



## **MASTER OF EDUCATION**

School of Education and Cognition Science

### **EEA622 EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT (Core)**

**ASSIGNMENT (60%)**

## **“Need for a More Holistic Assessment System in Schools”**

### **Introduction**

Our knowledge of childhood development and educational methods has grown throughout time. As a result, when it comes to rethinking our current educational system, a holistic education presents a compelling alternative. Today's new generation parents choose an educational strategy that is personalized to each child's individual requirements and abilities, preparing them for the twenty-first century. Like a result, the term "21st Century Education" is frequently used. The previous educational paradigm was created just to teach youngsters to learn material, take placement exams, and then forget about it. This is primarily due to the fact that public schools are governed by a rigid curriculum and are governed by the government. As a result, a growing number of parents are choosing to send their children to overseas schools.

### **WHAT IS HOLISTIC EDUCATION ASSESSMENT**

The goal behind holistic education assessment is that children would be educated in a more engaging and pleasant way. In addition to the 'conventional' topics, this method favours play-based learning, with the curriculum including dance, games, role play, stage performance, painting, photography, or debates (to name a few examples). By instilling interest and creativity in their learning, the holistic approach stimulates youngsters to learn about a subject. Children will be passionate about learning and education rather than seeing it as a burden if they are given the freedom to "think outside the box" rather than the usual didactic approach and solely exam-based assessment. In comparison to the public educational system, which concentrates mainly on children's academic and intellectual abilities, holistic education considers the emotional, social, psychological, creative, and spiritual development of children. In other words, it aspires to develop well-rounded people. Holistic Assessments: What Are They and How Do They Work?

### **Alignment that is beneficial**

Constructive alignment is an evaluation strategy used to achieve holistic assessment, particularly in the field of computer science. This assessment method entails creating a list of desired learning outcomes and matching them to assessment assignments that can help you achieve them. This strategy encourages students to use deep learning from relevant activities to create constructive meaning.

### **WHICH SCHOOL ADOPTS HOLISTIC EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA**

In Malaysia, the majority of international schools practise holistic education, with each institution having its unique style and approach. Consider the following examples of schools that have adopted a holistic approach:

The curriculum and co-curricular activities at Inspiros International School emphasise independent critical thinking and creativity via fun-based learning. The curriculum ranges from pre-school to senior school. While most foreign schools are expensive, Inspiros offers Cambridge IGCSE at a very low cost in order to make comprehensive education more accessible.

Tzu Chi International School incorporates Tzu Chi's humanistic lessons in their Cambridge IGCSE curriculum. Launching their school in the year 2020, their education system is principled on a core focus in cultivating noble virtues, good manners and honesty. Instilling teachings from Buddhism, Tzu Chi international school prioritize moral values in their teaching while nurturing talents & creativity, and encourages a caring learning environment.

### **WHY IS HOLISTIC EDUCATION IMPORTANT?**

As holistic education is inclined towards play- based learning, children feel good about learning and challenging themselves, in turn, this will propel them to be curious, inquisitive and eventually innovative adults in the long run. More importantly, a holistic approach encourages children to connect the dots between subjects. Holistic education aids children by working at their pace, as different children have different level, speed and style of learning. In addition, group activities, games, public speaking and co-curricular activities will help promote better communication skills and confidence in the children. As holistic education not only develop a child academically, your child will be taught to face challenges, develop resilience, value relationships and building on their strengths to prepare them to survive in this modern world.

### **National Philosophy of Malaysian Education**

The Malaysian educational system is based on Plato's notion that learning should liberate individuals from erroneous beliefs rather than forcing them to study the truth. As a result, our education ministry is in charge of taking all necessary steps to free people from this false thinking while also inspiring them to learn the truth for themselves. According to the national Education Blueprint 2013-2025, a lot of work and initiative will be put into boosting language (English), mathematics, and science standards. The belief in and devotion to God was the first goal of the National Philosophy of Education. According to our own ideas, we must believe and accept God's existence. Because we live in one country, Malaysia has a diverse range of ethnicities and religions that are practised by various groups of people or communities.

Secondly goal was to generate individuals who were responsible to themselves, society, religion, and nation in order to produce individuals who were unable to fulfil their responsibilities

as decent citizens. They must also accept and carry out the obligation to the best of their ability, while also serving as a positive role model for others.

