Date:

Action Plan

Student Name : Mina (Revisions are in Blue)

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| Strengths | Areas to improve | Areas to explore together |
| Strong performance on lab portion of test (83%–100%)  Passing grade on Assessment-type questions (64%)\*  Beginning foundation in Communication Field of Knowledge (58%)  Passing grade on simpler-level questions of Bloom’s Taxonomy (69% and 67%)  Passing grade on first half of test (60%)  Fluent in two languages and learning two more  Adult learner with life experience  Seeing a counsellor for childhood trauma | Application of knowledge   * pathophysiology (30%–50%) + pneumonia (60%) * Scientific Field of Knowledge (52.5%)   Assessment-type questions (64%)\*  Intervention-type questions (41%)  Apply-level questions (46%)    \* We included performance on Assessment-type questions as both a strength and an area to improve. We congratulate you on your passing grade on these questions but it remains an area to improve, as 64% is not a strong performance. | Use of memorization as a study strategy  Poor performance on second half of test (48%) – did not finish test  Communication and language skills:   * Lost marks for answers not clearly written   Not all answers linked to the case  Seeking help |

**Focus Points for Your Action Plan:**

1. Seeking help
2. Improving English-language skills
3. Developing a more varied approach to studying
4. Improving test-taking skills

**Action Plan**

1. Seeking help

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| Explore your hesitancy in seeking help. We understand why you are hesitant, but, because Nursing is such a demanding program, we think you need additional help. We would like to help you access various college resources, if you are willing.  You have agreed to accept help in arranging for a peer tutor but are not ready for a study group at this time. |

1. Improving English-language skills

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| Learning a new language is always a challenge. You are using a third language, and you should be proud. You need help, however, because some of your answers on the test were not clearly written. We can help you to arrange for an English-language peer tutor.  Now that you have agreed, we can help you find an English peer tutor. |

1. Developing a more varied approach to studying

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| Developing a strong knowledge base is the key. Here is what we suggest:   * Prepare for class * Using the Learning Outcomes in the Course Manual, skim assigned readings for main ideas * Skim previous notes for relevant content * Make your own notes * Since you are a visual learner, let’s talk about colour-coding and highlighting to help structure your notes   You have agreed to try colour-coding and highlighting your notes.   * Review * When reviewing after class, use the textbook to fill in gaps. Since you have difficulty taking notes when the teacher is talking, this will help you complete your notes * Think about your teacher as a resource person * Make appointments to see your teachers. This will also help you build connections with your teachers.   We suspect you are using memorization to study. You confirmed that you are using memorization as your only study strategy. You will find this strategy limiting as content becomes more complex. Here are some strategies to help you apply theory.   * Learn to understand rather than memorize * Understanding the material helps you apply what you are learning * Build on what you already know * Approach the new content step by step * Reflect: ask yourself questions * Practice making links * Making links between pathophysiology and nursing activities helps you problem-solve * Study actively * Answer the questions at the end of each chapter * Work through case studies * When you are ready, consider the idea of a study group. Since you are, to some extent, a verbal learner, a study group would be very helpful. When you are ready, we will help you find this resource. * Relate theory in clinical practice * Apply class content to understand what is happening with your client in the clinical setting. This will help you understand the theory versus memorizing. |

1. Improving test-taking skills

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| Preparing for the Test:   * Come prepared * Make a written schedule to cover all topics. Because you are a visual learner, a written schedule will help you see what you have to do. Are you already doing that? If not, what are you doing to track your studying? You have not been using a study schedule but have agreed to try it. * Try to finish all topics 1 or 2 days before the test. Finishing all topics before the test will reduce your stress level. * Study related topics together. It is important to see that the topics you are learning relate to one another. Look at the topics you need to study for the next test. What topics do you think can be studied together?   Preparing for Assessment-type questions – you received a passing grade on Assessment-type questions but 64% is not a strong mark.   * Make links between pathophysiology and signs and symptoms; for example . . . * Identify the difference between a sign and a symptom; for example . . . * Make links between pathophysiology and etiology; for example . . . * Practise identifying the nursing problem. As your English improves, you will be able to tell the difference between an “actual,” “potential” and “possible” problem.   Preparing for Intervention-type questions – you received a failing grade on Intervention-type questions (41%).   * Make links between pathophysiology and related treatments; for example . . . * Practise how to prioritize interventions for a given disease process based on the pathophysiology. This will help you choose the priority intervention in a case situation.   Performing on Test Day   * Manage your time during the test. You said that you did not finish the last test because you took too much time on some questions. You need a strategy for managing your time on a test. We suggest that you: * Note the time allotted for the test (e.g., 2 hours) * Allow some time at the end for review (e.g., 10 minutes) * Divide the remaining time into two: assign half of the test to the first time block and half to the second time block. * When faced with a question you cannot answer, note it in the margin and move on. Since you like to answer the questions in order, this could be an efficient use of your time. * Improve your approach to taking case-based tests. This will help you improve your performance on Apply-level questions. * Use the information in the case. When forming your answer, is it based on the information in the case? * Read the whole case through; then circle key words. This will help you form answers that link closely to the information in the case. * Before you answer a question, take time to read it and understand what is being asked. |

You are obviously a capable young woman. You have demonstrated resilience in surmounting many challenges in your life. We believe that, with continued hard work and links to resources, you can be successful.