

CASEWORKER CORE MODULE IV LEARNER READINESS ASSESSMENT

Please read the scenarios and answer the corresponding questions.

You are the assessment worker for the Clark Family. The Clark family was referred to the agency by the school because 11 year-old Lily having head lice repeatedly and coming to school in clothing that is not appropriate for the season. You visit the home and find that it is cluttered and messy. Dirty dishes are strewn about the living room and kitchen. Clothing is scattered on the floor throughout the home. Trash is overflowing in the trashcans and is on the floor. There is old food in the refrigerator, but there is some lunchmeat and peanut butter and jelly. There are some limited food staples. Lily and her mother are the only people living in the home. Lily's mother indicates that it is Lily's fault that she has head lice because she refuses to shower and brush her hair. Lily's mother says she is overwhelmed with the housework and trying to keep the house clean.

1. Which of the following statements about child vulnerability do you think most appropriately describes Lily?
 - A. Lily's age increases her vulnerability
 - B. Lily demonstrates provocative behaviors
 - C. Lily resists parental authority
 - D. Lily has experienced chronic neglect

2. Which of the following statements do you think best describes Lily's mom's protective capacities?
 - A. Lily's mom recognizes she is struggling with housework and needs help
 - B. Lily's mom feels the house is in suitable living condition
 - C. Lily's mom feels little compassion towards Lily
 - D. Lily's mom is high on marijuana and cannot supervise Lily

3. Which of the following Safety Factors are not present in this case?
- A. Household environmental hazards place the child in immediate danger of serious harm
 - B. Caretaker is unwilling or unable to meet the child's immediate needs for sufficient supervision, food, clothing, and/or shelter to protect child from immediate danger or serious harm.
 - C. Behavior(s) of any member of the family or any person having access to the child is symptomatic of mental or physical illness or disability that places the child in immediate danger of serious harm.
 - D. Both a and b
 - E. Both a and c
4. Which of the following elements within the adult functioning category are not risk contributors in this case?
- A. Domestic Relations
 - B. Response to Stressors
 - C. Parenting Practices
 - D. Emotional/Mental Health Functioning

A family has been referred for CPS involvement because the father got a DUI with his two young children in the car. Connor (male), is 3 years old, and Bailey (female), is 5 years old. Upon initial contact, both children appear to be developmentally on target and neither has any obvious special needs. As the assessment worker, you contacted the family and made an initial home visit to assess child safety. After initial conversations with the mom, Betty, and dad, Charles, you learned the following. Charles had stopped at the local pub after work and drank two beers within an hour. He immediately went to pick the children up from child care to take them home for the day. Betty was furious with Charles for drinking before he picked the kids up. She was incredibly disappointed in his decision and following his DUI had already made alternative arrangements for the children to be picked up from childcare on a daily basis. Charles reported that he knew he should not drive the children when under the

influence of drugs and alcohol and indicated that he did not feel intoxicated after having only two beers. A tour of the family's home revealed that the house was sparsely furnished, however it was clean. Both children had safe and clean rooms and sleeping arrangements. The kitchen was clean, and there appeared to be adequate food. There was no evidence of alcohol or other drugs in the home. Betty works full time as a secretary at a local doctor's office and Charles works full time as an auto-mechanic. Neither of the adults report any history of interpersonal violence.

5. Which of the following safety plan activities would be most appropriate here?
 - a. Safety plan that Charles cannot drive his children without supervision
 - b. Safety plan that Charles will not drive his children while under the influence
 - c. Safety plan that Charles will not have unsupervised contact with his children
 - d. No safety plan is necessary as Betty's protective capacities have already controlled the safety threat

6. Which of the following Safety Factors would you identify as present in this family?
 - a. Acts of family violence pose an immediate and serious physical and/or emotional danger to the child
 - b. Household environmental hazards suggest that the child is in immediate danger of serious harm.
 - c. The behavior of any member of the family, or other person having access to the child, is violent and/or out of control
 - d. Drug and/or alcohol use by any member of the family, or other person having access to the child, suggests that the child is in immediate danger of serious harm.

7. Using the information provided, which of the following protective capacities does it appear that Charles is lacking?
 - a. Cognitive
 - b. Behavioral
 - c. Physical

8. Using the information provided, which of the following characteristics do you think obviously contribute to Connor's vulnerability to abuse and neglect?
 - a. Connor is only 3 years old and is therefore too young and too small to provide for himself or protect himself from abuse and neglect
 - b. Connor's role in the family contributes to his vulnerability
 - c. Connor's special needs contribute to his vulnerability
 - d. Connor does not have any characteristics that contribute to his vulnerability.

Please answer these questions without reference to a particular scenario.

9. When assessing safety, every safety factor that is identified as present or "yes" must be controlled by a safety plan.

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10. In addition to safety factors, which of the following must be considered to determine if a child(ren) is safe?
 - a. Child Vulnerabilities and Parental Protective Capacities
 - b. Child Development and Parental Strengths
 - c. Physical Environment and Family Support
 - d. Physical Environment and Parental Protective Capacities