

**Police Officer  
Multiple-Choice Exam  
Preparation Guide**

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**You're not preparing for a job**



**You're preparing for a career!**

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## Introduction

The Columbus Civil Service Commission (CSC) designed this guide to assist you as you prepare to do your best on the *Columbus Police Officer Multiple-Choice Exam*. The Columbus Police Officer exam consists of two phases: the Multiple-Choice (MC) Exam, and the Situational Response Assessment (SRA). CSC created preparation guides designed for each phase of the exam. These two exam phases combine as the second step in the overall *Journey to Becoming a City of Columbus Police Officer*.

The *Journey to Becoming a City of Columbus Police Officer* is summarized on page 5. The remainder of this guide focuses on the Police Officer Multiple-Choice Exam. You will find explanations of the MC test phase, sample materials, detailed guidance regarding the right or best response, preparation advice, performance strategies and what to expect on test day.

When used to the fullest extent, this prep guide will prepare you for the Police Officer exam. For optimal test results, read this guide thoroughly and use the featured sample materials as recommended.

The Columbus Police Officer Exam consists of the following phases:

- I. Multiple-Choice Exam (MC)
- II. Situational Response Assessment (SRA)

The MC Exam is graded on a *pass-or-fail* basis. If you pass the MC and complete the SRA, only your SRA score (which may include earned points) determines your final Police Officer Test score. Additionally, qualifying veterans' preference points are added to the scores of those who pass both phases of the Police Officer Test.

# Journey to Becoming a City of Columbus Police Officer

Complete the following steps to become a City of Columbus Police Officer.

## 1. Application

- ✓ Apply to take the Police Officer exam with the City of Columbus.
- ✓ Meet the minimum qualifications and abbreviated background review standards.

## 2. Police Officer Test

- ✓ Take and pass both entry-level Police Officer exam phases:  
1) Multiple-Choice and 2) Situational Response Assessment.
- ✓ Submit your Personal History Statement (PHS) and relevant documents.

## 3. Eligible List

- ✓ Pass the background standards review: Pre-Employment Investigation, review of PHS, criminal and court records and other documentation.
- ✓ Pass a polygraph examination.
- ✓ Take the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) entry physical fitness exam and meet the fitness standards.

## 4. Referral List

- ✓ The Department of Public Safety will select who receives a conditional offer of employment.

## 5. Conditional Offer

- ✓ Take the medical and psychological exams, and meet the standards:  
Medical exam, stress test, psychological assessments and psychological interview.

## 6. Final Offer

- ✓ Complete the hiring paperwork and start the Columbus Police Academy.

## 7. Training Academy

- ✓ Complete Columbus Police Academy and meet all OPOTC & Columbus Division of Police (CPD) training standards.
- ✓ Take and pass OPOTC exit exam and meet OPOTC final physical fitness standards.

## 8. Sworn In

- ✓ Swear in as a law enforcement officer in the State of Ohio.
- ✓ Participate in field training and complete the one-year probationary period.

## Phase I: Multiple-Choice Test (MC)

### Overview

**Purpose.** The multiple-choice (MC) exam is designed to assess the knowledge needed to be an effective Columbus police officer. The MC exam tests your ability to spell, properly use common words in the English language, comprehend written text, understand cardinal (north, south, east, and west) directions and read maps.



**Content.** The MC test consists of up to 100 test questions distributed across four main sections. Those sections are: (1) Spelling, (2) Vocabulary, (3) Reading Comprehension, and (4) Map Reading.

**Test day.** On test day, you will receive a test booklet, a scannable answer sheet, scrap paper and pencils. You will have two hours to complete the exam.

**Scoring.** You will mark your answers on a scannable answer sheet. Each correct answer will be worth one point.

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The remainder of this guide contains the following:

- A. Content & Features
- B. Key to Success
- C. Study Materials (includes the *List of Words*)

# A. Contents & Features

## On Test Day

On test day you will be seated at your own table, where you will be provided 1) one test booklet, 2) one scannable answer sheet, and 3) scrap paper and pencils. You will have two hours to complete the MC exam.

## The Test Booklet

Each test booklet section contains 1) section headers, 2) instructions, 3) numbered test questions, and 4) lettered answer options. Each is illustrated in the example below.

The diagram shows a sample test booklet section titled "SPELLING—CORRECT". It includes the following elements:

- Section header:** SPELLING—CORRECT
- Instructions:** For each sentence, you are provided words that fit into the blank. Read each sentence carefully. Indicate which words are **correctly** spelled within the context of each sentence.
- Test questions and answer options:**
  - The uncooperative witness was served with a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. subpeona  
B. supeona  
C. subpoena
  - There were five suspects in the line-up. The scar on the third suspect's nose \_\_\_\_\_ this suspect from the other suspects.  
A. distinguished  
B. distinwhished

## Scannable Answer Sheet

The MC exam contains up to 100 test questions.

