

McC

Florida's Postsecondary Education Readiness Test

P.E.R.T.

October 18, 2013

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Introduction to the P.E.R.T

The purpose of the P.E.R.T. (P.E.R.T.) is to adequately assess your academic skills in mathematics, reading and writing through the delivery of three tests, one for each of these areas. The results of these tests are used to determine your placement into appropriate courses at your college.

You cannot pass or fail the P.E.R.T. it is only used to determine which courses are best for you. P.E.R.T. seriously so that your course placement is accurate.

How the P.E.R.T. Works

The P.E.R.T. assessments are computer-adaptive, which means the questions are chosen based on your answers to previous questions. You will not be permitted to change your answer once you have moved on to the next question or leave a question unanswered. However, all of the P.E.R.T. assessments are untimed so you have as much time as you need to consider each question before submitting your answer. If you do not know the answer to a specific question, you are encouraged to try and answer the question by eliminating one or more of the answer options and then select from the remaining choices.

You will not be allowed to bring a calculator

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Order of Operations

work within parentheses
simplify exponents
multiplication and division
addition and subtraction

Exponents

The mathematical notation that notates a variable is multiplied by itself the number of times indicated by the exponent.

$$x^3 = x \times x \times x$$

$$x^5 = x \times x \times x \times x \times x$$

Prime Numbers

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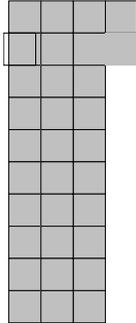
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9. What percent of the grid is shaded?



- A. 35%
- B. 40%
- C. 45%
- D. 55%

10. Which of the following is the equation of a line that passes through $(-2, -1)$ and $(-4, -3)$?

- A. $y = \frac{1}{2}x + 1$
- B. $y = x + 1$
- C. $y = \frac{1}{2}x - 1$
- D. $y = x - 1$

Reading:

Read each passage carefully. Since the test is not timed, take as much time as you need to read each passage. Each passage may have one or more than questions associated with it. It is also important to focus on the opening and ending sentences of each paragraph to help with capturing the main idea of each paragraph. Another strategy is to look for keywords or key phrases within the passage to help find the answer to feelings or meaning of the passage.

Reading Sampg

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Ra broke apart, Heyerdahl did not give up. A year later, he set off in a new boat, called the Ra II, and made the 3200-mile trip successfully.

The Norwegian explorer became well known through the books he wrote about his adventures at sea. His book about the voyage in the Kon-Tiki sold 25 million copies.

Heyerdahl believed that his voyages proved his theory that peoples of long ago sailed to distant places. This could explain why similar cultures have shown up in places that were far removed from each other. For example, it could explain why pyramids are found both in Egypt and in Mexico, even though these countries are on opposite sides of the world.

Today, experts don't generally accept Heyerdahl's voyages as proof of his theories. Still, he is viewed as a remarkable sea-going explorer, and that's not bad for a boy who was once afraid of the water.

5. Which evidence in this selection best supports the theory that people migrated across the Atlantic Ocean thousands of years ago?

Heyerdahl made a raft of balsa wood found in South America.
The Ra was based on a design from a drawing found in Egypt.
Heyerdahl made a boat of reeds, but it broke apart.
Ancient pyramids have been found in both Mexico and Egypt.

6. In what way were the two voyages described in this selection alike?
- A. Heyerdahl used the same boat for both voyages.
B. Heyerdahl was trying to prove the same theory on both voyages.
C.

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10. Which of the following is the best description of the theme of this selection?

- A. Only the strong survive.
- B. A penny saved is a penny earned.
- C. One person can make a difference.
- D. Practice makes perfect.

Writing:

Review basic writing rules such as errors in word choice, punctuation and capitalization. You may want to look over materials on when and how apostrophes and commas should be used as well as reviewing common sentence structure errors.

Writing Sample Questions:

Read the selection about American astronaut Sally Ride and answer the question.

(1) Some of the greatest success stories in American history began with failure. (2) Take the case of Sally Ride. (3) When Ride was a young girl in Encino, California, her goal was to become a professional tennis player. (4) She dropped out of college and practiced hard to become a tennis pro. (5) In time, she realized that she would never be good enough to compete with the best tennis players. (6) She returned to college and studied astrophysics.

