

Practice Test

Here are some questions similar to those you will find on the Mastery Test. Write your answers on a separate piece of paper. When you finish, check your answers against the Answer Key. If you miss a test item, review the frames listed.

For Numbers 1 through 10, read the passages and select the letter of the answer that best answers the questions that follow each passage.

Use this passage to answer Numbers 1 and 2.

Mark Twain is known primarily as a writer, but he actually had four successful careers. First, he was a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi River. When the Civil War brought an end to that career, he began work as a newspaper writer. Then, following publication of his story, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calveras County," he began a long and successful career as a fiction writer. Finally, when he became deeply in debt because of poor investments, he turned to lecturing. These lectures attracted huge crowds around the world.

1. What was Mark Twain's *first* career? _____
 - A steamboat pilot
 - B newspaper writer
 - C fiction writer
 - D lecturer

2. What was Mark Twain's career immediately *before* he was a lecturer?

 - A steamboat pilot
 - B newspaper writer
 - C fiction writer
 - D lecturer

Use this passage to answer Numbers 3, 4, and 5.

Although Cajun food has become extremely popular in recent years, many people do not know the origin of the term “Cajun.” In the 17th century, a large group of immigrants from France settled in eastern Canada in a region that became known as Acadia. Early in the 18th century, the British attacked and defeated the French. Eventually, the French settlers who refused to swear allegiance to Great Britain were exiled. Some of those who were exiled found their way to Louisiana. There they established their own culture and became known as “Cajuns,” a corruption of the word “Acadians.”

3. What happened to the French settlers immediately *after* they refused to swear allegiance? _____

- A They were defeated.
- B They were exiled.
- C They attacked.
- D They began to call themselves Cajuns.

4. When did a large group of French people settle in eastern Canada?

- A early 19th century
- B 18th century
- C 17th century
- D recently

5. Here is a list of events. Put them in the correct order. _____

- 1 Cajun food became popular.
- 2 The French settled in eastern Canada.
- 3 The British attacked.
- 4 The French exiles moved to Louisiana.

- A 2, 3, 4, 1
- B 2, 3, 1, 4
- C 1, 3, 2, 4
- D 1, 2, 3, 4

Use this passage to answer Numbers 6, 7, and 8.

In 1831, a Virginia slave named Nat Turner led an uprising that was almost successful. Until then, most people thought slaves were not capable of organizing a significant resistance movement. People also thought most slaves were simply too content to risk their lives in a revolution. In fact, Turner's uprising did not succeed. He was brought to trial, and he and seventeen followers were hanged. As a result of his efforts, however, the judicial system in the South soon became harsher in its treatment of slaves. It became illegal, for instance, for a slave to learn to read or write. Slaves were not allowed to gather in groups. These repressive laws did not restrict black freedoms for long, however. The Civil War began scarcely 30 years later.

6. When were the laws that forbade a slave to learn how to read and write passed? _____

- A before Nat Turner was hung
- B after the Civil War
- C just before Nat Turner's uprising
- D soon after Nat Turner's uprising

7. When did the Civil War occur? _____

- A about 30 years after the harsh laws were enacted
- B about 30 years before the harsh laws were enacted
- C immediately after the harsh laws were enacted
- D immediately after the Nat Turner uprising

8. Here is a list of events. Put them in the correct order.

- 1 Nat Turner led an uprising.
- 2 The Civil War began.
- 3 Harsher laws were enacted.
- 4 Most Southerners thought slaves were either content or not capable of organizing a resistance.

- A 2, 3, 4, 1
- B 4, 1, 2, 3
- C 4, 3, 1, 2
- D 4, 1, 3, 2

For number 9, choose the letter of the correct answer.

9. If a paragraph is arranged in order of importance, it is in _____.
- A time order
 - B chronological order
 - C emphatic order
 - D spatial order

Use this passage to answer Number 10.

My neighborhood is a beautiful place. The most important building is probably the church; it is over two hundred years old and towers over all the other buildings. I live in one of the brownstone townhouses across the street from the church. Trees grow along each avenue, and you can't see any power lines because they are all buried beneath the sidewalks. My neighborhood is at the top of a hill, and from my roof you can see the whole city. It really is a wonderful place to live.

10. This paragraph is in _____ order.

- A chronological
- B spatial
- C emphatic
- D sequence

Answer Key

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Skill Tested</u>	<u>Frames to Review</u>
1. A	determining sequence by <i>passage order</i> and <i>clue words</i>	19-38
2. C	determining sequence by <i>passage order</i> and <i>clue words</i>	19-38
3. B	determining sequence by <i>passage order</i> and <i>clue words</i>	19-38
4. C	determining sequence by <i>clue words</i>	24-38
5. A	determining sequence by following the <i>five steps</i> for selecting a correct order of events	39-52
6. D	determining sequence by <i>implied events</i>	60-62
7. A	determining sequence by <i>time clues</i>	24-38
8. D	determining sequence by following the <i>five steps</i> for selecting a correct order of events	39-52
9. C	understanding <i>emphatic order</i>	75-79
10. B	understanding <i>spatial order</i>	66-74

If you missed a question, rework the frames listed under **Frames to Review**.
If you answered all the questions correctly, ask your instructor for the Mastery Test.

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