On test day, you will record your answer to each question on the scannable answer sheet. You will be instructed on how to complete the top portion on test day.

Only responses that have been indicated on the scannable answer sheet will be scored.

The image shows a "Answer Sheet MC" for a "POLICE OFFICER EXAM". It includes fields for "PID:", "Candidate Name:", "Date", and "Test Session". Below these fields is a grid of 100 numbered bubbles for recording answers. The bubbles are arranged in four columns of 25 questions each, numbered 1 through 100.

## Spelling Section

The spelling section of the MC exam is designed to assess your ability to correctly spell specific words that are commonly used in the English language.



This section contains two types of questions. The first involves identifying the word that is spelled **correctly**. The second involves identifying the word that is spelled **incorrectly**.

Each *correct spelling* MC question involves a sentence completion task. You will be presented with a sentence that is missing one word and asked to identify, amongst the answer options, the word that is spelled correctly *and* that completes the sentence. The *incorrect spelling* MC questions do not involve a sentence-completion task. Rather, you will be presented with a list of words and asked to identify the word spelled incorrectly.

## Vocabulary Section

*Vocabulary* is “the body of words used in a particular language.” The vocabulary section of the MC exam assesses your knowledge of common words you need to know, understand and use as a police officer.



The vocabulary section contains two types of questions: the first type involves identifying the word that is **most similar** in meaning to a given word, and the second type involves identifying the word that is **most opposite** in meaning to a given word.

## Reading Comprehension Section

*Reading comprehension* is “the ability to understand the meaning and application of specific words and statements.” This section assesses your ability to read, understand and logically apply information presented in written passages. During Police Officer training, and while on the job, you will need to be able to read and interpret a wide range of written materials used to help you serve the community to your greatest capacity.

This MC section contains three to eight written passages and one or more questions regarding each passage. Each passage ranges in length from approximately 40 to 1000 words and features people, places and things familiar to the average person. For each Reading Comprehension question, you are to select the *best* answer based on the passage. During the exam, you may review each passage as often as you wish.

Some of the questions will present a list of statements and ask you to identify which of those is true (or false) based on the passage you just read. Other questions will present a word or phrase with a list of definitions and ask you to select the definition that best matches how that particular word or phrase is used in the passage.

Some passages will include specific words or phrases less known by most test takers. Those are purposely included in order to assess your ability to figure out what a word or phrase is intended to mean, based on the context. Those words or phrases, even if not directly known, can be figured out using other information provided in the passage.

### **Reading Comprehension Concepts**

Reading comprehension involves *making inferences* and *applying definitions*.

*Inference* is “the ability to use previous knowledge, observation and logic to reach a conclusion.” Inference questions assess your ability to read a written passage and reach *logical* conclusions about the information presented in the passage. While a passage may not state every conclusion you are expected to reach, you can try to identify those conclusions yourself using information that is already in the passage.

Inference works the same way in our everyday lives; thus, you can use your everyday life to build your understanding of how to make sound inferences during this test. For example, when you see a stop sign, you *infer* (i.e., conclude) that you need to stop. You are led to that conclusion by *previous knowledge* (that stop signs indicate where one must stop) and *observation* (you see a stop sign).

*Application* is “the ability to put something into operation,” for example, by applying a general rule or definition to a specific situation. During the MC exam, application means figuring out what a specific word means and then putting that meaning to use in a different situation. Sometimes the *meaning* of a specific word used in a written passage is communicated through repeated use or reference to other persons, places and things. Thus, it may be helpful to reread the passage and search for those cues so you can understand the intended meaning of the word.

### **Map Reading Section**

This section assesses your knowledge of cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west), your ability to follow directions and read maps. In this section of the MC test, you will be presented with several maps and one or more questions about each map.

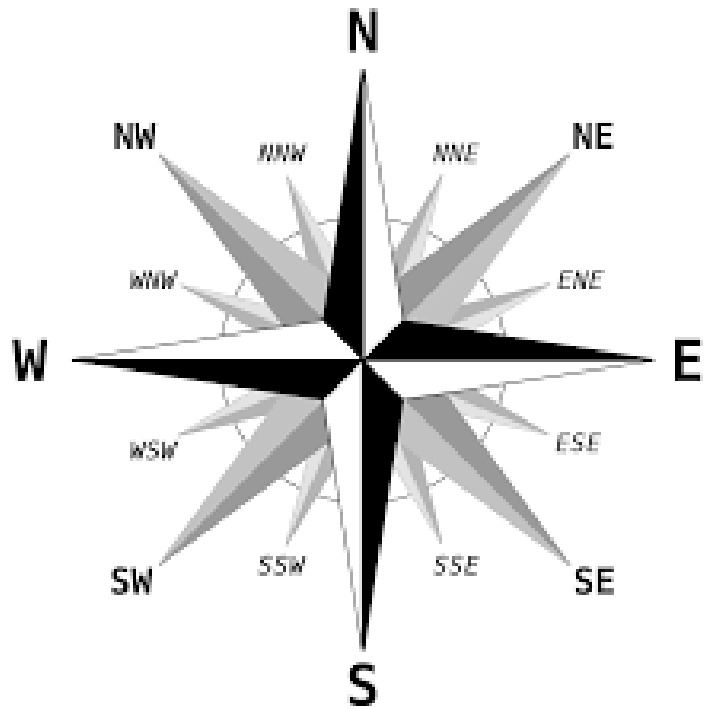




You will need to know and understand the directions *north*, *south*, *east* and *west*, and be able to locate each of those on a map.

