



Leaving Certificate Applied 2007

Vocational Specialism –
Childcare/Community Care
(240 marks)

Marking Scheme and Summarised
Exemplar Answers

Directions to Candidates

1. Write your EXAMINATION NUMBER in this space:
2. WRITE ALL ANSWERS INTO THIS ANSWER BOOK.
3. Candidates should answer a total of **four** questions.
Each question should be selected from a **different** section.
There are **five** sections in this paper.
Candidates should answer questions from **four** sections only.
4. Each question carries 60 marks.

Section 1 - The Care of Babies and Young Children

(Attempt either Question 1 or Question 2 if answering this section.
Each question carries 60 marks)

1. (a) Describe, under **each** of the following headings, the *safety factors* that a parent / carer should take into consideration when planning and undertaking an outing to a playground with a four-year-old child. (24 marks)

Travelling to the playground on public transport **2 points @ 3 marks each**

*Hold child by hand at all times

*Stand back from curb when waiting for bus

*Sit with child on bus so that child is sitting on inside of seat beside window

*Help child on and off bus

*Walk to the nearest pedestrian crossing after alighting the bus

The playground equipment **2 points @ 3 marks each**

*Supervise child on equipment at all times

*Only allow child to use equipment appropriate for their age

*Ensure the playground surface is safe in case child falls off equipment

*Ensure equipment is well spaced out

*Ensure equipment is in good repair

*Ensure child uses equipment that is not overcrowded

Animals and insects **2 points @ 3 marks each**

*Ensure child does not pet dogs in case they are bitten

*Keep child away from dog faeces to prevent infections e.g. toxocarasis

*Watch out for stinging insects in summer

* Have insect repellent

Weather **2 points @ 3 marks each**

*In summer use a high factor sun lotion to protect the skin from the sun's rays

*Keep out of the sun in the middle of the day

*Ensure child wears a long sleeved top and hat in the summer to protect from the sun

*In winter wrap the child up warm - coat, hat, and gloves

*Avoid scarves that could get caught in equipment

*Wear suitable footwear e.g. Wellingtons in wet weather

- (b) List a selection of healthy snacks and drinks that you would pack for the outing. (10 marks)

5 @ 2 marks each

e.g. _____

*Fruit or vegetable pieces e.g. apple, banana, carrot sticks etc.

*Stick of cheese

*Rice cakes

*Popcorn

*Bottled water * Fruit Juice * Smoothie

- (c) State **two** reasons why a knowledge of simple first-aid is important. (8 marks)

2 @ 4 marks each

1. _____

*It could save someone's life

*So that any advice or treatment that you give is appropriate

2. _____

- (d) Describe the first-aid treatment that should be carried out on **each** of the following: (18 marks)

2 points @ 3 marks each

A grazed knee _____

*Clean grit from wound by gently swabbing with wet cotton wool or gauze

*Apply antiseptic lotion

*Cover wound with dressing

2 points @ 3 marks each

A bee sting _____

*Gently scrape out the stinger as soon as possible using a credit card or fingernail.

*Don't pull out

*Clean sting area with soapy water

*Put cold compress on sting

2 points @ 3 marks each

A splinter in a finger _____

*Grasp end of splinter with clean tweezers and gently pull out

*If embedded in skin clean a needle with alcohol

*Make a small hole in the skin over the end of the splinter

*Lift splinter with tip of needle until it can be grasped by tweezers and pulled out

*Clean wound and watch for signs of infection

2. (a) What is *toilet training*? (6 marks)

2 points @ 3 marks each

*The process of training a young child to use the toilet

*Weaning him/her off nappies

(b) At what age do most children begin toilet training? (4 marks)

*1 @ 4 marks * 18 - 24 months*

(c) List **four** signs that might indicate that a child is ready to be toilet trained. (12 marks)

4 signs @ 3 marks each

*Child shows awareness of needing to go e.g. squatting, grunting

1. _____

*Dry nappy after long periods e.g. after long naps or in the morning

2. _____

*Child urinates a lot at one time

3. _____

*Regularity of bowel movements

4. _____

*Child able to pull his/her own pants down

*Child understands words such as 'pee' and 'poo'

