McC

Postsecondary Education Readiness Test
P.E.R.T.

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Mathematics:

You should review your basic math rules such as, the order of operations, exponents, prime numbers and percents. Here are a few of the rules to review:

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
A prime number is defined as an integer that is greater than 1, and has only two positive factors, 1 and itself. The first ten prime numbers are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, and 29.

Percents
The word percent means   hundredths   or a number which is divided by 100. Converting a number into a percentage involves multiplying the number by 100.

A percent can be determined by performing the division of the part by the total and multiplying it by 100:

Percent = <u>Part</u> x 100
           Total

Math Sample Questions:

1. Which of the following is a solution to the equation $c + (4 - 3c) - 2 = 0$?

    A. -1
    B. 0
    C. 1
    D. 2

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6. Factor completely:

$x^2 - x - 6?$

A. $(x - 2)(x + 3)$
B. $(x - 1)(x - 6)$
C. $(x + 2)(x - 3)$
D. $(x + 1)(x - 6)$

7. Simplify the following expression:

$$\frac{3x^4y^2}{xy^2}$$

A. $3x^3$

B. $3x^2y$

C. $3x^4y$

D. $\frac{3x^3y}{xy}$

8. Which of the following is equivalent to the expression $(3ab)(-5ab)$?

A. $-2ab$
B. $-2a^2b^2$
C. $-15ab$
D. $-15a^2b^2$

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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 questions regarding the author's feelings or meaning of the passage.

Reading Sample Questions:

Read the selection and answer the questions that follow.

A Born Artist

Benjamin West was born in a small town near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1738. Soon after Benjamin's birth, the family minister

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From these beginnings, Benjamin West became a great and famous painter. In 1763 he moved to England and never returned to America. Although he taught himself to paint, he was happy to teach younger artists, especially ones who traveled from the United States to study with him. For this reason, West is often called the father of American art.

1. Which of the following statements is the <u>best</u> summary of this selection?

    A. Benjamin West drew pictures of his niece and a robin. Then he became interested in painting instead.
    B. As a young child, Benjamin West loved to draw and paint. He grew up to become a great and famous painter.
    C. Benjamin West taught himself to draw. Then some Indian friends and his parents gave him painting supplies.
    D. A minister predicted that Benjamin West would do great things someday. His parents soon discovered that Benjamin was special.

2. How is the information in this selection organized?

    A. In chronological order
    B. As a list of problems and solutions
    C. In a series of questions and answers
    D. From least important to most important

3. As it is used in this selection, the word <u>secure</u> means —

    A. free from danger.
    B. to take or get.
    C. sure or certain.
    D. to fasten or hold tight.

4. The author's main p

10

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Read the selection and answer the questions that follow.

King of the Sea

Thor Heyerdahl,

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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. Both voyages followed the same route.
   D. Both voyages succeeded on the first attempt.

7. According to this passage, the purpose of Heyerdahl's first voyage in 1947 was to —

   A. sail across the Atlantic Ocean in a reed boat.
   B. prove you can become famous by sailing long distances.
   C. learn how to build a simple raft of balsa wood.
   D. show that the Polynesians could have crossed the Pacific Ocean.

Read the selection and answer the questions that follow.

Sacajawea Saves the Day

The baby squirmed in his basket, and Sacajawea hummed quietly to soothe him. At three months old, he was a strong, healthy child and was already used to life in the

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8. Where does this story take place?

    A. In Sacajawea's village
    B. On a river in the wilderness
    C. In a mountain pass
    D. At a fort on the frontier

9. The writer of this selection seems to view Sacajawea with a feeling of —

    A. admiration.
    B. amusement.
    C. dislike.
    D. confusion.

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.

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2. Choose the word that <u>best</u> completes the sentence.

Harold's grandmother entertained the families with stories _____ growing up in 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 <u>best</u> 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

Reading:

Sequence	Competency Description	Key
1	Discern the most important ideas, events, or information, and summarize them accurately and concisely.	B
2	Analyze how the text's organizational structure presents the argument, explanation, or narrative.	A
3	Determine what is meant by words and phrases in context, including connotative meanings and figurative language.	D
4	Determines the author's purpose.	C
5	Support or challenge assertions about the text by citing evidence in the text explicitly and determine what can be inferred logically from the text.	D
6	Analyze how specific details and larger portions of the text contribute to the meaning of the text.	B
7	Determine what the text says explicitly.	D
8	Determine when, where, and why events unfold in the text, and explain how they relate to one another.	B
9	Recognizes tone.	A
10	Delineate the main ideas or themes in the text and the details that elaborate and support them.	C