You will also need to be able to understand and follow written instructions that reference north, south, east and west as related to a particular map.

The *cardinal* directions are the four main points of a compass: north, south, east, and west, which are also known by their first letters: N, S, E, and W. Globally, the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.




## B. Key to Success



### BEFORE TEST DAY:

1. **Use the sample MC test questions provided in this guide.** Try answering the sample questions *before* you look at the answers. Then, review the answers to see how you did. Identify where you are strongest and where you may need to improve. Then, develop a plan for improving and stick to it.
2. **Study the list of words provided in this guide.** Each test question in the spelling section and in the vocabulary section of the MC exam contains a word from this list. The more words you know how to spell and use in context, the better prepared you will be on test day.

### ON TEST DAY:

1. **Use your MC Test Booklet properly.**  Read the instructions, read the entire question or prompt, and all answer options related to the question *before* you select an answer for the question. While you may write on your test booklet (e.g., to underline specific items, or mark questions you plan to return to later), you must record your actual answers on the answer sheet. Nothing written in the test booklet will be scored.
2. **Use your MC Answer Sheet properly.** Once you select an answer to a question, find the same question number on the answer sheet. Fill in that answer's lettered circle with a heavy pencil mark.
  - Do not cross out any answers on your answer sheet that you wish to change. Instead, erase the mark made in the lettered circle for that answer and fill in the lettered circle for the new answer.
  - Do not make unnecessary marks on your answer sheet.
  - Mark just one answer for each question. If multiple answers have been filled in for a particular question, no points will be awarded for that question.
3. **Visualize each reading passage.** Do not try to memorize the reading passages. Instead, visualize the individual elements presented in the passage as you read the passage. Each passage will be about some person(s), place(s), or thing(s). Imagine yourself *in* that place, *with* or *as* those people, *seeing* and *doing* those things.

For example, suppose a reading passage describes a person named Eliza saying green is her favorite color and standing in a room described as blue. Imagine yourself as Eliza, saying the same thing, standing in the same room, seeing the same color. Then, suppose you are presented with the following test question:

Eliza is described as standing in a room. What color is that room?

- A. green
- B. brown
- C. blue

If you visualized each detail *while* you were reading the passage, the answer will likely come to mind more quickly. However, make sure you verify the answer by reviewing the passage again before you mark the answer on your answer sheet.

**4. Be strategic with your allotted time.** Pace yourself so you will have time to go back and check your work. There are no additional points for finishing early.

- Do not be discouraged if you cannot answer a question. Skip it and come back to it later. You may find clues to the answer in subsequent questions.
- If you are running out of time, you can always guess the answers; there is no penalty for guessing.
- If time allows after you have answered all of the questions, double-check that the answers in your test booklet match the answers on your answer sheet.
- If you finish early, consider *waiting* to submit your materials until the test is over because if you raise your hand to indicate that you are ready to submit your materials and a monitor then collects those materials, you will not be permitted to view your test booklet or answer sheet again.



**TIP:** If you opt to temporarily skip one or more questions, you can mark them in your test booklet so you can quickly identify them when you return to them later — just make sure you skip the same questions on your answer sheet too!

## C. Study Materials

The following items have been developed to help you prepare for the MC exam.

- List of words
- 20 sample questions
- Answers to sample questions

### List of Words

The list of words provides words that will be on the MC test. Each test question in the spelling section and in the vocabulary section contains at least one word from this list.

### 20 Sample Questions

The series of 20 sample questions includes questions relevant to each section. The series is designed to look much like the test booklet in that it includes *section headers*, *instructions*, *numbered test questions*, and *lettered answer options*.

### Answers to Sample Questions

The answers to the sample questions, plus additional guidance, are provided after the sample questions.

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### 5 P's of Success

*Proper Preparation  
Prevents  
Poor Performance*

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### Key to Success



Keywords you will encounter in the Spelling and Vocabulary sections of the MC test are provided on pages 14 and 15. ***Studying these words, including the spelling and proper use of each word, is strongly recommended.***

- ✓ *Research* how each word is spelled, typically defined, and used in a sentence.
- ✓ *Make your own flash cards*. Search online for “How to study effectively with flash cards” for some useful tips.

