

The *Praxis*™ Study Companion

Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics

5732



Welcome to *The Praxis™ Study Companion*

Prepare to Show What You Know

You have gained the knowledge and skills you need for your teaching career. Now you are ready to demonstrate your abilities by taking a *Praxis™* test.

Using *The Praxis Study Companion* is a smart way to prepare for the test so you can do your best on test day. This guide can help keep you on track and make the most efficient use of your study time.

The Study Companion contains practical information and helpful tools, including:

- An overview of the tests
- Specific information on the *Praxis* test you are taking
- A template study plan
- Practice questions and explanations of correct answers
- Test-taking tips and strategies
- Frequently asked questions
- Links to more detailed information

So where should you start? Begin by reviewing this guide in its entirety and note those sections that you need to revisit. Then you can create your own personalized study plan and schedule based on your individual needs and how much time you have before test day.

Keep in mind that study habits are individual. There are many different ways to successfully prepare for your test. Some people study better on their own, while others prefer a group dynamic. You may have more energy early in the day, but another test taker may concentrate better in the evening. So use this guide to develop the approach that works best for you.

Your teaching career begins with preparation. Good luck!

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1. Know What to Expect

Familiarize yourself with the Praxis tests so you know what to expect

Which test should I take?

Each state or agency that uses the *Praxis* tests sets its own requirements for which test or tests you must take for the teaching area you wish to pursue.

Before you register for a test, confirm your state or agency's testing requirements at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

How are the *Praxis* tests given?

Praxis tests are given in both computer and paper formats. **Note:** Not all *Praxis* tests are offered in both formats.

Should I take the computer- or paper-delivered test?

You should take the test in whichever format you are most comfortable. Some test takers prefer taking a paper-and-pencil test, while others are more comfortable on a computer. Please note that not all tests are available in both formats. To help you decide, watch the [What to Expect on Test Day video](#) for computer-delivered tests.

If I'm taking more than one *Praxis* test, do I have to take them all in the same format?

No. You can take each test in the format in which you are most comfortable.

Is there a difference between the subject matter covered on the computer-delivered test and the paper-delivered test?

No. The computer-delivered test and paper-delivered test cover the same content.

Where and when are the *Praxis* tests offered?

You can select the test center that is most convenient for you. The *Praxis* tests are administered through an international network of test centers, which includes some universities, high schools, Prometric® Testing Centers, and other locations throughout the world.

Testing schedules depend on whether you are taking computer-delivered tests or paper-delivered tests. See the *Praxis* Web site for more detailed test registration information at www.ets.org/praxis/register.

2. Familiarize Yourself with Test Questions

Become comfortable with the types of questions you'll find on the Praxis tests

The *Praxis* tests include two types of questions — **multiple-choice** (for which you select your answers from a list of choices) and **constructed-response** (for which you write a response of your own). You may be familiar with these question formats from taking other standardized tests. If not, familiarize yourself with them so you don't spend time during the test figuring out how to answer them.

Understanding Multiple-Choice Questions

Many multiple-choice questions begin with the phrase “which of the following.” Take a look at this example:

Which of the following is a flavor made from beans?

- (A) Strawberry
- (B) Cherry
- (C) Vanilla
- (D) Mint

How would you answer this question?

All of the answer choices are flavors. Your job is to decide which of the flavors is the one made from beans.

Try following these steps to select the correct answer.

- 1) **Limit your answer to one of the choices given.** You may know that chocolate and coffee are also flavors made from beans, but they are not listed. Rather than thinking of other possible answers, focus only on the choices given (“which of the following”).
- 2) **Eliminate incorrect answers.** You may know that strawberry and cherry flavors are made from fruit and that mint flavor is made from a plant. That leaves vanilla as the only possible answer.
- 3) **Verify your answer.** You can substitute “vanilla” for the phrase “which of the following” and turn the question into this statement: “Vanilla is a flavor made from beans.” This will help you be sure that your answer is correct. If you're still uncertain, try substituting the other choices to see if they make sense. You may want to use this technique as you answer multiple-choice questions on the practice tests.

Try a more challenging example

The vanilla bean question is pretty straightforward, but you'll find that more challenging questions have a similar structure. For example:

Entries in outlines are generally arranged according to which of the following relationships of ideas?

- (A) Literal and inferential
- (B) Concrete and abstract
- (C) Linear and recursive
- (D) Main and subordinate

You'll notice that this example also contains the phrase "which of the following." This phrase helps you determine that your answer will be a "relationship of ideas" from the choices provided. You are supposed to find the choice that describes how entries, or ideas, in outlines are related.

