

Trooper Trainee Practice Test

Reading Comprehension

1. Questions 1-7.

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.

1. The sixteenth century was an age of great ___exploration.

- A. cosmic
- B. land
- C. mental
- D. common man
- E. none of the above

2. Magellan lost the favor of the king of Portugal when he became involved in a political ___.

- A. entanglement
- B. discussion
- C. negotiation
- D. problems
- E. 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.
- A. north and south
 - B. crosswise
 - C. easterly
 - D. south east
 - E. north and west
4. One of Magellan's ships explored the ____ of South America for a passage across the continent.
- A. coastline
 - B. mountain range
 - C. physical features
 - D. islands
 - E. none of the above
5. Four of the ships sought a passage along a southern ____.
- A. coast
 - B. inland
 - C. body of land with water on three sides
 - D. border
 - E. answer not available
6. The passage was found near 50 degrees S of ____.
- A. Greenwich
 - B. The equator
 - C. Spain
 - D. Portugal
 - E. Madrid
7. In the spring of 1521, the ships crossed the ____ now called the International Date Line.
- A. imaginary circle passing through the poles
 - B. Imaginary line parallel to the equator
 - C. area
 - D. land mass
 - E. answer not found in article

Answer Key:

1. B 2. A 3. A 4. C 5. C 6. B 7. A

Grammar & Writing Skills

1. Everyone in the bank-including the manager and the tellers, ran to the door when the fire alarm rang.
 - A. tellers, ran
 - B. tellers:ran
 - C. tellers, had run
 - D. tellers-ran
 - E. tellers' ran”

2. To no ones surprise, Joe didn't have his homework ready.
 - A. no ones surprise
 - B. noones surprise
 - C. no-ones surprise
 - D. no ones' surprise
 - E. no one's surprise

3. If he would have read “The White Birds,” he might have liked William Butler Yeats's poetry.
 - A. would have read
 - B. could have read
 - C. would of read
 - D. could of read
 - E. had read

4. After the hurricane, uprooted trees were laying all over the ground.
 - A. were laying
 - B. lying
 - C. were lying
 - D. were laid
 - E. was laid

5. Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882), the great Transcendentalist philosopher, wrote in his essay “Self-Reliance” of the need for an individual to develop his capacities.
 - A. essay “Self-Reliance”
 - B. essay, “Self-Reliance”
 - C. essay: Self-Reliance
 - D. essay, Self-Reliance
 - E. essay; “Self-Reliance”

Answer Key:

1. D 2. E 3.E 4. C 5. A

1. If the books have been cataloged last week, why haven't they been placed on the shelf?
- A. have been cataloged
 - B. would have been cataloged
 - C. was cataloged
 - D. were cataloged
 - E. had been cataloged
2. Jessica Mitford wrote *The American Way of Death*, a best-selling book, that led eventually to an official investigation of the funeral industry.
- A. that led eventually
 - B. that had led eventually
 - C. that eventually led
 - D. which led eventually
 - E. who eventually led
3. *Sabotage* came from the French *saboter*, which means “to clatter with wooden shoes (sabots).”
- A. which means “ to
 - B. which means, “ to
 - C. that means “to
 - D. that means- “to
 - E. that means, “to
4. In studying an assignment it is wise to read it over quickly at first, than see the major points, and finally outline the material.
- A. first, than
 - B. first: then
 - C. first-then
 - D. first, then
 - E. first-than
5. To judge the Tidy City contest, we picked an uninterested party.
- A. picked an uninterested party.
 - B. picked an interested party!
 - C. picked a disinterested party.
 - D. are in the process of picking an uninterested party.
 - E. picked an disinterested party.

Answer Key:

1. D 2. D 3.A 4. D 5. C

Mathematics

1. The square root of 4 =

- A. 16
- B. 8
- C. 2

2. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2} =$

- A. $\frac{1}{4}$
- B. $\frac{1}{3}$
- C. $\frac{1}{2}$
- D. $\frac{2}{3}$
- E. $\frac{2}{5}$

3. $7 \frac{1}{2} - 5 \frac{3}{8} =$

- A. $1 \frac{1}{2}$
- B. $1 \frac{2}{3}$
- C. $2 \frac{1}{8}$
- D. $3 \frac{1}{4}$
- E. 3

4. Problem: 6 is what % of 24

Solution:

Let x be the unknown percent.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 6 & \text{is} & \text{what} & \text{percent} & \text{of} & 24 & ? \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 6 & = & x & & & & 24
 \end{array}$$

So, the equation to solve then is: $24x=6$

Solving for x, we get $x=6/24$

or x, we get $x=0.25$

To make 0.25 into a percent, we multiply it by 100, to get 25 %.

This means 6 is 25 % of 24

5. Problem: 105 % of 50

First, convert the 105% into an actual number that can be used in this calculation. We do this because an actual percentage number, like (105%) can't be directly used in a calculation. A "percentage number," or a number followed by a %-sign, isn't anything "real" mathematically. It's just a convenient notation that we humans use to refer to a percent.

The conversion into a useable number is pretty simple though; you just have to divide 105 by 100, or $105/100=1.05$. The 1.05 now, is a real mathematical number, representing the fraction (or decimal) of some whole that 105% means.

Finally, to find your answer, just multiply the 1.05 by 50 to get 52.5.

Or, 52.5 is 105% of 50.

6. Problem: 27% change to a decimal is:

A. 0.0027

B. 0.27

C. 0.027

Percent-to-decimal conversions: just move the decimal point two places. Remember that 50%, or one-half, of a dollar is \$0.50. move the decimal point two places to the left when you convert from a percent (50%) to a decimal (0.50). **Examples are:**

$$104\% = 1.04$$

$$0.5\% = 0.005$$

7. Solve:

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.032 \\ + 1.500 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

~~A. 0.1532~~

B. 1.532

C. 1.325

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.690 \\ + 0.070 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A. 0.00760

B. 0.760

C. 0.570

$$\begin{array}{r} 147.00 \\ \times 2.18 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A. 321.46

B. 320.41

C. 320.46

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.47 \\ \times 609.00 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A. 895.23 B. 895.22 C. 895.21

$$\begin{array}{r} 230 \\ \div 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A. 22 B. 23 C. 21

$$\begin{array}{r} 360 \\ \div 24 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A. 28 B. 11 C. 15

8. What is the answer if the exponent of 8 is 2?

A. 16 B. 64 C. 24

9. An angle which is more than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees is an _____ angle

A. straight B. obtuse C. right D. acute

10. An angle which is less than 90 degrees is an _____ angle

A. straight B. obtuse C. right D. acute

11. An internal angle which is equal to 90 degrees is a _____ angle

A. straight B. obtuse C. right D. acute

12. A triangle with three equal sides and three equal angles is a _____

A. Equilateral B. Isosceles C. Scalene

13. A triangle with two equal sides and two equal angles is a _____

- A. Equilateral **B. Isosceles** C. Scalene

15. A triangle with no equal sides and no equal angles is a _____

- A. Equilateral B. Isosceles **C. Scalene**

14. The sales price of a car is \$12,590, which is 20% off the original price. What is the original price?

- A. \$14,310.40
B. \$14,990.90
C. \$15,290.70
D. \$15,737.50
E. \$16,935.80

Other areas to study:

- Decimals and Percentages
- Adding/Subtracting Fractions
- Dividing/Multiplying Fractions
- Prime Numbers
- Radius and Diameter of a circle
- Area of a Triangle

FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY OR PRACTICE INFORMATION

GO TO: http://www.testprepreview.com/ged_practice.htm

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/index.htm>

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