Example:

Abbreviate (ab-bre-vi-ate) – shorten (a word, phrase, or text)

To use a shortened form of something, such as a word or phrase, to represent the full form. New York City = NYC

## List of Words

|                  |                  |                    |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. abbreviate    | 38. challenge    | 75. descent        | 112. forcible      |
| 2. abet          | 39. charge       | 76. described      | 113. fore          |
| 3. abrasion      | 40. choose       | 77. destination    | 114. four          |
| 4. absolve       | 41. chose        | 78. detain         | 115. frequency     |
| 5. accept        | 42. circumstance | 79. diagnosed      | 116. guilty        |
| 6. accomplice    | 43. citation     | 80. diligent       | 117. habitual      |
| 7. accordance    | 44. cite         | 81. discreet       | 118. hear          |
| 8. acquired      | 45. civilian     | 82. discrepancy    | 119. heard         |
| 9. against       | 46. close        | 83. discrete       | 120. helicopter    |
| 10. aggravated   | 47. clothes      | 84. discrimination | 121. herd          |
| 11. aggressor    | 48. cocaine      | 85. dispatcher     | 122. here          |
| 12. alcohol      | 49. collapse     | 86. disregard      | 123. heroin        |
| 13. alias        | 50. collision    | 87. dissent        | 124. homicide      |
| 14. alibi        | 51. committed    | 88. distinguished  | 125. hospital      |
| 15. alien        | 52. compliant    | 89. disturbance    | 126. illiterate    |
| 16. anonymous    | 53. comply       | 90. domestic       | 127. immediate     |
| 17. answered     | 54. concurrent   | 91. dual           | 128. imminent      |
| 18. apparent     | 55. confirmed    | 92. duel           | 129. impede        |
| 19. appearance   | 56. conscience   | 93. ecstasy        | 130. implicated    |
| 20. apprehension | 57. conscious    | 94. elusive        | 131. incident      |
| 21. argument     | 58. consistent   | 95. embezzlement   | 132. incriminate   |
| 22. arrangement  | 59. conspicuous  | 96. eminent        | 133. indicator     |
| 23. assault      | 60. coroner      | 97. encounter      | 134. individual    |
| 24. assure       | 61. coward       | 98. enforcement    | 135. inebriation   |
| 25. attendant    | 62. cowered      | 99. ensure         | 136. innocence     |
| 26. believe      | 63. critical     | 100. epileptic     | 137. insufficient  |
| 27. biased       | 64. cruiser      | 101. estranged     | 138. interfere     |
| 28. boarder      | 65. damaged      | 102. evidence      | 139. internet      |
| 29. border       | 66. dangerous    | 103. except        | 140. interpreter   |
| 30. bureau       | 67. decent       | 104. execute       | 141. interrupted   |
| 31. burglary     | 68. decision     | 105. exonerate     | 142. intoxicated   |
| 32. buy          | 69. decrease     | 106. extremely     | 143. intravenous   |
| 33. by           | 70. defendant    | 107. familiar      | 144. investigation |
| 34. bye          | 71. defensive    | 108. fatal         | 145. irrational    |
| 35. cartridge    | 72. deliberate   | 109. fatality      | 146. judgment      |
| 36. ceiling      | 73. delinquent   | 110. felony        | 147. juvenile      |
| 37. ceremony     | 74. derelict     | 111. for           | 148. knowledgeable |

|                  |                   |                   |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 149. laceration  | 181. peak         | 213. sale         | 245. ticket      |
| 150. larceny     | 182. perishable   | 214. seizure      | 246. to          |
| 151. latent      | 183. personnel    | 215. sell         | 247. too         |
| 152. lenient     | 184. persuade     | 216. sense        | 248. trample     |
| 153. liaison     | 185. piece        | 217. separate     | 249. transparent |
| 154. location    | 186. pique        | 218. severely     | 250. transport   |
| 155. maneuver    | 187. plain        | 219. severity     | 251. trivial     |
| 156. marijuana   | 188. plaintiff    | 220. shear        | 252. typical     |
| 157. market      | 189. possess      | 221. sheer        | 253. undercover  |
| 158. maximum     | 190. precinct     | 222. sight        | 254. vague       |
| 159. meant       | 191. prepared     | 223. since        | 255. vain        |
| 160. meddling    | 192. prevalent    | 224. site         | 256. vane        |
| 161. mediate     | 193. primary      | 225. situation    | 257. vehicle     |
| 162. merit       | 194. prisoner     | 226. sobriety     | 258. vein        |
| 163. minimum     | 195. probation    | 227. specimen     | 259. vicinity    |
| 164. minority    | 196. professional | 228. spontaneous  | 260. visible     |
| 165. misdemeanor | 197. proper       | 229. statute      | 261. warrant     |
| 166. moderation  | 198. property     | 230. subpoena     | 262. wary        |
| 167. mutual      | 199. prosecution  | 231. substance    | 263. weapon      |
| 168. necessary   | 200. psychotic    | 232. suicide      | 264. wear        |
| 169. negligent   | 201. pursuit      | 233. summons      | 265. weary       |
| 170. negotiable  | 202. quality      | 234. surplus      | 266. were        |
| 171. observe     | 203. quantity     | 235. surveillance | 267. we're       |
| 172. occasional  | 204. realized     | 236. sustain      | 268. where       |
| 173. offender    | 205. relevant     | 237. synchronize  | 269. witnessed   |
| 174. omit        | 206. residence    | 238. tenants      | 270. write       |
| 175. opportunity | 207. resident     | 239. their        | 271. your        |
| 176. ordinance   | 208. responsible  | 240. there        | 272. you're      |
| 177. organized   | 209. restrained   | 241. they're      | 273. ze          |
| 178. parallel    | 210. ricochet     | 242. thorough     | 274. zir         |
| 179. paramedic   | 211. right        | 243. threw        |                  |
| 180. peace       | 212. rite         | 244. through      |                  |