Sometimes it helps to put the question in your own words. Here, you could paraphrase the question in this way: "How are outlines usually organized?" Since the ideas in outlines usually appear as main ideas and subordinate ideas, the answer is (D).

QUICK TIP: Don't be intimidated by words you may not understand. It might be easy to be thrown by words like "recursive" or "inferential." Read carefully to understand the question and look for an answer that fits. An outline is something you are probably familiar with and expect to teach to your students. So slow down, and use what you know.

Watch out for multiple-choice questions containing "NOT," "LEAST," and "EXCEPT"

This type of question asks you to select the choice that does not fit. You must be very careful because it is easy to forget that you are selecting the negative. This question type is used in situations in which there are several good solutions or ways to approach something, but also a clearly wrong way.

How to approach questions about graphs, tables, or reading passages

When answering questions about graphs, tables, or reading passages, provide only the information that the questions ask for. In the case of a map or graph, you might want to read the questions first, and then look at the map or graph. In the case of a long reading passage, you might want to go ahead and read the passage first, marking places you think are important, and then answer the questions. Again, the important thing is to be sure you answer the questions as they refer to the material presented. So read the questions carefully.

How to approach unfamiliar formats

From time to time, new question formats are developed to find new ways of assessing knowledge, especially on computer-delivered tests. The latest tests may include audio and video components, such as a movie clip or animation, instead of the more traditional map or reading passage. Other tests may allow you to zoom in on details of a graphic or picture. Tests may also include interactive questions that take advantage of technology to assess knowledge and skills. They can assess knowledge more than standard multiple-choice questions can. If you see a format you are not familiar with, **read the directions carefully**. They always give clear instructions on how you are expected to respond.

For most questions, you will respond by clicking an oval to select a single answer from a list of options. Other questions may ask you to respond in the following ways:

- **Typing in an entry box.** When the answer is a number, you may be asked to enter a numerical answer or, if the test has an on-screen calculator, you may need to transfer the calculated result from the calculator to the entry box. Some questions may have more than one place to enter a response.
- **Clicking check boxes.** You may be asked to click check boxes instead of an oval when more than one choice within a set of answers can be selected.
- **Clicking parts of a graphic.** In some questions, you will select your answers by clicking on a location (or locations) on a graphic such as a map or chart, as opposed to choosing your answer from a list.
- **Clicking on sentences.** In questions with reading passages, you may be asked to choose your answers by clicking on a sentence (or sentences) within the reading passage.
- **Dragging and dropping answer choices into targets on the screen.** You may be asked to select answers from a list of options and drag your answers to the appropriate location in a table, paragraph of text, or graphic.
- **Selecting options from a drop-down menu.** You may be asked to choose answers by selecting options from a drop-down menu (e.g., to complete a sentence).

Remember that with every question you will get clear instructions on how to respond. See the [Praxis Computer-delivered Testing Demonstration](#) on the *Praxis* website to learn more about *Praxis* tests and to see examples of some of the types of questions you may encounter.

QUICK TIP: Don't make the questions more difficult than they are. Don't read for hidden meanings or tricks. There are no trick questions on *Praxis* tests. They are intended to be serious, straightforward tests that accurately assess your knowledge.

Understanding Constructed-Response Questions

Constructed-response questions require you to demonstrate your knowledge in a subject area by providing in-depth explanations on particular topics. Essay and problem solving are types of constructed-response questions.

For example, an essay question might present you with a topic and ask you to discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the opinion stated. You must support your position with specific reasons and examples from your own experience, observations, or reading.

Take a look at a few sample essay topics:

- "Celebrities have a tremendous influence on the young, and for that reason, they have a responsibility to act as role models."
- "We are constantly bombarded by advertisements—on television and radio, in newspapers and magazines, on highway signs, and the sides of buses. They have become too pervasive. It's time to put limits on advertising."
- "Advances in computer technology have made the classroom unnecessary, since students and teachers are able to communicate with one another from computer terminals at home or at work."

A problem-solving question might ask you to solve a mathematics problem such as the one below and show how you arrived at your solution:

- a) In how many different ways can 700 be expressed as the product of two positive integers? Show how you arrived at your answer.
- b) Among all pairs of positive integers whose product is 700, which pair has the maximum greatest common divisor? Explain how you arrived at your answer.

