UCAT Situational Judgment: Question Examples

Scenario 1 (How important)

Lola is a 4th year medical student. She has been working with her group to create a presentation on Pneumonia that will be assessed as part of her coursework. The group will present to doctors and also to some patients with the condition. On the day of the presentation Lola's group member Ashley seems intoxicated and looks visibly unwell. Lola knows that Ashley has been struggling with family issues for the past few weeks. Not everyone in the group is required to present but other members haven't rehearsed Ashley's section.

How important to take into account are the following considerations for Lola when deciding how to respond to the situation?

Suggested Response 1

Other members of the group have not rehearsed Ashley's section.

- A. Very importantB. ImportantC. Of minor importance
- D. Not important at all

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

This is an important consideration. If other members of the group were prepared it would result in someone simply taking over. However, this is not the case and therefore this should be considered. The group may have to skip Ashley's section or prepare for it quickly. However, it is not a very important consideration, as Ashley should not present regardless of whether others can fill the gap, due to her current state.

Themes used:

Professionalism, competency and training, promoting safety and quality, communicating with colleagues, legalities.

Suggested Response 2

Ashley has been struggling with family issues.

A. Very importantB. ImportantC. Of minor importanceD. Not important at all

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

This holds some importance, as Lola should help Ashley seek help for this since it is affecting her in such a detrimental way. However, it is not of immediate importance to the situation at hand.

Themes used:

Professionalism, promoting safety and quality, communicating with colleagues.

Suggested Response 3

The group has worked hard to prepare for the presentation.

A. Very importantB. ImportantC. Of minor importanceD. Not important at all

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

This is not an important consideration. It will not help Lola come to a decision and it will only cause further distress to think about this. The urgent issue is to prepare to present without a group member and report the event to appropriate personnel.

Themes used:

Professionalism, competency and training, promoting safety and quality.

Suggested Response 4 Ashley is visibly unwell.

A. Very importantB. ImportantC. Of minor importanceD. Not important at all

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

This is very important as Ashley is unable to present and there are also professionalism concerns as a result of this event. Lola is therefore required to consider this in order to prepare Ashley's part for the presentation. This information is also very important to consider in order to report the event to enable Ashley to get the help that is required.

Themes used:

Professionalism, competency and training, promoting safety and quality.

Suggested Response 5

Patients will be present at the presentation.

A. Very importantB. ImportantC. Of minor importanceD. Not important at all

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

This is a very important consideration. If Ashley were to present in front of these patients it would lead to mistrust in the profession and may result in patients not feeling safe or not consulting doctors in the future.

Themes used:

Professionalism, competency and training, promoting safety and quality, communicating with patients, legalities.