TeachME Professional Development

Preparing Students for the Future

1. Which of the following summarizes one of the ways in which schools are falling short of preparing students for the future?

A. Schools focus too little on the academic content and hard skills that students will need when they enter college or the workforce
B. Schools have begun to use too much technology and automation, which limits face-to-face time for lessons
C. Schools are not teaching the practical connection between what students learn in school and how it applies when they're not in school
D. Schools are not focusing on preparing students for college and their careers

2. Soft skills can be defined as:

A. Personal attributes that allow someone to effectively interact with others, as well as manage their own emotions and behavior
B. An approach where students progress through learning content based on mastering a defined set of core competencies
C. Specific abilities, or capabilities, that an individual can have and demonstrate in a measured way
D. Technical or cognitive skills that are required for school or a job

3. Stigma surrounding _____ penalizes individuals that followed non-traditional education routes and causes businesses to miss out on qualified professionals.

A. College degrees
B. Vocational training
C. Joining the military
D. Internships

4. "Which educational outlook scenario does the following describe: Education takes place everywhere, anytime. Distinctions between formal and informal learning are no longer valid as society turns itself entirely to the power of the machine"

A. Schools as learning hubs
B. School extended
C. Learn-as-you-go
D. Education outsourced

5. Why are soft skills important in the real world?

A. They are a required skill set to perform important on-the-job tasks
B. They are cognitive skills related to thinking and understanding information and content
C. They will be easily replaced with machine learning
D. They allow people to adapt to new jobs, overcome obstacles, develop productive relationships, and thrive in different environments

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6. What trend suggests that "learning extended" will be the future of education?

A. Access to information at the touch of a screen allows for teaching and learning without the need of a traditionally qualified teacher
B. The continuing reliance on traditional forms of educational attainment by employers
C. Reinforcing links between schools and local communities is thus aimed at both enhancing learning and reinforcing social capital
D. There has been a major increase in machine learning, as well as curiosity to learn from the high tech sector in general

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7. Students, adults, and employers agreed that schools can do a better job by placing more emphasis on teaching what?

A. Academics (reading, writing, math)
B. Programming skills
C. Test taking skills
D. Soft skills

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8. "Which educational outlook scenario does the following describe: Schools mostly remain the same but diversity and experimentation are the norm"

A. Schools as learning hubs
B. Education outsourced
C. School extended
D. Learn-as-you-go

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9. Which of the following is NOT identified as a way schools can better prepare students for the future?

A. Use a cross-systems approach
B. Shift school models and approaches
C. Provide hybrid learning experiences
D. Prove early college and career pathway preparation

10. What trend suggests that "learn-on-the-go" will be the future of education?

A. There are several global corporations that are already hiring individuals based on specific skill sets that are separate from advanced degrees
B. There has been a lot of interest and investment in digitalization and AI
C. Changes in individual preferences, innovations and policy choices lead to increasing experimentation in working arrangements
D. Economic and practical reasons, including that schools provide supervision, food, and enrichment

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11. "Which educational outlook scenario does the following describe: International collaboration and technological advances support more individualized learning but the main structures and processes of traditional schooling remain the same"

A. Education outsourced
B. School extended
C. Learn-as-you-go
D. School as learning hubs

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12. "Mr. Rock is teaching his 6th graders about area and perimeter. He assigns a project that requires students to build their dream house, but the house must include rooms of certain dimensions. There are also specific dimensions for outdoor features. Mr. Rock's assignment is an example of what type of 21st century learning experience?"

A. Situated learning
B. Competency-based education (CBE)
C. Self-paced learning
D. Problem-based learning (PBL)

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13. Researchers found that schools are failing to prepare students for college by not prioritizing what type of skills?

A. Critical thinking
B. Test taking
C. Academic content
D. Vocational

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14. "Mrs. Stone is working on persuasive writing with her 8th graders. One of the assignments in her class includes students delivering speeches to a same-age class in another country. She requires students to consider the differences in perspective of student in different contexts. Mrs. Stone's assignment is an example of teaching what type of 21st century learning content?"

A. Technology skills
B. SEL and soft skills
C. Innovation and creativity skills
D. Problem-based learning (PBL)

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15. What trend suggests that "education outsourced" will be the future of education?

A. Jobs that require postsecondary education continue to have a significantly higher median annual salary
B. Increasing use of technologies in our lives and our bodies, including digital assistants and wearable technology
C. Increasing polarization and fragmentation in society has prompted calls for building bridges and strengthening belonging in communities
D. Access to learning at the touch of a screen allows for teaching and learning without traditional teachers or classrooms

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16. Which of the following was NOT discussed as a potential scenario for the future of schooling?

A. School extended
B. Education outsourced
C. Virtual unschooling
D. Schools as learning hubs

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17. "Mr. Sand just finished a unit on ecosystems in his 7th grade science class. Instead of assigning an exam, he is allowing students to present their knowledge via speech, Google Slides presentation, music video, one-pager, or another approved medium. Mr. Sand's assignment is an example of teaching what type of 21st century learning experience?"

A. Problem-based learning (PBL)
B. Student-driven learning
C. Self-paced learning
D. Collaborative learning

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18. What trend suggests that "school as learning hubs" will be the future of education?

A. With more research on how people learn, educators are using more purpose-oriented, horizontal, collaborative and iterative ways of teaching and learning
B. Interest and investments of time and money into technology and machine learning, as well as the urge to increase efficiency in every facet of life
C. Some parents are already dipping into diverse public and private solutions for the organization of teaching and learning

D. In increasingly diverse societies, schools act as a social fabric, building relationships, bridging inequalities and reproducing social norms

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19. How can schools better prepare students for careers?

A. Implement more virtual field trips
B. Provide opportunities to gain career and technical skills
C. Increase the stakes for standardized testing
D. Provide opportunities for extracurricular activities

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20. "Which educational outlook scenario does the following describe: Traditional schooling is no longer the norm, and society is more directly involved in educating its citizens"

A. School extended
B. Learn-as-you-go
C. Schools as learning hubs
D. Education outsourced