Keep these things in mind when you respond to a constructed-response question

- 1) **Answer the question accurately.** Analyze what each part of the question is asking you to do. If the question asks you to describe or discuss, you should provide more than just a list.
- 2) **Answer the question completely.** If a question asks you to do three distinct things in your response, you should cover all three things for the best score. Otherwise, no matter how well you write, you will not be awarded full credit.
- 3) **Answer the question that is asked.** Do not change the question or challenge the basis of the question. You will receive no credit or a low score if you answer another question or if you state, for example, that there is no possible answer.
- 4) **Give a thorough and detailed response.** You must demonstrate that you have a thorough understanding of the subject matter. However, your response should be straightforward and not filled with unnecessary information.
- 5) **Reread your response.** Check that you have written what you thought you wrote. Be sure not to leave sentences unfinished or omit clarifying information.

QUICK TIP: You may find that it helps to circle each of the details of the question in your test book or take notes on scratch paper so that you don't miss any of them. Then you'll be sure to have all the information you need to answer the question.

For tests that have constructed-response questions, more detailed information can be found in "4. Learn About Your Test" on page 11.

3. Understand Your Scores

Understand how tests are scored and how to interpret your test scores

Of course, passing the *Praxis* test is important to you so you need to understand what your scores mean and what your state requirements are.

What are the score requirements for my state?

States, institutions, and associations that require the tests set their own passing scores. Visit www.ets.org/praxis/states for the most up-to-date information.

If I move to another state, will my new state accept my scores?

The *Praxis Series* tests are part of a national testing program, meaning that they are required in more than one state for licensure. The advantage of a national program is that if you move to another state that also requires *Praxis* tests, you can transfer your scores. Each state has specific test requirements and passing scores, which you can find at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

How do I know whether I passed the test?

Your score report will include information on passing scores for the states you identified as recipients of your test results. If you test in a state with automatic score reporting, you will receive passing score information for that state.

A list of states and their passing scores for each test are available online at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

What your *Praxis* scores mean

You received your score report. Now what does it mean? It's important to interpret your score report correctly and to know what to do if you have questions about your scores.

Visit http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/sample_score_report.pdf to see a sample score report.

To access *Understanding Your Praxis Scores*, a document that provides additional information on how to read your score report, visit www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand.

Put your scores in perspective

Your score report indicates:

- Your score and whether you passed
- The range of possible scores
- The raw points available in each content category
- The range of the middle 50 percent of scores on the test
- Your Recognition of Excellence (ROE) Award status, if applicable
(found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand/roe)

If you have taken the same test or other tests in *The Praxis Series* over the last 10 years, your score report also lists the highest score you earned on each test taken.

Content category scores and score interpretation

On many of the *Praxis* tests, questions are grouped into content categories. To help you in future study or in preparing to retake the test, your score report shows how many “raw points” you earned in each content category. Compare your “raw points earned” with the maximum points you could have earned (“raw points available”). The greater the difference, the greater the opportunity to improve your score by further study.

Score scale changes

ETS updates *Praxis* tests on a regular basis to ensure they accurately measure the knowledge and skills that are required for licensure. Updated tests cover the same content as the previous tests. However, scores might be reported on a different scale, so requirements may vary between the new and previous versions. All scores for previous, discontinued tests are valid and reportable for 10 years.

These resources may also help you interpret your scores:

- *Understanding Your Praxis Scores* (PDF), found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand
- *The Praxis Series Passing Scores* (PDF), found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand
- State requirements, found at www.ets.org/praxis/states

4. Learn About Your Test

Learn about the specific test you will be taking

Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics (5732)

Test at a Glance			
Test Name	Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics		
Test Code	5732		
Time	85 minutes		
Number of Questions	56		
Format	Multiple-choice question—select one answer choice Multiple-choice question—select one or more answer choices Numeric entry questions On-screen calculator available		
Test Delivery	Computer delivered		
	Content Categories	Approximate Number of Questions*	Approximate Percentage of Examination
	I. Number and Quantity	17	30%
	II. Algebra and Functions	17	30%
	III. Geometry	11	20%
	IV. Statistics and Probability	11	20%
	* Includes both scored and unscored (pretest) questions. Depending on the number of pretest questions included in each scoring category, the total number of questions in that category may vary from one form of the test to another.		

About This Test

The Core Academic Skills for Educators test in Mathematics measures academic skills in mathematics needed to prepare successfully for a career in education. All skills assessed have been identified as needed for college and career readiness, in alignment with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. The test will cover four major content areas: Number and Quantity, Algebra and Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Focus is on key concepts of mathematics and the ability to solve problems and to reason in a quantitative context. Many of the problems require the integration of multiple skills to achieve a solution.

In Number and Quantity, the understanding of order among integers, representation of a number in more than one way, place value, properties of whole numbers, equivalent computational procedures, ratio, proportion, and percent are emphasized. Algebra assesses the ability to handle equations and inequalities, recognition of various ways to solve a problem, relationship between verbal and symbolic expressions, and graphs. Functions questions test the knowledge of basic function definitions and the relationship between the domain and range of any given functions.

