

Name _____

Case Illustrations of Classroom Activities

Date _____

Directions: Please read each scenario. Determine an appropriate accommodation (or accommodations) for each student. If there is no appropriate accommodation, please give a suggestion of what the student can do. Good luck!

1. Jennifer was enrolled in a beginning computer class. Due to her symptoms of her mental illness, she had difficulty focusing on class. Her thoughts would wander from the teacher and often she would feel lost in class. When this happened, she would interrupt the class to ask the teacher questions. She noticed that her teacher and classmates were annoyed by her disruptions.

Appropriate Accommodation(s): _____

2. Lisa was in her second semester at a community college. She had been taking 3 classes and was near completion of the semester when her symptoms began to affect her schoolwork. Until this point Lisa had been an exemplary student, with a grade point average of 4.0. It became impossible for Lisa to go to her classes. Lisa did not want to jeopardize her grade point average, nor did she have the financial resources to retake the classes.

Appropriate Accommodation(s): _____

3. Joe was attending a major metropolitan university. The parking lot for the university was quite a distance from the building where his classes took place. Because of an anxiety disorder Joe would find himself experiencing panic attacks walking from his car to the classroom building. Once he arrived in the building it would take him several minutes to calm himself and he was generally very flustered during his class. Joe was contemplating quitting school.

Appropriate Accommodation(s): _____

Case Illustrations of Classroom Accommodations: ANSWERS

- Jennifer was enrolled in a beginning computer class. Due to her symptoms of her mental illness, she had difficulty focusing on class. Her thoughts would wander from the teacher and often she would feel lost in class. When this happened, she would interrupt the class to ask the teacher questions. She noticed that her teacher and classmates were annoyed by her disruptions.

Jennifer's teacher allowed her to bring in a tape recorder to tape the class lectures. She was also assigned a "buddy", a classmate who would sit next to her during class to point out what they were focusing on if Jennifer became lost. The teacher also made herself available to Jennifer each week at a certain time for questions. Jennifer also increased her time in the computer lab at the school.

- Lisa was in her second semester at a community college. She had been taking 3 classes and was near completion of the semester when her symptoms began to affect her schoolwork. Until this point Lisa had been an exemplary student, with a grade point average of 4.0. It became impossible for Lisa to go to her classes. Lisa did not want to jeopardize her grade point average, nor did she have the financial resources to retake the classes.

Because of her exemplary record Lisa's teachers all agreed to give her an incomplete rather than having her withdraw or failing her. This enabled Lisa to complete the course work over the next semester. It would not affect her grade point average and she would not have to pay for the classes again.

- Joe was attending a major metropolitan university. The parking lot for the university was quite a distance from the building where his classes took place. Because of an anxiety disorder Joe would find himself experiencing panic attacks walking from his car to the classroom building. Once he arrived in the building it would take him several minutes to calm himself and he was generally very flustered during his class. Joe was contemplating quitting school.

Joe approached the Students with Disabilities Office and was able to get a parking pass which allowed him to park closer to the building where his classes were held. Because of this he felt safer in the environment and no longer experienced the panic attacks on his way to class.

The following semester Joe had classes on the first floor and the third floor of the building. In between classes, the hallway and staircase were extremely crowded. Joe found himself experiencing panic attacks on his way up the staircase, wanting to run out of the building.

Joe approached the Student's with Disabilities Office again. Since Joe's class was located near an elevator, they were able to give him a key to the elevator. He would take the elevator to the third floor allowing him to avoid the crowded staircase and diminishing his anxiety.