(d) Describe the function of **each** of the following items of toilet training equipment. (18 marks)

	<p><i>2 points @ 3 marks each = 6 marks</i></p> <p>_____ *Used by young child when he/she starts toilet training</p> <p>_____ *Shaped like a seat so they can sit on it easily</p> <p>_____ *Raised front stops little boys spraying</p> <p>_____</p>
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	<p><i>2 points @ 3 marks each = 6 marks</i></p> <p>_____ *A child seat that fits over a regular toilet</p> <p>_____ *Helps to make the transition from a potty to a toilet</p> <p>_____ *Gives child the security that they won't fall into the toilet</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;">2 points @ 3 marks each = 6 marks</p> <hr/> <p>*Helps young child reach up to the toilet and sit on it</p> <hr/> <p>*Can also be used by little boys to stand on while urinating</p> <hr/>
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(e) What should a parent / carer look for when selecting clothes for a child to wear during toilet training? (8 marks)

2 points @ 4 marks each

- *Practical clothes that children can pull up and down easily by themselves

- *Clothes with easy fastenings e.g. elastic or Velcro

- *Avoid body suits or overall as they require the child to undress and are too slow to remove if the child is in a hurry

(f) How can a parent / carer help a child to stay dry during the night? (12 marks)

3 @ 4 marks each

- *Wake and lift the child at night to empty his/her bladder

- *Reduce or stop fluid intake in the evening

- *Take the child to the toilet just before he/she goes to bed

Section 2 - Child Development and Play

(Attempt either Question 3 or Question 4 if answering this section.
Each question carries 60 marks)

3. (a) List **four** benefits of play for children. (12 marks)
4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____
*Children learn through play
2. _____
*Play aids a child's development
3. _____
*Play helps a child to express feelings and emotions
4. _____
*Play is fun

- (b) Match **each** type of play with the correct description.
Write the answers in the spaces below. (12 marks)
4 @ 3 marks each

	Types of play		Descriptions
1.	Creative Play	(a)	Playing together with other children. Play involves sharing, cooperation, turn taking etc.
2.	Social Play	(b)	Pretending to be, or act, like someone else e.g. playing in the Wendy house or dressing up.
3.	Physical Play	(c)	Using materials or items such as play dough, blocks, paint, sand etc. to express ideas.
4.	Imaginative Play	(d)	Movement of the body involving activities such as running, jumping, skipping, climbing etc.

1. __ (b) ____ 2. __ (a) ____ 3. __ (d) ____ 4. __ (c) ____

- (c) List **four** factors that you would take into consideration when choosing a toy for a five-year-old child. (12 marks)
4 factors @ 3 marks each

1. _____
*Age appropriateness *Suited to child's stage of development
2. _____
*Holds their interest *Supports development
3. _____
*Safety *Well constructed/durable
4. _____
*Cost/budget *Educational
*Appeals to the interests of the child

- (d) Identify a different toy, game or activity that would support a five year old child's development in **each** of the following areas: (12 marks)

Area of development	Toy, game or activity
Turn taking	1 @ 2 marks e.g. simple board game for two people e.g. snakes and ladders
Co-ordination	1 @ 2 marks e.g. cutting and pasting, threading or building activity e.g. Lego or outdoor activity e.g. football
Concentration	1 @ 2 marks e.g. puzzle, building e.g. Lego or reading
Imagination	1 @ 2 marks e.g. puppets, dressing up, painting, craft etc.
Understanding of rules	1 @ 2 marks e.g. board games, card games etc.
Release of feelings	1 @ 2 marks e.g. play dough, dressing up, drama, puppets etc.