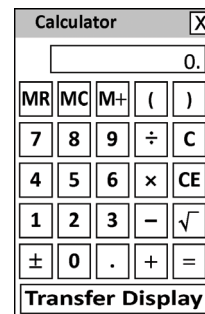
Geometry assesses the understanding and application of the characteristics and properties of geometric shapes, the Pythagorean theorem, transformation, and use of symmetry to analyze mathematical situations. Knowledge of basic U.S. customary and metric systems of measurement is assumed. Statistics and Probability assesses the ability to read and interpret visual display of quantitative information, understand the correspondence between data and graph, make inferences from a given data display, determine mean, median, and mode, and assign a probability to an outcome.

The test is 85 minutes long and contains 56 questions. This test may contain questions that will not count toward your score. The responses to the pretest questions are used to gauge the statistical performance of each question before its use as a question that will count toward your official score.

The test will contain several types of questions:

- **Multiple-choice question—select one answer choice:** These questions are multiple-choice questions that ask you to select only one answer choice from a list of five choices.
- **Multiple-choice question—select one or more answer choices:** These questions are multiple-choice questions that ask you to select one or more answer choices from a list of choices. A question may or may not specify the number of choices to select. These questions are marked with square boxes besides the answer choices, not circles or ovals.
- **Numeric entry questions:** Questions of this type ask you to enter your answer as an integer or a decimal in a single answer box, or to enter it as a fraction in two separate boxes—one for the numerator and one for the denominator. In the computer-based test, use the computer mouse and keyboard to enter your answer.

An on-screen calculator, shown below, is available for this test. The Transfer Display button can be used on numeric entry questions with a single answer box to transfer the calculator display to the answer box.



Topics Covered

Representative descriptions of topics covered in each category are provided below.

I. Number and Quantity

A. Ratios and Proportional Relationships

1. Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems
2. Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems

B. The Real Number System

1. Apply understanding of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
2. Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples
3. Apply understanding of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
4. Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers
5. Work with radicals and integer exponents

C. Quantities

1. Reason quantitatively and use units to solve problems

II. Algebra and Functions

A. Seeing Structure in Expressions

1. Apply understanding of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
2. Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions
3. Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions

B. Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities

1. Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations
2. Understand solving equations as a process of reasoning and explain the reasoning
3. Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities
4. Solve equations and inequalities in one variable
5. Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations
6. Represent and solve equations and inequalities graphically

C. Functions

1. Interpreting functions
2. Building functions

III. Geometry

A. Congruence

1. Draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them
2. Experiment with transformations in the plane

B. Similarity, Right Triangles, and Trigonometry

1. Understand and apply the Pythagorean theorem

C. Circles

1. Understand and apply theorems about circles

D. Geometric Measurement and Dimension

1. Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume
2. Explain volume formulas and use them to solve problems

E. Modeling with Geometry

1. Apply geometric concepts in modeling situations

IV. Statistics and Probability

A. Basic Statistics and Probability

1. Develop understanding of statistical variability
2. Summarize and describe distributions
3. Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population
4. Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models
5. Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data

B. Interpreting Categorical and Quantitative Data

1. Summarize, represent, and interpret data on a single count or measurement variable
2. Interpret linear models

C. Making Inferences and Justifying Conclusions

1. Understand and evaluate random processes underlying statistical experiments

D. Using Probability to Make Decisions

1. Use probability to evaluate outcomes of decisions

5. Determine Your Strategy for Success

Set clear goals and deadlines so your test preparation is focused and efficient

Effective *Praxis* test preparation doesn't just happen. You'll want to set clear goals and deadlines for yourself along the way. Otherwise, you may not feel ready and confident on test day. A helpful resource is the [Strategies for Success video](#), which includes tips for preparing and studying, along with tips for reducing test anxiety.

1) Learn what the test covers.

You may have heard that there are several different versions of the same test. It's true. You may take one version of the test and your friend may take a different version a few months later. Each test has different questions covering the same subject area, but both versions of the test measure the same skills and content knowledge.

You'll find specific information on the test you're taking in "4. Learn About Your Test" on page 11, which outlines the content categories that the test measures and what percentage of the test covers each topic. Visit www.ets.org/praxis/testprep for information on other *Praxis* tests.

2) Assess how well you know the content.

Research shows that test takers tend to overestimate their preparedness—this is why some test takers assume they did well and then find out they did not pass.

The *Praxis* tests are demanding enough to require serious review of likely content, and the longer you've been away from the content, the more preparation you will most likely need. If it has been longer than a few months since you've studied your content area, make a concerted effort to prepare.

3) Collect study materials.

