

Reading Comprehension Sample Test

*The reading test will evaluate your ability to comprehend what you read.
Read the passage and answer the multiple-choice questions.*

The study of history provides many benefits. First, we learn from the past. We may repeat mistakes, but, at least, we have the opportunity to avoid them. Second, history teaches us what questions to ask about the present. Contrary to some people's view, the study of history is not the memorization of names, dates, and places. It is the thoughtful examination of the forces that have shaped the courses of human life. We can examine events from the past and then draw inferences about current events. History teaches us about likely outcomes.

Another benefit of the study of history is the broad range of human experience which is covered. War and peace are certainly covered as are national and international affairs. However, matters of culture (art, literature, and music) are also included in historical study. Human nature is an important part of history: emotions like passion, greed, and insecurity have influenced the shaping of world affairs. Anyone who thinks that the study of history is boring has not really studied history.

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - a. Studying history helps us to live in today's world.
 - b. Studying history is not just memorization.
 - c. The role of education is to help student deal with real life.
 - d. Students should study both national and international history.

2. In the first paragraph, inferences mean
 - a. graphs
 - b. articles
 - c. conclusions
 - d. circumferences

3. Which method of teaching history would the author of this passage support?
 - a. Applying historical events to modern society.
 - b. Using flash cards to remember specific facts.
 - c. Weekly quizzes on dates and events.
 - d. Student competitions for most books memorized.

Sentence Structure & Grammar Sample Questions

Example of Section 1: There are 4 sentences listed below. Choose the one that is best.

- A. One of the musicians who is Eric has been looking for a practice room.
- B. Eric, one of the musicians, are looking for a practice room.
- C. Eric who is one of the musician who are looking for a practice room.
- D. Eric, one of the musicians, is looking for a practice room.

Example of Section 2: You are given a sentence which has words left out. Fill in the blank space and complete the sentence by choosing the correct answer from the choices given.

The workers left early and _____ home.

- A. gone
- B. went
- C. have dinner
- D. drives

Example of Section 3: You are given two sentences. Then you are given four choices of how these two sentences can be combined. Choose the best answer.

The traffic was heavy. I was late to work.

- A. I was late to work because the traffic was heavy.
- B. I was late to work, so the traffic was heavy.
- C. The traffic was heavy, I was late to work.
- D. The traffic was heavy: and then I was late to work.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TAKING A TEST

1. When you begin taking a test, try to relax. Take a few deep breaths, sit back and tell yourself, “I’m going to do fine.” Think positive thoughts.
2. Carefully read the directions at the beginning of each section.
3. When you begin, answer the questions you know first. If you do not know the answer to a question, go on. Often an answer will pop into your mind as you work through a test. You may go back to the questions you skipped or those that were too difficult, at the end.
4. When you skip a question, be sure that you leave the correct space on your answer sheet. When you go back over the test, look for the numbers you have not completed on your sheet.
5. Trust your first judgment for an answer unless new information convinces you that your first answer is wrong. **SECOND GUESSING OFTEN LEADS TO INCORRECT GUESSING.**
6. Go back through your test when you are finished. Check to see that you have:
 - answered all questions
 - corrected careless mistakes
 - completely erased incorrect answers

Answers:

Reading Comprehension: 1. A 2. C 3. A

Sentence Structure & Grammar: Section 1: “D”; Section 2: “B”; Section 3: “A”