- (e) Discuss the role of competitive games for children. (12 marks)
3 @ 4 marks each

*Can motivate some children and demotivate others

*Children who never win e.g. at sports day can get upset especially when they see other children winning all the prizes

*Children need to learn the concept of winning and losing

*Children need to learn to focus on taking part rather than on winning

* Teamwork

4. (a) What is *language development*? (6 marks)

1 @ 6 marks

*The development of communication skills and the use of words that have meaning

(b) Why is the language development of children important? (6 marks)

2 @ 3 marks each

*Important for communication e.g. to express needs and feelings

*Needed for socialising and interacting with others

(c) Match the stages of language development that are associated with babies of different ages. Tick (✓) the relevant boxes below. (12 marks)

6 @ 2 marks each

Stages of learning to talk	0-3 months	9-12 months
Coos and gurgles	✓	
Understands words like 'bye-bye'		✓
Says sounds like 'ba ba, na na, ga ga'		✓
Turns towards a new sound	✓	
Jumps at a loud noise	✓	
Understands their own name		✓

(d) Suggest **four** ways that a parent / carer might support a baby's language development. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____

*Use gestures such as waving goodbye to help convey meaning

*Talk to your baby

2. _____

*Teach your baby to imitate your actions e.g. clapping

*Change the tone/pitch of your voice

3. _____

*Sing to your baby

*Read to your baby

4. _____

- (e) List **four** factors that might affect the rate at which a child's language develops. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

*Inadequate stimulation

*Lack of interest

1. _____

*Deafness or reduced hearing

2. _____

*Delayed general development

3. _____

*Exposure to too many languages

4. _____

*Difficulties with speech muscles, lips and/or tongue

- (f) Describe **one** toy, game or activity that would help to encourage the language development of children of the following ages: (12 marks)

Age	Toy, game or activity
3 months	1 @ 3 marks _____ *e.g. talk to your baby, sing songs to, interact with etc. _____ _____
2 years	1 @ 3 marks _____ *e.g. books, puppets, toy telephone _____ _____
5 years	1 @ 3 marks _____ *e.g. books, puppets, karaoke machine, dressing up etc. _____ _____
10 years	1 @ 3 marks _____ *e.g. books, games involving language e.g. charades, scrabble etc. _____ _____

Section 3 - Parenting and Care Provision

(Attempt either Question 5 or Question 6 if answering this section.
Each question carries 60 marks)

5. (a) What is *antenatal care*? (6 marks)

1 @ 6 marks

*Care before birth that promotes the wellbeing of the mother and developing baby

(b) List **three** reasons why antenatal care is important. (12 marks)

3 @ 4 marks each

1. _____

* To monitor the overall health of mother and developing baby

2. _____

*To enable specific checks to be carried out such as blood pressure, urine etc.

3. _____

*To detect problems as soon as possible

*To reassure parents and give them the opportunity to have questions answered and prepare for the birth

(c) When does the first antenatal visit usually take place? (4 marks)

1 @ 4 marks

*Between 8th and 12th week of pregnancy

(d) Why are **each** of the following tests / examinations carried out at antenatal visits? (18 marks)

Blood pressure

1 @ 6 marks

*To ensure blood pressure isn't raised as this could lead to pre-eclampsia

Urine

1 @ 6 marks

*To check for infections e.g. protein in urine may indicate infection

*To check for sugar which may indicate diabetes

Uterus (Womb)

1 @ 6 marks

*To check size of uterus to help estimate stage of pregnancy, development of baby

- (e) Name the type of scan shown in the picture below **and** outline its purpose. (8 marks)



Name **1 @ 2 marks** *Ultrasound

Purpose **2 @ 3 marks**

- *Uses sound waves to build a picture of the baby in the womb
- *Can check stage of development of foetus
- *Can help to detect problems with the developing Foetus * May detect gender of baby

- (f) Describe **four** changes that take place in an expectant mother's body during pregnancy. **4 @ 3 marks each** (12 marks)

*Weight gain due to foetus, placenta and amniotic fluid

*Enlarged breasts due to milk ducts growing in preparation for breastfeeding

1. _____

* Nausea usually in the early stages of pregnancy

*Cravings as taste preferences change

2. _____

*Passing urine frequently due to pressure on bladder from developing foetus

*Tiredness

3. _____

*Light headed or dizzy as pregnancy lowers blood pressure

*Back pain

4. _____

6. (a) Explain the difference between **each** of the following types of parents: (18 marks)

1 @ 6 marks

Birth parent _____

*Biological parent - birth mother or father of child

Foster parent _____ *1 @ 6 marks*

*Person who acts as parent or guardian for a child in place of child's natural parent

but without legally adopting child; acts in a temporary capacity

1 @ 6 marks

Adoptive parent _____

*Full legal parent of child

*Not the biological parent

(b) List **four** characteristics of a good parent. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____

*Nurtures the child

2. _____

*Praises and encourages the child

3. _____

*Is consistent

4. _____

*Sets boundaries etc.

