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Study Guide

Chapter 1 – “Teaching Your Chosen Profession”

1. What are some of the main reasons described for why people might want to teach? **Explain** these and particularly describe your personal reasons for becoming a teacher. Think about which of these are intrinsic and extrinsic motivations.

Answer: Some of the main reasons why people chose to become a teacher were because they had the *desire to work with young people, value the significance of education to society, interest in subject-matter field, influence of teacher from the past, long summer vacation, influence of family, job security, and opportunity for a lifetime of self-growth*. When a teacher’s *desire to work with young people* is because they **care** about them. Because of their interest in the *subject-matter field*, they put **passion** into helping the kids so they can strive and learn something new. As college students majoring to become a teacher, some were **influenced, inspired**, and maybe even **motivated** to become a teacher from their teacher(s) in the past. *Teachers from the past* could easily encourage them to want to do the same for the future generations. Sometimes with the *influence of family* (maybe some of your family members are teachers) **inspired** you to want to become like them. On the other hand, some chose to become teachers because they *value the significance of education to society*, in resulting, they want to **serve** to others and to give something back to society. Being a teacher also allows them to feel *secured* due to the **benefits** of long summer vacation, **tenure**, and many more.

My **reason** of wanting to become a teacher is pretty simple. I have multiple family members who were once teachers in their hometown. However, that was not my motivation to wanting to become a teacher. I enjoy being around kids, and I enjoy helping them. My passion for kids allowed me to have more than just a teacher to student connection but something more.

I believe that *desire to work with young people, the value of education to society, and interest in subject-matter field* is classified as **intrinsic motivation** because they naturally want to become a teacher due to their beliefs and not through inspirations of other people. I also believe that the *influence of teacher(s) from the past, influence of family, and job security* is classified as **extrinsic motivation** because they were not naturally interested in becoming a teacher. It was the influence of their surrounding and the people that allowed them to *want* to become a teacher.

2. **Describe** the main challenges of teaching from this chapter. What will be the biggest challenge for you?

Answer: Some of the challenges for a teacher would be *long working hours* because in the teachers’ contracts, it does not influence **additional** hours for lesson planning and evaluating on the students’ work takes up a lot of time from a teacher **off-hours**. Also it’s our responsibility to assure the parents that their kids are safe by supervising them in **nonteaching tasks** – such as playground, after school activities, lunchrooms. Another challenge would be *high-stakes testing and increased accountability* because high-stakes

test are used to determine whether a student can participate in **extracurricular activities** or **graduate**, or whether **teachers and administrators** are given **merit pay increases**. According to the **No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act**, schools whose scores fail to improve over a **6-year period could lose** staff, and low-income students at those schools could receive federal funds for tutoring or transportation to another public school. Schools that *fail* to make **adequate yearly progress (AYP)** will be identified as “in need of improvement”. It’s determined by students’ performances on **machine-scored, multiple-choice tests** in math and reading. Another challenge teachers face with students would be *technology*. Because of how the generation nowadays uses electronics, teachers are now required to be updated with different types of technologies to keep the students’ interested in class. If teachers don’t incorporate technology in class, students might not even pay attention to the class lecture or even remember what they have learned that day. In my opinion, I believe that **high-stakes testing and increased accountability** to be considered the **hardest** challenge because I do not agree with the government’s idea of the test scores of our kids to take a toll on the teachers. *Some students* are just **bad** test-takers but that doesn’t make the illegible to graduate or participate in extracurricular activities.

3. What will society expect of you as a teacher? Describe these expectations and write about how you will meet at least one of these expectations by the time you graduate?

Answer: According to the textbooks, teachers have high expectations to meet in society because *parents willingly allow their child to be influenced by teachers and expect their children to obey and respect teachers (the public trust), we’re expected to be proficient in the use of instruction strategies, curriculum materials, advanced educational technologies, and classroom management techniques (teacher competency and effectiveness), and we’re expected to understand the students’ backgrounds, attitudes and learning styles that can affect their achievement (teacher accountability)*.

In my opinion, we are not just expected a lot from society but from the parents who trust us enough to leave their kids at school for 8-hours a day with a teacher they have no idea who it is. I believe by the time I graduate, I can create public trust with the people around such as my professors, my family, my friends, and my coworkers. I believe being honest to those around me; I also believe to be able to learn from my mistakes will help me improve the **public trust**.

4. What does the job outlook for teachers look like today? How will this outlook affect you?

Answer: Compared to the past, the *job outlook for teachers* today have a higher chance in getting a job because it is one of the largest professions in the United States. Due to the diverse groups society has created, such as diversity and disabilities, teachers have a greater understanding of it and can share it with other people. Teachers with disabilities, for example, are allowed to make their students with disabilities feel at ease because their own teacher can understand what they’re feeling. They teachers begin to have a **public trust** with their students because they have gone through what they’ve been through.

5. How will you become a highly qualified teacher? List what the text says are the requirements for HQT. Then read about the sets of professional standards that have a great impact on teacher education programs. Choose one of the sets of professional standards to describe in your study guide.

Answer: For anyone to become a *Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT)*, they need a bachelor's degree, full state certification, and knowledge of each subject they teach. One of the *professional standards* that I believe have a great impact on teacher education programs is the **NCATE Standards**. In my opinion, I believe that NCATE Standards has a greater impact because it allows teachers to help students from the grade range of P-12. With the different grade ranges, teachers can learn more teaching styles to accommodate to the students.