## D. Sample MC Questions

### SPELLING—CORRECT

**Instructions:** For each sentence, you are provided words that fit into the blank. Read each sentence carefully. Indicate which words are **correctly** spelled within the context of each sentence.

1. The uncooperative witness was served with a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. subpeona  
B. supeona  
C. subpoena
2. There were five suspects in the line-up. The scar on the third suspect's nose \_\_\_\_\_ this suspect from the other suspects.  
A. distinguished  
B. distinwhished  
C. destingished
3. After a stressful year, the teacher longed for a quiet summer \_\_\_\_\_ the pool.  
A. by  
B. bye  
C. buy

### SPELLING—INCORRECT

**Instructions:** Read each word choice carefully. Indicate which of the words is spelled **incorrectly**.

4. A. concealed  
B. elliterate  
C. guarantee
5. A. straight  
B. pursute  
C. license
6. A. caliber  
B. jeopardize  
C. guilty

### VOCABULARY—SAME

**Instructions:** Select the word or phrase with the same meaning as the given word.

7. PERIMETER?

- A. trail
- B. tool
- C. edge

### VOCABULARY—OPPOSITE

**Instructions:** Select the word or phrase with the opposite meaning as the given word.

8. CONTRADICT?

- A. agree
- B. oppose
- C. dictate

### READING COMPREHENSION

**Instructions:** Review each passage then answer each question that follows the passage, based on information that is presented in the passage.

#### “Life Without Parents” (Question 9)

Juan was 22 years of age. He was going through the most challenging time of his life. Juan’s parents recently passed away as a result of a car accident. During the months that followed their deaths, Juan talked at length to his grandmother. He shared with his grandmother the grief he feels and the difficulty of adjusting to life without his parents. Juan received what he believed was excellent counsel. Juan asked his grandmother how she knew so much. The wise woman said that she suffered some of the same problems as Juan when she was young, and more, she had learned from them.

9. Which statement best fits the grandmother's philosophy?

- A. Stop and notice the simple things.
- B. Easy come, easy go.
- C. Never look for the flaws in a gift.
- D. Experience is the best teacher.



### “Coretta Scott King” (Questions 10 - 13)

In 1948, Coretta Scott King was a young woman hoping to begin a career as an opera singer. Her mentor, Dr. Anderson, encouraged Coretta to go to New York or Boston to study music. Even though she didn't have much money, Coretta applied to the New England Conservatory in Boston and to the Juilliard School in New York. She knew that her parents would help her, but she wanted to pay for her education herself. Coretta decided to move to Boston even though she didn't have the money for her tuition at the New England Conservatory. She hoped to find a job in Boston to pay some of her expenses. Coretta was determined to make it on her own. With the money she had, she bought a train ticket to Boston.

When the train stopped in New York, Coretta called home. Her parents had a surprise for her. They told her that she had received a letter from the Noyes Foundation giving her a six-hundred-and-fifty-dollar scholarship to help pay for her musical training. Finally, she was on her way to becoming an opera singer.

10. Which of the following statements is **not** true about Coretta Scott King's life?

- A. She was determined to study music.
- B. She was unable to pay for her studies with her savings.
- C. She was hopeful that her parents would pay her tuition.
- D. She was encouraged by her mentor, Dr. Anderson.

11. In this selection, the word "conservatory" means:

- A. very clear about one's direction in life
- B. a place for specialized study
- C. a place to build a career
- D. a student center in Boston

12. In this selection, "tuition" is similar to which of the following payments?

- A. buying a ticket to a movie
- B. repairing a friend's roof in exchange for their service of repairing your car
- C. paying a monthly fee to lease a car
- D. paying a skilled computer technician to show how to upgrade your computer

13. Which of the following statements best describes Coretta Scott King's viewpoint on the attainment of her goals?

- A. It is important to seek other people's advice but not their money.
- B. Never trust people who give you money.
- C. Accept advice and support as you pursue your dreams.
- D. Do not ask too much of others; they may disappoint you.