(c) Outline **four** practical ways a couple could share the responsibilities of parenting. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____

*Communicate with each other on how they want to raise their children. Discuss

issues as they arise

2. _____

*Support each other / back each other up

*Divide household chores

3. _____

*Divide childcare tasks e.g. feeding and nappy changing when practical

4. _____

*Spend time together with the child/children

- (d) List one advantage and one disadvantage of each of the following childcare options. (18 marks)

1. Childminder looking after children in the *childminder's home*.

1 @ 3 marks

Advantage _____

*Child will be one of a small group *Will be cared for as part of another family

1 @ 3 marks

Disadvantage _____

*Childs whole safety and well being depends on this one person

*If childminder falls ill you need to make other arrangements

2. Childminder looking after a child in the *child's home*

1 @ 3 marks

Advantage _____

*Less of a rush to get child up and ready in the morning

*If child gets ill parent does not have to take time off work

1 @ 3 marks

Disadvantage _____

*Difficulties if childminder is late or absent

*Parent may not like to have someone working from their home.

*Higher costs for heating etc.

3. *A parent staying at home* to look after his / her own child.

1 @ 3 marks

Advantage _____

*Parent knows the level of care child is getting

*Parent there to see and share all major milestones etc.

1 @ 3 marks

Disadvantage _____

*Loss of income

*Looses out on promotions at work or career progression

*May be difficult to return to workforce later

Section 4 - People with Special Needs

(Attempt either Question 7 or Question 8 if answering this section.
Each question carries 60 marks)

7. (a) Explain the term *special educational needs*. (8 marks)
2 points @ 4 marks each

*A learning difficulty which requires special educational provision

*A learning difficulty that makes it harder for a child to learn than someone of the
same age

- (b) Identify **two** professional people that parents could talk to if they suspect that their child has special educational needs. (8 marks)
2 @ 4 marks each

1. _____
*Teacher *Principal *Psychologist

2. _____
*GP *Public Health Nurse

- (c) Outline **three** aspects of learning that children with special educational needs might require help with in school. (12 marks)
3 @ 4 marks each

1. _____
*Reading *Writing *Understanding others

2. _____
* Behaviour in class *Organising themselves *Sequence

3. _____
*Unfinished work

- (d) Suggest **four** practical ways that a school might support a student with special educational needs. (12 marks)
4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____
* Provide a special needs assistant (SNA)

2. _____
*Adapt materials e.g. larger print on handouts

*Adapt environment

3. _____
*Arrange for child to be assessed

* Prepare and implement a learning plan for the child

4. _____
*Provide assisted technology e.g. computer

- (e) Discuss the importance of integrating children with special educational needs into mainstream schools. (8 marks)

2 developed points @ 4 marks each

*Important for children to be included in mainstream school locally and make friends with local children rather than be sent to special schools away from the community

*Children need to be tolerant and accepting of each other. Being in class together helps to avoid many of the fears, attitudes and assumptions in relation to children with special needs or special educational needs

- (f) Outline the role of the Special Needs Assistant (SNA) in a classroom. (12 marks)

3 @ 4 marks each

*Helps teacher by providing classroom support

*Works under supervision of teacher

*Helps with independent living skills

*Attends to physical needs

*Assists with clothing, feeding, toileting and general hygiene

*Helps child alight from and board school bus

8. (a) What is a *hearing impairment*? (8 marks)
1 @ 8 marks

* A full or partial loss of the ability to detect sounds

(b) Identify **four** possible causes of a hearing impairment. (12 marks)
4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____

* Infection of the middle ear

* Genetic disorder

2. _____

* Damage to the eardrum canal

* Exposure to very loud noise

3. _____

* Injury to ear or head

4. _____

* Complication during pregnancy or birth

* Reubella

(c) Describe how a person's daily life might be affected by a hearing impairment in **each** of the following areas: (16 marks)

Work *2 @ 4 marks*

* Only parts of conversations heard or none at all

* May have to ask people to repeat what they have said or communicate with them in another way

