

Reading and English Sample Test

Reading

35 questions (25 minutes)

Directions: Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading a passage, choose the best answer to each question and fill in the corresponding space on the answer sheet. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

Sample passage with questions

The cities are fighting back. Most of them are doing something about drugs, some of it badly, much in panic and all late. But they are moving--because they're scared.

And they have every reason to be, for what they face is real horror. A top New York City official despairs, "Two-thirds of our problems come directly from drug abuse, and I see no hope of handling that problem." New York's grief is no different from any other big town's, only the numbers are larger. Drug abuse in our cities is epidemic, and we haven't even kept count of the victims.

New York drug experts still talk about 100,000 heroin addicts, an estimate they reach by doubling the number registered with the police, hospitals, and city social agencies. Figuring, as the city's deputy medical examiner does, that the addict population is 200 times the annual toll of overdose deaths, New York has about 150,000 junkies.

1. Which of the following best describes how the New York official quoted in the passage feels about the drug problem?
 - (A) He does not believe it is as great as people say it is.
 - (B) He is curious about it.
 - (C) He does not care about it.
 - (D) He does not think it will ever be solved.
2. The main purpose of the passage is apparently to
 - (A) warn the public about the harm drugs do to people who take them
 - (B) describe the ways cities are now fighting drug addiction
 - (C) show what a serious drug problem the cities are working to cure
 - (D) criticize the attitude of city officials toward drug addicts
3. The author suggests that the problem of drug abuse in the cities deserves
 - (A) routine investigation by the police
 - (B) less attention from the newspapers
 - (C) no sympathy from the public
 - (D) immediate action
4. As used in the passage, "epidemic" most nearly means
 - (A) against the law
 - (B) extremely widespread
 - (C) easily cured
 - (D) hard to understand

Sample answers

1. A B C
2. A B D
3. A B C
4. A C D

English

40 questions (25 minutes)

Directions: In each of the following sentences find out what is wrong, if anything. In deciding whether there is something wrong with a sentence, consider the way a sentence should be written in standard written English, the kind of English usually found in textbooks. Remember that this is sometimes different from the kind of English that you use in talking with your friends.

- Some sentences are acceptable without change.
- No sentence contains more than one error.
- If the sentence has an error, you will find that the error is underlined and lettered.
- Assume that all other parts of the sentence are acceptable and cannot be changed.
- When you find an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed in order to make the sentence acceptable, and blacken the corresponding space on the answer sheet.
- If there is no error, mark answer space D.

Sample questions

1. Tom ate the hamburger, which was piled high with onions, it was good. No error
A B C D
2. Next week Mrs. Wilson has visited her sister in Chicago. No error
A B C D

Sample answers

1. A B D
2. B C D

Directions: In each of the following sentences, part of the sentence or the entire sentence is underlined. Beneath each sentence you will find four ways of writing the underlined part. The first of these repeats the underlined part in the original sentence, but the other three are all different. If you think the original sentence is better than any of the suggested changes, you should choose answer A; otherwise you should mark one of the other choices. Select the best answer and fill in the corresponding space on the answer sheet.

In choosing your answer, follow the requirements of standard written English usually found in textbooks. Remember that it is sometimes different from the kind of English you use in talking with your friends. Pay attention to how clearly ideas are expressed, whether the words convey the meaning they are supposed to convey, and how the sentence is constructed and punctuated. Choose the answer that produces the most effective sentence--clear and exact, without awkwardness or ambiguity. Do not make a choice that changes the meaning of the original sentence.

Sample questions

1. Caroline is studying music because she has always wanted to become it.
(A) it
(B) one of them
(C) a singer
(D) one in singing
2. Because Mr. Thomas was angry, he spoke in a loud voice.
(A) he spoke
(B) and speaking
(C) and he speaks
(D) as he spoke

Sample answers

1. A B D
2. B C D