

## Practice Test-Kim

Kim is a 14-year-old African American female who has been returned home to her mother's care in the last 6 months. The family is still being monitored in aftercare. Prior to this return home, she was in the same foster home for approximately 3 years. Since she and her siblings have been returned to their mother, Kim's former foster parent remains a support for the entire family, including Kim's mom, Sasha. The family considers the former foster parent extended family.

The kids were placed in foster care because Sasha has a significant history of cocaine use. She often left her children without adequate supervision. Kim is the oldest of 7 siblings. Historically, Kim has had a role in parenting her younger siblings, although very ineffectively. She has extremely low frustration tolerance and when her siblings didn't listen to her instructions, she would resort to corporal punishment, just as her mother would regularly do with all the children. Although Kim is emotionally immature, she has developed survival skills, as she grew up in public housing and was exposed to a significant amount of violence and crime in her home and school environments.

Kim has a very low self-image, although she tries to hide this fact. She is overweight and does not like her overall appearance. She gets teased at school and by her younger siblings about her physical appearance. Kim has poor coping skills. When she is upset she will have a tantrum (stomp her feet, slam doors, run through the house) and cry. She can be isolative at times. Kim is currently taking Paxil for depression; however, she is inconsistent with taking her medication. She has a history (approximately 1.5 years ago) of a suicide attempt. She attempted to take 10 aspirin; more recently, Kim cut her forearm. It was soon determined that Kim was following what a friend was doing. She tried to carve her name (home-made tattoo) in her arm with a knife. She only got to the second letter in her name before she stopped because it hurt.

Kim's mother, Sasha, has been clean for approximately 2 years, but continues to struggle to stay clean. Sasha can be emotionally abusive to Kim, calling her names such as "lazy" and "fat"; however, Sasha and Kim are in therapy to work on their relationship. Sasha has been putting forth effort to better attend to Kim's emotional needs and becoming more supportive of Kim. Family therapy has assisted with improving Kim and Sasha's relationship and interactions with each other. Kim is minimally oppositional. Sasha reports that Kim can be moody from time to time. Sasha also provides regular and appropriate supervision of all her children. Sasha gets stressed out at times because she is balancing maintaining her sobriety, parenting 7 children, and financial constraints. Since Kim has been returned home, she made an allegation that a maternal cousin sexually fondled her while she was sleeping, this has not been confirmed.

Academically, Kim is more than 1 year behind. She is in the 7th grade and has an IEP for a learning disorder. Kim's intellectual functioning is in the borderline range. She doesn't put forth enough effort with her school work. When asked about what she wants to do with her life, she states that she doesn't know. She doesn't have many friends. The two girls she calls friends are based on superficial relationships. Since she gets teased and picked on, often she feels that she must fight in school, in order to defend herself and to "save face". Kim is not active in any community activities and has not expressed any interest to do so.