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Chapter 1: Nursing Theory and the Discipline of Nursing

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The purpose of theory is to:

- A. Explain experience.
- B. Describe relationships.
- C. Project outcomes.
- D. All of the above.

ANS: D

2. Members of a community of scholars share a commitment to all of the following except:

- A. Values.
- B. Knowledge.
- C. Geographic location.
- D. Processes.

ANS: C

3. _____ and _____ structures are essential to any discipline and are inherent in nursing theories.

- A. Paradigm and metaparadigm.
- B. Syntactical and conceptual.
- C. Middle and grand.
- D. Language and symbol.

ANS: B

4. Books and periodicals are examples of:

- A. Communication networks.
- B. Heritage of literature.
- C. Nursing organizations.
- D. Nursing discipline.

ANS: B

5. The basic building blocks of theories are:

- A. Concepts and their definitions.
- B. Statements of relationships.
- C. Concepts and statements of relationships.
- D. Empirical indicators.

ANS: C

6. Nursing theories:

- A. Are discovered in nature.
- B. Serve as exact representations of reality.
- C. Are invented by humans.
- D. Cannot be modified.

ANS: C

7. A paradigm is defined as a:

- A. Worldview.
- B. General framework.
- C. Set of shared perspectives held by members of a discipline.
- D. All of the above.

ANS: D

8. The dependence of nursing theory development on human imagination is an attribute of nursing as a(n):

- A. Occupation.
- B. Discipline.
- C. Vocation.
- D. Profession.

ANS: B

9. The primary purpose of nursing theory is to:

- A. Structure nursing knowledge.
- B. Demonstrate creativity in nursing.
- C. Guide the thinking about, being, and doing of nursing.
- D. Organize nursing curricula.

ANS: C

10. The first nursing theorist who identified the importance of theory in nursing was:

- A. Virginia Henderson.
- B. Hildegard Peplau.
- C. Lydia Hall.
- D. Florence Nightingale.

ANS: D

11. The most abstract level of knowledge is the:

- A. Paradigm.
- B. Metaparadigm.
- C. Theory.
- D. Concept.

ANS: B

12. Statements of enduring values or beliefs are considered:

- A. Conceptual models.
- B. Philosophies.
- C. Grand theories.
- D. Practice theories.

ANS: B

13. Theories that include specific concepts, are broad enough to be useful in complex situations, and can be empirically tested are called:

- A. Grand theories.
- B. Middle-range theories.
- C. Practice-level theories.
- D. Nursing theories.

ANS: B

14. Theories that have the most limited scope and level of abstraction that are useful in within a specific range of nursing situations are called:

- A. Grand theories.
- B. Middle-range theories.
- C. Practice-level theories.
- D. Nursing theories.

ANS: C

15. The name for the boundaries or focus of a discipline is:

- A. Imagination.
- B. Domain.
- C. Tradition.
- D. Value.

ANS: B

True/False Questions

16. Every discipline has a unique focus that directs inquiry and distinguishes it from other fields of study.

ANS: T

17. Theories are not discovered in nature but are human inventions.

ANS: T

18. Science generally evolves as a smooth, regular, continuing path of knowledge development over time.

ANS: F

19. Early nursing theorists relied on definitions of theory from nursing practice to guide the development of theories within nursing.

ANS: F

20. The best test of any nursing theory is its usefulness in professional practice.

ANS: T