Gathering and organizing your materials for review are critical steps in preparing for the *Praxis* tests. Consider the following reference sources as you plan your study:

- Did you take a course in which the content area was covered? If yes, do you still have your books or your notes?
- Does your college library have a good introductory college-level textbook in this area?
- Does your local library have a high school-level textbook?

Study guides are available for purchase for many *Praxis* tests at www.ets.org/praxis/testprep. Each guide provides a combination of test preparation and practice, including sample questions and answers with explanations.

4) Plan and organize your time.

You can begin to plan and organize your time while you are still collecting materials. Allow yourself plenty of review time to avoid cramming new material at the end. Here are a few tips:

- Choose a test date far enough in the future to leave you plenty of preparation time at www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates.
- Work backward from that date to figure out how much time you will need for review.
- Set a realistic schedule—and stick to it.

5) Practice explaining the key concepts.

Praxis tests with constructed-response questions assess your ability to explain material effectively. As a teacher, you'll need to be able to explain concepts and processes to students in a clear, understandable way. What are the major concepts you will be required to teach? Can you explain them in your own words accurately, completely, and clearly? Practice explaining these concepts to test your ability to effectively explain what you know.

6) Understand how questions will be scored.

Scoring information can be found in "3. Understand Your Scores" on page 9.

7) Develop a study plan.

A study plan provides a road map to prepare for the *Praxis* tests. It can help you understand what skills and knowledge are covered on the test and where to focus your attention. Use the study plan template on page 19 to organize your efforts.

And most important—get started!

Would a Study Group Work for You?

Using this guide as part of a study group

People who have a lot of studying to do sometimes find it helpful to form a study group with others who are working toward the same goal. Study groups give members opportunities to ask questions and get detailed answers. In a group, some members usually have a better understanding of certain topics, while others in the group may be better at other topics. As members take turns explaining concepts to one another, everyone builds self-confidence.

If the group encounters a question that none of the members can answer well, the group can go to a teacher or other expert and get answers efficiently. Because study groups schedule regular meetings, members study in a more disciplined fashion. They also gain emotional support. The group should be large enough so that multiple people can contribute different kinds of knowledge, but small enough so that it stays focused. Often, three to six members is a good size.

Here are some ways to use this guide as part of a study group:

- **Plan the group's study program.** Parts of the study plan template, beginning on page 17, can help to structure your group's study program. By filling out the first five columns and sharing the worksheets, everyone will learn more about your group's mix of abilities and about the resources, such as textbooks, that members can share with the group. In the sixth column ("Dates I will study the content"), you can create an overall schedule for your group's study program.
- **Plan individual group sessions.** At the end of each session, the group should decide what specific topics will be covered at the next meeting and who will present each topic. Use the topic headings and subheadings in the Test at a Glance table on page 11 to select topics, and then select practice questions, beginning on page 23.
- **Prepare your presentation for the group.** When it's your turn to present, prepare something that is more than a lecture. Write two or three original questions to pose to the group. Practicing writing actual questions can help you better understand the topics covered on the test as well as the types of questions you will encounter on the test. It will also give other members of the group extra practice at answering questions.

- **Take the practice test together.** The idea of the practice test is to simulate an actual administration of the test, so scheduling a test session with the group will add to the realism and may also help boost everyone's confidence. Remember, complete the practice test using only the time that will be allotted for that test on your administration day.
- **Learn from the results of the practice test.** Score one another's answer sheets. For tests that contain constructed-response questions, look at the Sample Test Questions section, which also contain sample responses to those questions and shows how they were scored. Then try to follow the same guidelines that the test scorers use.
- **Be as critical as you can.** You're not doing your study partner(s) any favors by letting them get away with an answer that does not cover all parts of the question adequately.
- **Be specific.** Write comments that are as detailed as the comments about the sample responses. Indicate where and how your study partner(s) are doing an inadequate job of answering the question. Writing notes in the margins of the answer sheet may also help.
- **Be supportive.** Include comments that point out what your study partner(s) got right.

Then plan one or more study sessions based on aspects of the questions on which group members performed poorly. For example, each group member might be responsible for rewriting one paragraph of a response in which someone else did an inadequate job.

Whether you decide to study alone or with a group, remember that the best way to prepare is to have an organized plan. The plan should set goals based on specific topics and skills that you need to learn, and it should commit you to a realistic set of deadlines for meeting those goals. Then you need to discipline yourself to stick with your plan and accomplish your goals on schedule.

