Part IV—Judgment and Comprehension in Practical Nursing Situations

This test is concerned with the measurement of the exercise of judgment in working relationships experienced by the nurse as a student and as a practitioner. This section consists of 50 questions. Timed at 30 minutes.

Directions: In Part IV there are a number of questions about the working relationships of the practical and vocational nurse. Be sure you read carefully, to comprehend and understand, the description of the work situation and the questions that follow. Each work situation is followed by four possible answers to the problem presented. Select the one answer that, in your judgment, is the best of the four. You may not agree completely with any of the answers, or you may find more than one answer to be correct. However, select the one best answer.

Sample A. Practical nurses, in selling their services to a hospital, will serve best their interests by emphasizing the saving of which of the following?

a. waste  b. money  c. time  d. skilled  e. services

The best answer is probably skilled services. The practical nurse can work jointly with registered nurses and physicians in providing skilled services to hospital patients. In the answer row, the letter d. should be marked. Do the following items in the same manner.

1. A very sick patient is allowed only one visitor in the room at any one time. An entire family of five crowds into the room. When the practical nurse requests that they obey hospital rules, they refuse to leave the room. The practical nurse should:
   a. demand that four of the five leave.
   b. call for a security officer.
   c. tell the patient to ask them to leave.
   d. ask the supervisor for instructions.

   1. A □  B □  C  □  D □

2. A recently graduated practical nurse, newly employed by the hospital, is assigned to your unit. This practical nurse seems, to you, too quick to tell you what to do and how to do it. You might best handle this situation by:
   a. exercising patience and tolerance.
   b. asking for a transfer.
   c. threatening to resign.
   d. complaining to your supervisor.

   2. A □  B □  C □  D □

3. The visitor of a patient behaves very improperly toward you. The best thing to do is:
   a. tell the visitor off.
   b. call your supervisor.
   c. ignore the visitor.
   d. “play along” with the visitor.

   3. A □  B □  C □  D □

4. The oxygen tube has just been removed from the patient’s nostrils. The patient asks you for a cigarette. The best response to the patient is to:
   a. ignore the patient.
   b. explain the fire hazard.
   c. say you don’t smoke.
   d. say “I will get you a cigarette.”

   4. A □  B □  C □  D □

5. The practical nurse’s HIV positive patient expresses concern about possible staff hostility. The practical nurse might best ease the patient’s anxiety by:
   a. mildly scolding the patient.
   b. saying “You don’t belong here.”
   c. saying “Don’t worry, I will avoid close contact with you.”
   d. stating “We are all here to help.”

   5. A □  B □  C □  D □