NCLEX Examinations include multiple-choice questions and alternate item format questions. A typical multiple-choice question presents a statement or situation and then requires the test taker to identify the correct answer from among four presented options. Alternate item formats use the benefits of computer technology to assess knowledge via methods other than the four-option, multiple-choice item. Alternate item formats include questions that require test takers to identify multiple answers, identify priorities, perform a mathematical calculation, or respond to a question in relation to a graphic image, picture, table, or chart/test. These alternate item formats are able to measure entry-level nursing competence in ways that are different from the typical multiple-choice format. It is believed that some nursing content is more readily and authentically evaluated using alternate item formats. This chapter includes 40 questions that use formats other than the multiple-choice questions.

**Multiple-Response Items**

A multiple-response item presents a statement or situation that asks a question that will have more than one answer among the presented options. The test taker is required to identify all the options that are correct.

1. A patient who had a total abdominal hysterectomy 2 days ago is ambulating and complains of dyspnea and stabbing chest pain on inspiration. A nursing assessment reveals a pulse of 110 and respirations of 35. While many of the following actions may be implemented, which three take priority?
   1. **Administer oxygen**
   2. **Assess breath sounds**
   3. **Take vital signs every 30 minutes**
   4. **Return the patient to bed by wheelchair**
   5. **Place the patient in the high-Fowler’s position**

2. A patient comes to the emergency department with a lacerated thumb. The nurse identifies the common signs and symptoms of the Local Adaptation Syndrome (LAS). Indicate all that apply.
   1. **Pain**
   2. **Heat**
   3. **Erythema**
   4. **Increased heart rate**
   5. **Decreased blood pressure**
   6. **Elevated blood glucose level**

3. The nurse is assisting a postoperative patient to ambulate. Which postoperative complications will ambulation help prevent? Select all that apply.
   1. **Hypovolemia**
   2. **Constipation**
   3. **Dehiscence**
   4. **Atelectasis**
   5. **Infection**
4. A patient is learning self-care in relation to a 2-gram sodium diet. The nurse knows that further teaching is necessary when the patient selects which foods high in sodium? Check all that apply.
   1. ____ Apple juice
   2. ____ Corned beef
   3. ____ Canned soup
   4. ____ Broccoli spears

5. The nurse is monitoring a patient’s IV infusion. Which data are necessary to determine that the IV is “on time.” Check all that apply.
   1. ____ The drip rate per minute
   2. ____ The time the bag was hung
   3. ____ The solution indicated on the IV bag
   4. ____ The volume of solution in the IV bag
   5. ____ The milliliters per hour ordered by the physician

6. A patient who was in an automobile collision is brought to the emergency department by ambulance. The patient is exhibiting signs and symptoms of multiple trauma. The nurse identifies the common adaptations to hemorrhage. Indicate all that are relevant.
   1. ____ Bradypnea
   2. ____ Tachycardia
   3. ____ Flushed skin
   4. ____ Bounding pulse
   5. ____ Delayed capillary refill

7. The nurse is caring for several postoperative patients and understands that common nursing interventions involve the principle of gravity. Check each therapeutic intervention that involves the principle of gravity.
   1. ____ Foley catheter
   2. ____ Penrose drain
   3. ____ Hemovac drain
   4. ____ Tap-water enema
   5. ____ Gastric decompression

8. The nurse is supervising a nursing team consisting of two nurses and two nursing assistants. Which tasks can the nurse delegate to the nursing assistants? Check all that apply.
   1. ____ Helping a patient who is constipated choose foods from a diet menu
   2. ____ Teaching a patient how to walk with a walker
   3. ____ Applying Duoderm to unbroken skin
   4. ____ Weighing a patient using a bed scale
   5. ____ Emptying a Foley collection bag

9. Which actions reflect principles of surgical asepsis? Check all that apply.
   1. ____ Washing hands
   2. ____ Keeping a sterile field dry
   3. ____ Holding sterile objects above the waist
   4. ____ Wearing personal protective equipment
   5. ____ Considering the outer half inch of the sterile field as contaminated

10. The nurse receives the following information about patients at the change-of-shift report. Although all the patients should be assessed, indicate which two patients should be assessed before the others.
    1. ____ A patient who just was informed of having cancer
    2. ____ A patient who was complaining of feeling nauseated
    3. ____ A patient who is receiving a titrated medication via an infusion pump
    4. ____ A patient who received an analgesic by mouth for pain immediately before report
    5. ____ A patient whose vital signs include an irregular pulse and labored respirations