6. Develop Your Study Plan

Develop a personalized study plan and schedule

Planning your study time is important because it will help ensure that you review all content areas covered on the test. Use the sample study plan below as a guide. It shows a plan for the *Praxis I® Pre-Professional Skills Test: Reading* test. Following that is a study plan template that you can fill out to create your own plan. Use the “Learn about Your Test” and “Topics Covered” information beginning on page 11 to help complete it.

Use this worksheet to:

1. **Define Content Areas:** List the most important content areas for your test as defined in the Topics Covered section.
2. **Determine Strengths and Weaknesses:** Identify your strengths and weaknesses in each content area.
3. **Identify Resources:** Identify the books, courses, and other resources you plan to use for each content area.
4. **Study:** Create and commit to a schedule that provides for regular study periods.

Praxis Test Name: *Praxis I Pre-Professional Skills Test: Reading*
Praxis Test Code(s): *0710*
Test Date: *11/15/12*

Content covered	Description of content	How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)	What resources do I have/need for the content?	Where can I find the resources I need?	Dates I will study the content	Date completed
Literal Comprehension						
Main Ideas	Identify summaries or paraphrases of main idea or primary purpose of reading selection	2	Middle school English text book	College library, middle school teacher	9/15/12	9/15/12
Supporting Ideas	Identify summaries or paraphrases of supporting ideas and specific details in reading selection	2	Middle school English text book	College library, middle school teacher	9/17/12	9/17/12
Organization	Identify how reading selection is organized in terms of cause/ effect and compare/ contrast	3	Middle and high school English text book	College library, middle and high school teachers	9/20/12	9/21/12
Organization	Identify key transition words/phrases in reading selection and how used	4	Middle and high school English text book	College library, middle and high school teachers	9/25/12	9/26/12
Vocabulary in Context	Identify meanings of words as used in context of reading selection	3	Middle and high school English text book, dictionary	College library, middle and high school teachers	9/25/12	9/27/12

(continued on next page)

Content covered	Description of content	How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)	What resources do I have/need for the content?	Where can I find the resources I need?	Dates I will study the content	Date completed
Critical and Inferential Comprehension						
Evaluation	Determine whether evidence strengthens, weakens, or is relevant to arguments in reading selection	5	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/1/12	10/1/12
Evaluation	Determine role that an idea, reference, or piece of information plays in author's discussion/argument	5	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/1/12	10/1/12
Evaluation	Determine if information presented is fact or opinion	4	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/1/12	10/1/12
Evaluation	Identify relationship among ideas presented in reading selection	2	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/1/12	10/1/12
Inferential Reasoning	Draw inferences/ implications from directly stated content of reading selection	3	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/8/12	10/8/12
Inferential Reasoning	Determine logical assumptions on which argument or conclusion is based	2	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/8/12	10/8/12
Inferential Reasoning	Determine author's attitude toward materials discussed in reading selection	1	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/15/12	10/17/12
Generalization	Recognize or predict ideas/situations that are extensions of, or similar to, what has been presented in reading selection	2	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/22/12	10/24/12
Generalization	Draw conclusions from materials presented in reading selection	3	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/24/12	10/24/12
Generalization	Apply ideas presented in a reading selection to other situations	3	High school text book, college course notes	College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor	10/27/12	10/27/12

My Study Plan

Use this worksheet to:

- 1. **Define Content Areas:** List the most important content areas for your test as defined in the Learn about Your Test and Topics Covered sections.
- 2. **Determine Strengths and Weaknesses:** Identify your strengths and weaknesses in each content area.
- 3. **Identify Resources:** Identify the books, courses, and other resources you plan to use for each content area.
- 4. **Study:** Create and commit to a schedule that provides for regular study periods.

Praxis Test Name: _____

Praxis Test Code: _____

Test Date: _____

Content covered	Description of content	How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)	What resources do I have/need for the content?	Where can I find the resources I need?	Dates I will study the content	Date completed

(continued on next page)

Content covered	Description of content	How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)	What resources do I have/need for the content?	Where can I find the resources I need?	Dates I will study the content	Date completed

7. Review Smart Tips for Success

Follow test-taking tips developed by experts

Learn from the experts. Take advantage of the following answers to questions you may have and practical tips to help you navigate the *Praxis* test and make the best use of your time.

Should I Guess?

Yes. Your score is based on the number of questions you answer correctly, with no penalty or subtraction for an incorrect answer. When you don't know the answer to a question, try to eliminate any obviously wrong answers and then guess the correct one. Try to pace yourself so that you have enough time to carefully consider every question.

Can I answer the questions in any order?

Yes. You can go through the questions from beginning to end, as many test takers do, or you can create your own path. Perhaps you will want to answer questions in your strongest area of knowledge first and then move from your strengths to your weaker areas. On computer-delivered tests, you can use the "Skip" function to skip a question and come back to it later. There is no right or wrong way. Use the approach that works best for you.