### **“Three Ohioans” (Questions 14 - 17)**

The three Ohioans were eager. It'll be a three-day trip after they get to their destination on the west coast. They know it's no fun if they forget a single essential item. The things they packed were largely determined by necessity. The more they brought, the more they would need to carry. Among the necessities or near-necessities that each of them packed were maps, a compass, permits, writing materials, a first aid kit, their wallets with state identification, credit cards, and emergency medical information, insulated 3-liter hydration bladders, water purification tablets, an 80-liter backpacks, a tent, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, reflective blankets, sunscreen, lip balm, hygiene products, sunglasses with straps, flashlights, storm-proof matches, Swiss Army Knives, duct tape, rope, safety pins, whistle, mirror, a hat, bandana, undergarments, base layer, middle layers, and waterproof outer layers, socks, hand and foot warmers, boots, cookware, and a supply of food. Together, these items weighed between 30 and 40 pounds.

Renaldo Bennett packed extra rations and planned to carry the cooking supplies and tent. He was especially fond of turkey jerky. Necessities for Renaldo included a camera in a waterproof bag with extra batteries and memory cards. Tyra Jackson, who wanted to be ready for anything, carried a bear bell and bear spray. She also packed a shovel and a hatchet. Every time food or drink is consumed and expelled, digging a hole and burying the bio is required. Everything they take on the hike, including trash, will need to come back with them. To safely dip her toes in a stream, she also decided to bring sandals. When it comes to hiking, Chris Costa is a dilettante. For Chris, an hour-long hike was the most time ze spent in the woods. Chris didn't know what to expect. From zir experience with picnics and short hikes, Chris packed extras in case of emergencies, such as aspirin, toilet paper, sanitizer, alcohol wipes, tweezers, gauze, cotton swabs, bug repellent, and anti-chafe balm. Chris couldn't resist leaving without bringing a novel to read. They each planned to bring their cell phones and extra chargers, but they couldn't rely on them.

14. If you were accompanying these people on their trip, and you had run out of your food, who would probably have extra food?

- A. Renaldo Bennett
- B. Chris Costa
- C. Tyra Jackson

15. Who most likely has the tools to assist in removing a splinter from a finger that gets infected?

- A. Renaldo Bennett
- B. Chris Costa
- C. Tyra Jackson

16. Which of the following is probably NOT true according to the passage?

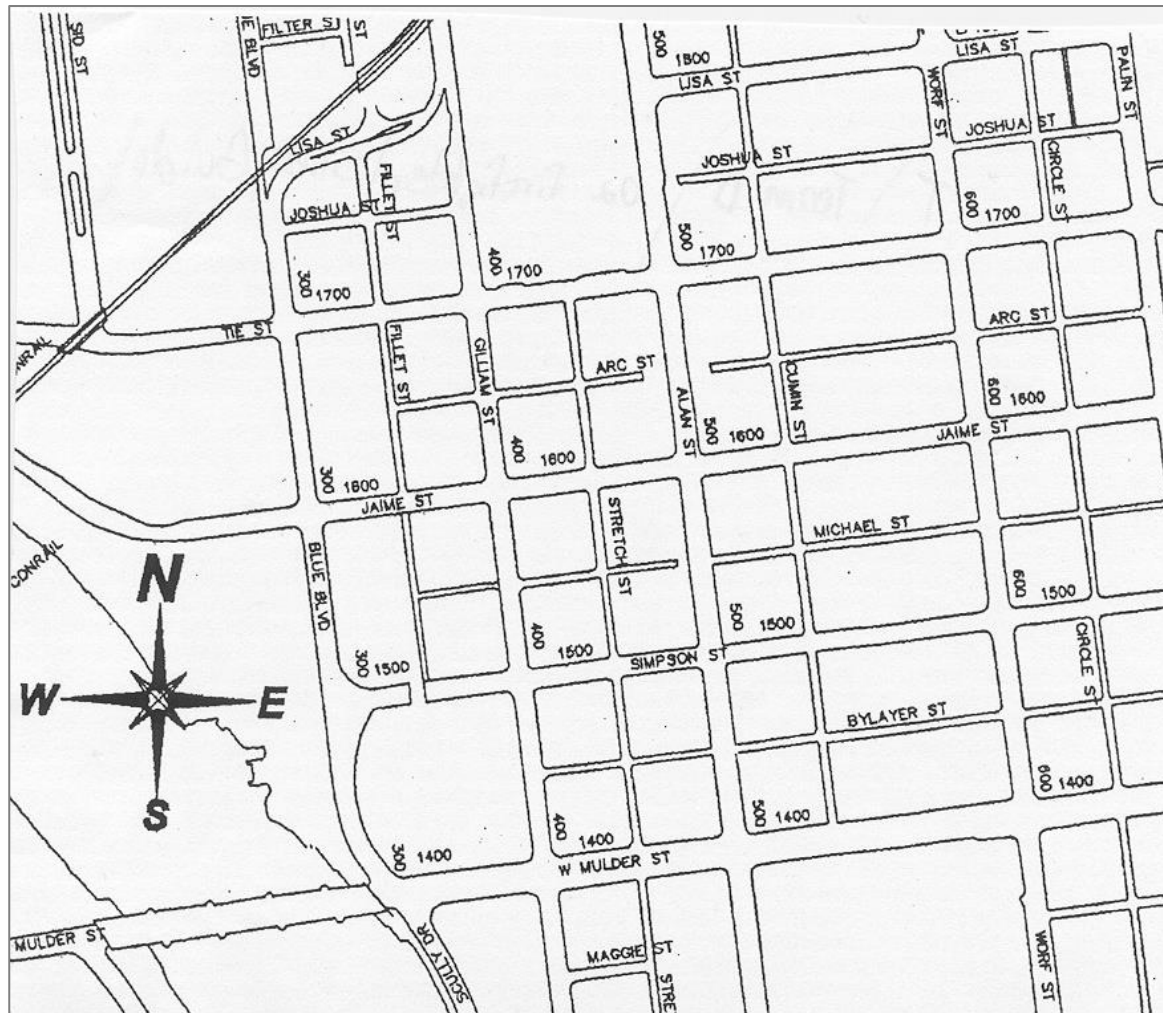
- A. It is important to carry along things that make life a little more comfortable.
- B. Each person must bring something that protects them from wild animals.
- C. The things a person carries can tell you something about who that person is.
- D. Each person has a different idea of what necessities are.

