

APPLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Entry Level Police Officer Written Test Study Guide



Nelson-Denny Reading Test

This is a two-part test that is timed. You will have 15 minutes to answer 80 vocabulary words and 20 minutes for the reading comprehension portion.

Vocabulary:

The first half of the test is entirely comprised of vocabulary. You will be required to read a word and then find the answer that best matches the definition of that word. The words are similar to what you would see in 11th grade English or on a college preparatory test. There are 80 vocabulary questions with words *similar* to the following:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Belligerent | 11. Festive | 21. Accumulate |
| 2. Inundate | 12. Obtuse | 22. Negate |
| 3. Mathematics | 13. Preclude | 23. Meander |
| 4. Hinder | 14. Query | 24. Tributary |
| 5. Validate | 15. Abode | 25. Pedigree |
| 6. Constrict | 16. Detract | 26. Accolade |
| 7. Deduct | 17. Vague | 27. Vignette |
| 8. Resist | 18. Futile | 28. Hypothetical |
| 9. Global | 19. Meritorious | 29. Plethora |
| 10. Terse | 20. Preclude | 30. Vigorous |

These are sample words only. They are not the exact words you will find on the test. We highly recommend you use these as a guide, study a variety of words, and work diligently to improve your vocabulary.

Reading Comprehension

The second half of this test is an examination of your reading comprehension level. You will be required to read a passage and then answer questions about what you just read. The best way to study for this portion is to read books, magazines, and newspapers to exercise your brain.

Sample Questions

Pages 2 - 5 will take you through a variety of sample questions similar to the actual test.

Vocabulary Sample Questions

1. After practice, the girl's softball team stated, "We're famished!"

Famished means

- Fatigued
 - Hungry
 - Excited
 - Ready
2. The newborn baby was enamored with the rattle.

Enamored means

- Fascinated
- Happy
- Unsure what to do
- Aggravated

3. When having a problem, it is best to dissect the situation then act.

Dissect means

- Cut apart
- Talk about
- Ignore
- Analyze

4. The scientist was able to evoke powerful emotions from her audience.

Evoke means

- Sell
- Calm
- Call forth
- Exaggerate

5. The bouncer's countenance discouraged brawls.

Countenance means

- Message
- Presence
- Expression
- Strength

6. The wound exhibited signs of copious drainage requiring medical help.

Copious means

- Minimal
- Clear
- Maximal
- Foul

Reading Comprehension Sample Questions

Sample Passage

In the sixteenth century, an age of great marine and terrestrial exploration, Ferdinand Magellan led the first expedition to sail around the world. As a young Portuguese noble, he served the king of Portugal, but he became involved in the quagmire of political intrigue at court and lost the king's favor. After he was dismissed from service to the king of Portugal, he offered to serve the future Emperor Charles V of Spain.

A papal decree of 1493 had assigned all land in the New World west of 50 degrees W longitude to Spain and all the land east of that line to Portugal. Magellan offered to prove that the East Indies fell under Spanish authority. On September 20, 1519, Magellan set sail from Spain with five ships. More than a year later, one of these ships was exploring the topography of South America in search of a water route across the continent. This ship sank, but the remaining four ships searched along the southern peninsula of South America. Finally they found the passage they sought near a latitude of 50 degrees S. Magellan named this passage the Strait of all Saints, but today we know it as the Strait of Magellan.

One ship deserted while in this passage and returned to Spain, so fewer sailors were privileged to gaze at that first panorama of the Pacific Ocean. Those who remained crossed the meridian we now call the International Date Line in the early spring of 1521 after ninety-eight days on the Pacific Ocean. During those long days at sea, many of Magellan's men died of starvation and disease.

Later Magellan became involved in an insular conflict in the Philippines and was killed in a tribal battle.

Only one ship and seventeen sailors under the command of the Basque navigator Elcano survived to complete the westward journey to Spain and thus prove once and for all that the world is round, with no precipice at the edge.

END OF READING PASSAGE ONE. NOW ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-7.

1. The sixteenth century was an age of great _____ exploration.
 - cosmic
 - land
 - mental
 - common man
 - none of the above
2. Magellan lost the favor of the king of Portugal when he became involved in a political _____.
 - entanglement
 - discussion
 - negotiation
 - problems
 - none of the above
3. The Pope divided New World lands between Spain and Portugal according to their location on one side or the other of an imaginary geographical line 50 degrees west of Greenwich that extends in a ____ direction.
 - north and south
 - crosswise
 - easterly
 - south east
 - north and west
4. One of Magellan's ships explored the _____ of South America for a passage across the continent.
 - coastline
 - mountain range
 - physical features
 - islands
 - none of the above
5. Four of the ships sought passage along a southern _____.
 - coast
 - inland
 - body of land with water on three sides
 - border
 - answer not available

6. The passage was found near 50 degrees S of _____.

- Greenwich
- the equator
- Spain
- Portugal
- Madrid

7. In the spring of 1521, the ships crossed the _____ now called the International Date Line.

- imaginary circle passing through the poles
- imaginary line parallel to the equator
- area
- land mass
- answer not found in article