Are there trick questions on the test?

No. There are no hidden meanings or trick wording. All of the questions on the test ask about subject matter knowledge in a straightforward manner.

Are there answer patterns on the test?

No. You might have heard this myth: the answers on multiple-choice tests follow patterns. Another myth is that there will never be more than two questions with the same lettered answer following each other. Neither myth is true. Select the answer you think is correct based on your knowledge of the subject.

Can I write in the test booklet or, for a computer-delivered test, on the scratch paper I am given?

Yes. You can work out problems right on the pages of the booklet or scratch paper, make notes to yourself, mark questions you want to review later or write anything at all. Your test booklet or scratch paper will be destroyed after you are finished with it, so use it in any way that is helpful to you. But make sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet or enter them on the computer.

Smart Tips for Taking the Test

1. **For a paper-delivered test, put your answers in the right bubbles.** It seems obvious, but be sure that you fill in the answer bubble that corresponds to the question you are answering. A significant number of test takers fill in a bubble without checking to see that the number matches the question they are answering.
2. **Skip the questions you find extremely difficult.** Rather than trying to answer these on your first pass through the test, leave them blank and mark them in your test booklet. Pay attention to the time as you answer the rest of the questions on the test, and try to finish with 10 or 15 minutes remaining so that you

can go back over the questions you left blank. Even if you don't know the answer the second time you read the questions, see if you can narrow down the possible answers, and then guess.

3. **Keep track of the time.** Bring a watch to the test, just in case the clock in the test room is difficult for you to see. Keep the watch as simple as possible—alarms and other functions may distract others or may violate test security. If the test center supervisor suspects there could be an issue with your watch, they will ask you to remove it, so simpler is better! You will probably have plenty of time to answer all of the questions, but if you find yourself becoming bogged down in one section, you might decide to move on and come back to that section later.
4. **Read all of the possible answers before selecting one.** Then reread the question to be sure the answer you have selected really answers the question. Remember, a question that contains a phrase such as “Which of the following does NOT ...” is asking for the one answer that is NOT a correct statement or conclusion.
5. **Check your answers.** If you have extra time left over at the end of the test, look over each question and make sure that you have answered it as you intended. Many test takers make careless mistakes that they could have corrected if they had checked their answers.
6. **Don't worry about your score when you are taking the test.** No one is expected to answer all of the questions correctly. Your score on this test is not analogous to your score on the *GRE*® or other similar-looking (but in fact very different) tests. It doesn't matter on the *Praxis* tests whether you score very high or barely pass. If you meet the minimum passing scores for your state and you meet the state's other requirements for obtaining a teaching license, you will receive a license. In other words, what matters is meeting the minimum passing score. You can find passing scores for all states that use *The Praxis Series* tests at http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/passing_scores.pdf or on the Web site of the state for which you are seeking certification/licensure.
7. **Use your energy to take the test, not to get angry at it.** Getting angry at the test only increases stress and decreases the likelihood that you will do your best. Highly qualified educators and test development professionals, all with backgrounds in teaching, worked diligently to make the test a fair and valid measure of your knowledge and skills. Your state painstakingly reviewed the test before adopting it as a licensure requirement. The best thing to do is concentrate on answering the questions.

8. Practice with Sample Test Questions

Answer practice questions and find explanations for correct answers

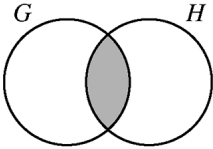
Sample Test Questions

The sample questions that follow illustrate the kinds of questions on the test. They are not, however, representative of the entire scope of the test in either content or difficulty. Answers with explanations follow the questions.

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case and then click on the oval to the left of your choice.

Remember, try to answer every question.

1. On the computer screen you will see the following:



In the Venn diagram above, circle G represents the integers 2 to 10, inclusive, and circle H represents the integers 6 to 12, inclusive. How many integers are represented by the shaded region?

☐ Two

☐ Three

☐ Four

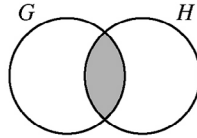
☐ Five

☐ Six

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

In the Venn diagram, the shaded region represents the integers that are in both G and H ; i.e., these integers are among the integers 2 through 10 and also among the integers 6 through 12, or 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, which amount to five integers.

The answer, therefore, is choice four.

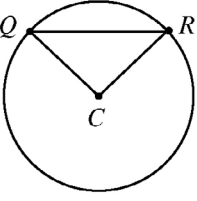


In the Venn diagram above, circle G represents the integers 2 to 10, inclusive, and circle H represents the integers 6 to 12, inclusive. How many integers are represented by the shaded region?