17. Based on this passage, the term dilettante most likely means?

- A. lacks expert skills
- B. is financially dependent
- C. prefers feminine attire
- D. flaunts successes

### MAP READING

**Instructions:** Choose the best answer to each of the questions in this section based on the given map. You are permitted to write or mark on the map.



18. What direction is the intersection of Arc Street and Worf Street from the intersection of Alan Street and Lisa Street?
- A. northeast
  - B. northwest
  - C. southeast
  - D. southwest
19. Which of the following streets is the southernmost street on the map?
- A. Filter Street
  - B. Jamie Street
  - C. Maggie Street
  - D. Sid Street
20. You are traveling west on Simpson Street approaching Gilliam Street and need to take the shortest route to reach W. Mulder Street. Assuming all streets are two-way streets, what direction would you turn onto Gilliam Street?
- A. north
  - B. south
  - C. east
  - D. west



ALL OF OUR DREAMS CAN COME TRUE  
IF WE HAVE THE COURAGE TO PURSUE THEM.

WALT DISNEY

## E. Answers to Sample Questions



**TIP:** Try answering the questions on pages 16 to 21 *before* you review the answers and explanations on pages 22 to 25.

### SPELLING—CORRECT

1. The answer is “C” because that word is spelled *correctly*.
2. The answer is “A” because that word is spelled *correctly*.
3. The answer is “A” because while all three options are spelled correctly, only the word “by” is the *correct* word for the context of this particular sentence.

### SPELLING—INCORRECT

4. The answer is “B” because that spelling is *incorrect*; the correct spelling is “illiterate.”
5. The answer is “B” because that spelling is *incorrect*; the correct spelling is “pursuit.”
6. The answer is “C” because that spelling is *incorrect*; the correct spelling is “guilty.”

### VOCABULARY

7. The answer is “C” because the meaning of “edge” is *most similar* to the meaning of “perimeter.” A *perimeter* is “a line that forms the boundary of an area or object.” A *trail* is a “path or line along the ground or surface or behind someone or something.” A *tool* is a “device used to carry out a particular function’. An *edge* is the ‘outside limit of an object, area or surface.”
8. The answer is “A” because the meaning of “agree” is *most opposite* to the meaning of “contradict.” To *contradict* means “to assert the opposite of a statement or to be in conflict.” To *agree* means “to have the same opinion about something or to concur or consent.” To *oppose* means “to disapprove of or attempt to prevent or to compete against someone.” To *dictate* means “to lay down authoritatively, control decisively.”

## READING COMPREHENSION

9. The correct answer is “D,” Experience is the best teacher. The grandmother stated that her advice came from suffering some of the same problems and learning from them. Statements “A,” “B,” and “C” offer specific solutions that Juan’s grandmother might tell her grandson; they do not relate to an overall philosophy that the grandmother may have. “A,” stop and notice the simple things, “B,” easy come, easy go, and “C,” never look for flaws in a gift are specific, and the text does not refer to nor infer these specific ideas.

**Note:** Sample question 9 assesses the ability to form an inference.

**Note:** Sample question 10 assesses the ability to comprehend the intended meaning of specific statements.

10. The answer is “C.” The text states that Coretta did not want her parents to pay her tuition. It also states that she was so determined to study music that she traveled to Boston, even though she did not know how to pay for her schooling. We also know that she was going to have difficulty covering the cost of her schooling. Finally, the second sentence states that she had a mentor, Dr. Anderson, who encouraged her. Each of these statements can be verified as true or false, based on the text. They are part of the facts of the text.

