

Study Plan For Reviewing The PRAXIS II PLT Exam Topics

I. Students as Learners

A. Student Development and the Learning Process

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic.	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1. Theoretical foundations about how learning occurs: how students construct knowledge, acquire skills, and develop habits of mind				
Examples of important theorists				
Important terms that relate to learning theory				
2. Human development in the physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive domains				
Contributions of important theorists				
Major progressions in each developmental domain and the ranges of individual variation within each domain				
Impact of students' physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive development on their learning and how to address these factors when making instructional decisions				
How development in one domain, such as physical, may affect performance in another domain, such as social				

I. Students as Learners

B. Students as Diverse Learners

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1.Differences in the ways students learn and perform				
Learning styles				
Multiple intelligences				
Performance modes				
Concrete operational thinkers				
Visual and aural learners				
Gender differences				
Cultural expectations & styles				
2.Areas of exceptionality in students' learning				
Visual and perceptual difficulties				
Special physical or sensory challenges				
Learning disabilities				
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD); Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity DisorderADHD				
Functional mental retardation				
3.Legislation and institutional responsibilities relating to exceptional students				
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)				
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)				
Inclusion, Mainstreaming, and "Least Restrictive Environment"				
IEP (Individualized Education Plan), including what, by law, must be included in each IEP				

I. Students as Learners

B. Students as Diverse Learners (cont.)

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
4.Approaches for accommodating various learning styles, intelligences, or exceptionalities				
Differentiated instruction				
Alternative assessments				
Testing modifications				
5.Process of second-language acquisition and strategies to support the learning of students for whom English is not a first language				
6.Understanding of influences of individual experiences, talents, and prior learning, as well as language, culture, family and community values on students' learning				
Multicultural backgrounds				
Age-appropriate knowledge and behavior				
The student culture at the school				
Family backgrounds				
Linguistic patterns and differences				
Cognitive patterns and differences				
Social and emotional issues				

I. Students as Learners

C. Student Motivation and the Learning Environment

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1.Theoretical foundations about human motivation and behavior				
Important terms that relate to motivation and behavior				
2.How knowledge of human motivation and behavior should influence strategies for organizing and supporting individual and group work				
3.Factors and situations that are likely to promote or diminish student's motivation to learning, and how to help students to become self-motivated				
4.Principles of effective classroom management and strategies to promote positive relationships, cooperation, and purposeful learning				
Establishing daily procedures and routines				
Establishing classroom rules, punishments, and rewards				
Giving timely feedback				
Maintaining accurate records				
Communicating with parents and caregivers				
Using objective behavior descriptions				
Response to student misbehavior				
Arrangement of classroom space				
Pacing and structure of the lesson				

II. Instruction and Assessment

A. Instructional Strategies

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1. Major cognitive processes associated with student learning				
Critical thinking				
Creative thinking				
Higher-order thinking				
Inductive and deductive thinking				
Problem-structuring and problem-solving				
Invention				
Memorization and recall				
2. Major categories, advantages, and appropriate uses of instructional strategies				
Cooperative learning				
Direct instruction				
Discovery learning				
Whole-group discussion				
Independent study				
Interdisciplinary instruction				
Concept mapping				
Inquiry method				
Questioning				

II. Instruction and Assessment

A. Instructional Strategies (cont.)

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
3. Principles, techniques, and methods associated with major instructional strategies				
direct instruction				
student-centered models				
4. Methods for enhancing student learning through the use of a variety of resources and materials				
Computers, Internet resources, Web pages, email				
Audiovisual technologies such as videotapes and compact discs				
Local experts				
Primary documents and artifacts				
Field trips				
Libraries				
Service learning				

B. Planning Instruction

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1. Techniques for planning instruction to meet curriculum goals, including the incorporation of learning theory, subject matter, curriculum development, and student development				
National and state learning standards				
State and local curriculum frameworks				
State and local curriculum guides				
Scope and sequence in specific disciplines				
Units and lessons				
Behavioral objectives: affective, cognitive, psychomotor				
Learner objectives and outcomes				

B. Planning Instruction (continued)

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2. Techniques for creating effective bridges between curriculum goals and students' experiences				
Modeling				
Guided practice				
Independent practice, including homework				
Transitions				
Activating students' prior knowledge				
Anticipating preconceptions				
Encouraging exploration and problem-solving				
Building new skills on those previously acquired				

C. Assessment Strategies

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1. Types of assessments				
2. Characteristics of assessments				
3. Scoring assessments				
4. Uses of assessments				
5. Understanding of measurement theory and assessment-related issues				

III. Communication Techniques

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A. Basic, effective verbal and nonverbal communication techniques				
B. Effect of cultural and gender differences on communications in the classroom				
C. Types of questions that can stimulate discussion in different ways for particular purposes				
Probing for learner understanding				
Helping students articulate their ideas and thinking processes				
Promoting risk-taking and problem-solving				
Facilitating factual recall				
Encouraging convergent and divergent thinking				
Stimulating curiosity				
Helping students to question				

IV. Profession and Community

A. The Reflective Practitioner

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1. Types of resources available for professional development and learning				
Professional literature				
Colleagues				
Professional associations				
Professional development activities				
2. Ability to read and understand articles and books about current views, ideas, and debates regarding best teaching practices				
3. Why personal reflection on teaching practices is critical, and approaches that can be used to achieve this				

IV. Profession and Community

B. The Larger Community

	I thoroughly understand this topic.	I need to do light review on this topic	I need to review this topic extensively.	I don't recall this topic and need to investigate it
1. Role of the school as a resource to the larger community				
2. Factors in the students' environment outside of school (family circumstances, community environments, health and economic conditions) that may influence students' life and learning				
3. Basic strategies for involving parents/guardians and leaders in the community in the educational process				
4. Major laws related to students' rights and teacher responsibilities				
Equal education				
Appropriate education for handicapped students				
Confidentiality and privacy				
Appropriate treatment of students				
Reporting situations related to possible child abuse				