting a client’s physician regarding medications is discouraged due to HIPPA concerns.
   a) True
   b) False
Question from chapter 6

23) According to Shea (1999) for people ages 15 to 25, suicide as the cause of death is ranked
   a) 1st
   b) 3rd
   c) 5th
   d) 7th

24) In most cases, if clients state that if or when they commit suicide they will go about it in a planned manner, but they have no specific time in mind, this is not considered “a plan”.
   a) True
   b) False

25) “Suicidal ideation and a general plan exist. Self-control is intact.” This would be which level of suicidal risk?
   a) minimal
   b) mild
   c) moderate
   d) severe

26) Which is NOT an area of a suicidal plan which Muller (1985) suggests should be investigated?
   a) specificity of the plan
   b) availability of the proposed method
   c) proximity of social or helping resources
   d) diagnosis of the planner

27) According to Yufit (1997) most suicide-prone individuals have a preoccupation with the past.
   a) True
   b) False

28) All the following statements about signs of a potential suicide attempt are true EXCEPT
   a) suicide risks and completed attempts increase with age
   b) alcohol contributes to about 1/3 to ½ of all suicides
   c) the suicide rate for men is about 3 timers greater than for women
   d) most completed suicides had not had previous attempts

Question from chapter 7

29) The presenting problem is stated as a diagnosis.
   a) True
   b) False

30) Symptoms that are not required for a disorder to be diagnosed but that commonly exist with the disorder are termed
   a) associated symptoms
   b) symbiotic symptoms
   c) conjoint symptoms
   d) co occurring symptoms
31) What type of symptoms must be prevalent to justify a diagnosis?
   a) criterion based  
   b) essential  
   c) observable & measurable  
   d) impairing  

32) What term refers to symptoms regarding body functions such as increases or decreases in appetite, weight, sleep, or decreases in level of energy and libido?
   a) dysthymia  
   b) anhedonia  
   c) negative symptoms  
   d) vegetative symptoms  

33) What are described as an effective means of ruling in and ruling out mental health diagnoses?
   a) flow charts  
   b) decision trees  
   c) if/then statements  
   d) WAG’s  

34) A simple way to record the specificity of a client’s symptoms is with which acronym?
   a) SND HLP  
   b) PSYC-O  
   c) DABGA  
   d) OF AID  

Question from chapter 8

35) What does the author state is one of the richest areas for mental status observations?
   a) appearance  
   b) speech  
   c) activity level  
   d) attitude toward examiner  

36) What involves the client’s capacity to interact emotionally, to establish rapport with the examiner, and express warmth toward the examiner?
   a) attunement  
   b) engagement  
   c) relatedness  
   d) presence  

37) The sensorium/cognition portion of the interview is not a formal part of the MSE.
   a) True  
   b) False  

38) Spelling WORLD forward and backward is a common exercise for assessing
   a) geography knowledge  
   b) concentration  
   c) orientation  
   d) memory
39) The best predictor of both current and premorbid intellectual level is
   a) vocabulary
   b) school records
   c) math ability
   d) collateral information

40) What can cut down report-writing time by at least 75%?
   a) plagiarism
   b) spell check
   c) a dictation service
   d) using a laptop during intakes