11. The answer is “B.” The numerous references to school, tuition, and becoming an opera singer all suggest that “conservatory” refers to a place for studying something very specific, such as music. Thus, answer “A” can be eliminated because a conservatory is a place, not an attitude or outlook. While her singing career may develop as a result of receiving specialized training, the purpose of a conservatory is not to build a career but to train people with musical talent. Alternative “D” may seem like it could be the answer, since it concerns a student structure; however, alternative “D” also indicates “Boston.” Since the word conservatory is used to refer to a type of place, but does not refer to Boston, “D” can be eliminated.

**Note:** Sample question 11 assesses the ability to comprehend the intended meaning of an uncommon word.

**Note:** Sample question 12 assesses the ability to apply a definition.

12. The answer is “D.” *Tuition* is “a sum of money charged for teaching or instruction.” All four answer options concern something of value being *given* in exchange for something to be *received*. However, “D” is the only option that presents instruction as the thing that will be received.

**13.** The answer is “C.” Coretta Scott King had a mentor, and she took the mentor’s advice, so it is reasonable to conclude that she accepted advice. It is also reasonable to conclude that she accepted support because the text says she was on her way to becoming an opera singer right after it indicates that she received a scholarship; and it never says or suggests she did not accept the scholarship. Regarding the other answers: there is nothing in the text to suggest that she did not trust her parents or the Noyes Foundation. Nor does the text suggest that she was afraid of disappointment. We do not know why she did not ask her parents for money. There is not enough evidence to conclude that she was afraid that they would disappoint her—or that she would disappoint them.

**14.** The answer is “A.” The keyword in this question is “probably.” Although all three packed food rations, the best alternative is “A” because Renaldo packed extra rations, like turkey jerky. Chris Costa brought extra medical supplies eliminating “B.” In addition to food, Tyra Jackson carried extra supplies to deal with bears and bio waste, eliminating “C.”

**Note:** Sample question 14 assesses the ability to form an inference.

**15.** The best answer is “B.” The keywords in this question are “most likely.” Although all three will carry a first aid kit, it is unclear what is in the kits. Chris Costa will bring extras including aspirin, toilet paper, sanitizer, alcohol wipes, tweezers, gauze, and cotton swabs. The tweezers can be used to remove the splinter, while the other items can be used on the infection. Renaldo Bennet carries extra food and a camera, eliminating “A” as the best response. Tyra Jackson packed extra supplies to deal with bears and bio waste, eliminating “C.”

**16.** The answer is “B.” The fact that people packed comfort items (a camera, novel, and sandals) makes “A” true about the passage and therefore eliminates it as an answer. The things they all packed were not designed to protect from wild animals. Tyra brought something to protect against bears, but Chris and Renaldo did not—which supports “B”



**Tip:** The words “no”, “not”, “none” can easily change the meaning of a question or statement. If you see those in a question or answer:

*Look for patterns.* In question 16, options A, C, and D follow a pattern: all three are true. The remaining option (B) does not follow that pattern because it is false. The fact that B does not follow the pattern can serve as a clue that it is the correct answer.

*Look for other words that function as absolutes.* In question 16, the word “must” is used in option B to indicate that something is a *requirement*.

as the correct answer. It is true that we can tell something about the people from what they carry (answer “C”). We may conclude that Renaldo is a photographer, Chris likes to read, and Tyra enjoys the water. The fact that this statement is true eliminates it as an answer. Finally, “D” is also true. Each of the three had some necessities in common; however, each had unique items they considered necessities. The question is asking for what is **not** true, so this eliminates “D.”

**17.** The best answer is “A.” The term dilettante is used to describe Chris Costa. The passage indicates that Chris has limited hiking experience. “For Chris, an hour-long hike was the most time ze spent in the woods. Chris didn’t know what to expect.” Financial difficulties and feminine attire were not discussed in the passage making “B,” and “C” wrong. Further, for “C,” the passage denotes pronouns for Chris as ze and zir, which are gender-neutral terms. “D” is also wrong. Nothing in the passage indicates this trait. Chris likes to read novels, which may mean Chris is introverted rather than a person who would flaunt.

## **MAP READING**

**18.** The answer is “C.” The intersection of Alan Street and Lisa Street is in the very top center portion of the map, while the intersection of Arc Street and Worf Street is toward the top right portion of the map (the northeast portion of the map). The intersection of Arc Street and Worf Street is further south and further east of the intersection at Alan Street and Lisa Street.

**19.** The answer is “C.” Maggie Street is a street that runs east to west, is located toward the very bottom of the map, and is the southernmost street of the four listed. Filter Street and Jamie Street both run east to west. Jamie Street is toward the center of the map. Filter Street and Sid Street are in the top left corner of the map. Sid street runs north to south but does not extend south past the center of the map.

**20.** The answer is “B.” Simpson Street runs east and west and is north of W. Mulder Street, which also runs east and west. Therefore, to take the shortest route from Simpson Street to W. Mulder Street, you would need to turn south onto Gilliam Street.



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