(7) One day in 1977, while working on her Ph.D. at Stanford University, Ride read that NASA was looking for astronauts. (8) She applied and was one of six women accepted into the space program. (9) Ride trained to be an astronaut longer and harder than she had ever done anything in her life. (10) By the early 1980s, she was part of the space shuttle program. (11) In 1983, as a member of the crew of the space shuttle *Challenger*, Sally Ride became the first American woman to journey into space.

(12) Ride was getting ready for another mission when the *Challenger* exploded in 1986, killing the whole crew. (13) One of them was a New Hampshire high school teacher named Christa McAuliffe. (14) Ride was appointed to a special commission that investigated the tragic accident. (15) A year later she retired from NASA and returned to California, where she taught college. (16) Since then, she has been involved in several organizations that encourage girls who are interested in science and math.

1. Which sentence does NOT belong in the selection?

- A. Sentence 4
- B. Sentence 6
- C. Sentence 13
- D. Sentence 15

2. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Africa, explaining the many differences between her life now and her life back then.

- A. about
- B. within
- C. between
- D. throughout

3. Choose the sentences that best support the following topic sentence:

Hay fever is the common name for an allergic reaction to pollen.

- A. In my father's family, allergies are quite common. His sister Jane is allergic to dust, pollen, and mold, as well as foods such as tomatoes and eggplant.
- B. It seems that allergic reactions to peanuts and tree nuts are becoming more and more common, too. Many schools have recently banned peanuts and peanut butter altogether.
- C. People who suffer from allergies can check the weather report in our newspaper for the allergen counts. The weather page also includes interesting information about the phases of the moon and the times of sunrise and sunset.
- D. The worst offender is ragweed pollen, which causes many people to suffer from sneezing, runny nose, and itchy eyes from late summer to late fall. Dust and animal dander may also bring on the symptoms of hay fever.

4. Choose the best order of the sentences in the paragraph.

- A. Before long, the storm moved on, and all was quiet again. From my window, I watched bright lightning bolts streak across the sky. After each lightning flash, the thunder boomed loudly. Last night a powerful thunderstorm rolled through our town.
- B. From my window, I watched bright lightning bolts streak across the sky. Last night a powerful thunderstorm rolled through our town. Before long, the storm moved on, and all was quiet again. After each lightning flash, the thunder boomed loudly.
- C. Last night a powerful thunderstorm rolled through our town. From my window, I watched bright lightning bolts streak across the sky. After each lightning flash, the thunder boomed loudly. Before long, the storm moved on, and all was quiet again.
- D. After each lightning flash, the thunder boomed loudly. Before long, the storm moved on, and all was quiet again. Last night a powerful thunderstorm rolled through our town. From my window, I watched bright lightning bolts streak across the sky.

5. Choose the sentence that is written correctly.

~~From~~.m

7. Choose the word or words that best complete the sentence.

Until it was actually mapped, only a few people _____ the true location of the tunnel.

- A. knew
- B. had known
- C. have known
- D. will know

8. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Janine claims that Gary and _____ saw the meteorite while camping in the mountains last night.

- A. she
- B. he
- C. her
- D. him

9. Which of the following sentences is written correctly?

- A. Each member of the jury is permitted to talk about the case, but it must do so only in the company of the other jurors.
- B. Each member of the jury is permitted to talk about the case, but they must do so only in the company of the other jurors.
- C. Each member of the jury is permitted to talk about the case, but we must do so only in the company of the other jurors.
- D. Each member of the jury is permitted to talk about the case, but he or she must do so only in the company of the other jurors.

10. Choose the word or words that best complete the sentence.

Due to library policy, patrons must set cell phones to vibrate and speak _____ in conversation.

- A. quieter
- B. more quiet
- C. quietly
- D. more quieter

Reading:

Sequence	Competency Description	Key
1	Discern the most important ideas, events, or information, and summarize them accurately and concisely.	B
2	presents the argument, explanation, or narrative.	A
3		

Writing:

Sequence	Competency Description	Key
1	Sustain focus on a specific topic or argument.	C
2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard written English, including grammar, usage, and	