The third goal was to close the gap in many disciplines by giving suitable education facilities to those who were less fortunate in terms of education and facilities. The second goal was to promote tolerance among people of different races, particularly in Malaysia, in order to generate individuals who comprehend and practise the National Principles. For example, one of the National Principles that has been formed and is followed by all Malaysians is Rukun Negara. The contents of Rukun Negara are suited for Malaysians to apply in their daily lives, and comprise five aspects: faith in God, loyalty to the king and country, upholding the constitution, rule of law, good behaviour, and morality.

Furthermore, it is one of the strategies for fostering unity among Malaysia's many races. Apart from that, all of the features of Rukun Negara are also present in the National Philosophy of Education, implying that it was critical to implant and practise those aspects in ourselves as the philosophy suggested.

The final goal of the National Philosophy of Education was to maximise individual potential and self-development in terms of five key elements: physical balance, emotional balance, spiritual balance, intellectual balance, and social balance and goal of education By 2025, We wanted to be in the top third of countries in terms of TIMSS (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study) and PISA (Program for International Education) outcomes.

### **Curriculum and teaching approaches that are relevant**

This curriculum, which emphasises abilities of creative thinking, creativity and leadership, is thought to motivate and encourage pupils to discover the answer on their own. Thus, Secondary school subjects, generally referred as Kurikulum Menengah (KSSM), and primary school courses, known as Kurikulum Standard Sekolah Rendah (KSSR), are both used in secondary schools (KSSR). From 2016 years at least half of the questions in UPSR (Ujian Pernilaian Sekolah Rendah) and half of the questions in SPM (Sijil Pélajaran Malaysia) had been replaced with higher-order thinking problems. It's one of the most successful ways to learn today, and it's one of the teacher education that teachers are attempting to master. Constructivist approach believes that rather than passively taking in information, learners construct knowledge based on their beliefs and experiences.

Equally important is a holistic approach to learning that aims to improve the child's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive growth.

## **Implementation education system**

In my opinion, a system of education arose that had an impact on almost every child's activities, including deafness, paralysis, and insanity instructional approaches." As part of an effort to improve the environment.

The kids were given simple toys to play with, and the staff was told to watch rather than help while they were having fun. Children who had previously been moody and shy began to show interest in the objects as a result of the discoveries. (to construct towers, use wooden cylinders and cubes) The kids progressed from being shy and aggressive to being social, communicative, and happy.

According to Montessori. "I was able to educate a number of special child from sanitariums to read and write so well that I was able to present them to a public school for an examination among normal children," she said following her success in training difficult children. They passed the test with flying colours. The Montessori approach views education as a "tool for living," and it was developed to help children transition from childhood onwards.

Its adaptability provides a foundation for a child's inherent instructions to guide them toward a healthy development. Montessori classrooms provide a disciplined environment in which children can develop their innate cognitive skills. Allowing children to engage in natural, purposeful activities while being supervised by a qualified adult enhances their natural drive to learn. Children acquire concentration and positive self-discipline through their activities.

Within a framework of order, the children progress at their own pace and rhythm, based on their individual skills. Montessori education evolves in response to a child's changing abilities and interests. By cultivating their "absorbent mind," "reasoning mind," and "humanistic mind," which leads to adolescence's "humanistic mind," in which they seek to understand humanity and the contribution he or she may make to society, and finally, the adult examines the world with a "specialist mind," taking his or her place in it.

The Montessori environment is suitable for children with special needs since the emphasis is on the individual, and skills and concepts are provided during individual lessons within a social setting. The multi-age groups demonstrate a diverse variety of abilities and

behaviours, helping the child to be welcomed and valued. During the school day, visiting professionals work with kids in the classrooms. Individualized numeracy and literacy programmes are often included into the school day for students who require further assistance, and class directors communicate with parents and specialists if any learning issues are anticipated. Maria Montessori believed that if education followed a child's natural development, exploring and developing their potential, the individual would achieve perfection by realising their life goals, and society would gradually advance to a greater degree of cooperation, peace, and harmony.

You can refer to any school system – e.g. Malaysian education system

Critically discuss the above statement. It should be your thoughts on the subject and you do not need to make any references.

You can agree or disagree with the statement. Provide a convincing argument for either side.

You DO NOT need to cite sources.

It should NOT be a statement of good educational practice as if written by a textbook author but rather should reflect your own views.

Remember it is not what others think, but what you think and why.

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**ASSIGNMENT**

**JANUARY 2022 SEMESTER**

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<b>SUBJECT CODE</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>EEA622</b>
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