* Restricts the type of work they can do

* Creates challenges such as fitting in

* Others may feel awkward around them

Home *2 @ 4 marks*

* Might not be able to hear door bell or telephone

* Television needs to be very loud or showing subtitles

* May feel like staying at home in secure environment rather than going out

* Home may require to be adapted to meet needs

* Easier to communicate at home with people they are familiar with

(d) Explain **each** of the following: (16 marks)

Sign language

2 points @ 4 marks each =8 marks

*Language that is used to communicate

*That is made up of hand shapes, facial gestures and movement

Hearing aid

2 points @ 4 marks each =8 marks

*A device worn in or behind the ear

*It amplifies sound

(e) The sign below indicates that public places such as theatres, cinemas, banks, booking offices etc. are equipped with a loop system for people with hearing aids.

What is the purpose of a loop system? (8 marks)

2 points @ 4 marks each



*It takes sound straight from the source and delivers it into the listeners head

*It cuts out background noise and makes it easier to hear what is being said

Section 5 - Older People

(Attempt either Question 9 or Question 10 if answering this section.
Each question carries 60 marks)

9. (a) What is *depression*? (6 marks)

1 @ 6 marks

*Feelings of sadness that can be short term or severe

*Emotional distress

(b) List **four** possible triggers / causes of depression in older people. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

1. _____

*Major loss in a persons life

*Traumatic event

2. _____

*Genetic factors

*Change in hormone levels

3. _____

*Stress

4. _____

(c) Identify **four** symptoms / signs that might suggest that an older person is experiencing depression. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

*Feeling sad, anxious, bored, hopeless

*Reduced sense of self worth

1. _____

*Tired, fatigued, everything an effort

*Aches & Pains

2. _____

*Waking during night or oversleeping

*Suicidal thoughts

3. _____

*Slow thinking, poor concentration

*Thinking about death

4. _____

*Lack of interest in food, life etc.

(d) Suggest **four** practical things that an older person could do that might help him / her avoid becoming depressed. (12 marks)

4 @ 3 marks each

*Talk about how they feel

1. _____

*Engage in regular exercise

* Take up a hobby

2. _____

*Eat a well balanced diet

3. _____

*Avoid smoking, alcohol and drugs

4. _____

*Get rest and regular sleep

- (e) Discuss practical ways that friends and family might support an older person who is feeling depressed. (12 marks)

3 @ 4 marks each

*Lend a sympathetic ear

*Encourage them to see a doctor

*Visit them and chat with them

*Monitor them

*Try not to leave them alone

*Encourage them to get out of the house every day

*Try to identify an interest that they can pursue

- (f) Name **one** Voluntary Organisation that provides support to older people. (6 marks)

1 @ 6 marks

*Aware * St. Vincent de Paul * Meals on Wheels

- (d) Indicate with a tick (✓) whether **each** of the following statements is true **or** false. (10 marks)

<i>5 @ 2 marks each</i>		TRUE	FALSE
1.	All older people have difficulty adapting to change. They are set in their ways.		✓
2.	The vast majority of older people will end up living in a nursing home.		✓
3.	Older people, especially those over the age of 70 years, are incapable of learning new skills or information.		✓
4.	The majority of older people say that they are lonely.		✓
5.	Approximately 80% of older people say that they are healthy enough to carry out their normal daily activities independently.	✓	

- (e) Outline how older people can ensure a good quality of life for themselves in relation to **each** of the following: (18 marks)

2 @ 3 marks = 6 marks

Health _____

*Take out health insurance

*Don't smoke

*Eat a balanced diet

*Avoid excessive alcohol

*Take exercise every day

*Immunise against flu every winter

*Have a routine

*Have regular GP and dental check ups

2 @ 3 marks = 6 marks

Safety _____

*Don't answer the door to strangers

*Keep outside doors locked

*Fit a burglar alarm

*Fit smoke alarms

*Keep areas such as hall and stairs lit

*Don't leave cash lying around

*Avoid loose rugs etc. that can be tripped on or slippery floors

*Fit hand rails on baths

2 @ 3 marks = 6 marks

Finances _____

*Open a saving account as early as possible

*Buy into a pension fund early

*Budget carefully

*Know entitlements