- ☐ Two
- ☐ Three
- ☐ Four
- ☒ Five
- ☐ Six

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

2. On the computer screen you will see the following:



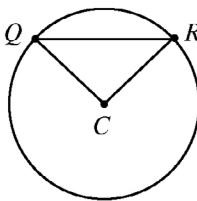
In the figure above, C is the center of the circle. Which of the following must be true?

- ☐ QC and RC have the same length.
- ☐ QR and RC have the same length.
- ☐ QC is perpendicular to QR .
- ☐ QR is perpendicular to RC .
- ☐ $\triangle QRC$ is equilateral.

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

Since C is the center of the circle, QC and RC are both radii of the circle and therefore have the same length.

The answer, therefore, is choice one.



In the figure above, C is the center of the circle. Which of the following must be true?

- ☒ QC and RC have the same length.
- ☐ QR and RC have the same length.
- ☐ QC is perpendicular to QR .
- ☐ QR is perpendicular to RC .
- ☐ $\triangle QRC$ is equilateral.

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

3. On the computer screen you will see the following.

x	y
0	5
2	11
6	23
7	26
10	35

Which of the following equations expresses the relationship between x and y in the table above?

☐ $y = x + 5$
☐ $y = x + 6$
☐ $y = 3x + 5$
☐ $y = 4x - 1$
☐ $y = 4x - 5$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

Solution Strategy 1:

Note that all of the answer choices are linear equations. Therefore, the input and output coordinate pairs in the table represent points on a line.

With any two coordinate pairs from the table, the slope of the line can be found using

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{\text{Difference in } y\text{-values}}{\text{Difference in } x\text{-values}}$$

For example, if (6, 23) and (2, 11) are selected, the slope is

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{23 - 11}{6 - 2} = \frac{12}{4} = 3.$$

The slope of the line is 3.

The coordinate pairs in the table indicate that the first pair, (0, 5) is the point at which the line crosses the y -axis. Therefore, the y -intercept is 5.

Use the slope-intercept equation, $y = mx + b$, where m is the slope and b is the y -intercept. When the slope and y -intercept of the line are known, the equation of the line can be found by using substitution.

Therefore, the equation $y = 3x + 5$ expresses the relationship between x and y in the table. The answer, therefore, is choice three.

Solution Strategy 2:

The correct equation must hold when each of the five pairs of values from the table is substituted for x and y . The equation $y = x + 5$ (1st choice) holds for the pairs of values $x = 0, y = 5$, but not for the pairs of values $x = 2, y = 11$. The equations $y = x + 6$, $y = 4x - 1$ and $y = 4x - 5$ (2nd, 4th, and 5th choices) do not hold for the pairs of values $x = 0, y = 5$. The equation $y = 3x + 5$ (3rd choice) holds for all five pairs of values given:

if $x = 0$, then $y = 3(0) + 5 = 5$,

if $x = 2$, then $y = 3(2) + 5 = 11$,

if $x = 6$, then $y = 3(6) + 5 = 23$, and so forth.

The answer, therefore, is choice three.

x	y
0	5
2	11
6	23
7	26
10	35

Which of the following equations expresses the relationship between x and y in the table above?

☐ $y = x + 5$

☐ $y = x + 6$

☒ $y = 3x + 5$

☐ $y = 4x - 1$

☐ $y = 4x - 5$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

4. On the computer screen you will see the following:

Men	12
Women	18
Boys	10
Girls	8

The table above shows the distribution of men, women, boys, and girls in a group of 48 individuals. If one individual is to be randomly selected from the group, what is the probability that the individual selected will be a woman?

☐ $\frac{1}{18}$
 ☐ $\frac{2}{15}$
 ☐ $\frac{1}{4}$
 ☐ $\frac{3}{8}$
 ☐ $\frac{1}{2}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

In the table provided, there are 48 individuals in the group, 18 of whom are women. The probability that the individual selected will be a woman is 18 out of 48, or $\frac{18}{48} = \frac{3}{8}$. The answer, therefore, is choice four.

Men	12
Women	18
Boys	10
Girls	8

The table above shows the distribution of men, women, boys, and girls in a group of 48 individuals. If one individual is to be randomly selected from the group, what is the probability that the individual selected will be a woman?

☐ $\frac{1}{18}$
 ☐ $\frac{2}{15}$
 ☐ $\frac{1}{4}$
☒ $\frac{3}{8}$
☐ $\frac{1}{2}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

5. On the computer screen you will see the following:

When 641.29 is divided by 10, which digit of the resulting number is in the tens place?

☐

1

☐

2

☐

4

☐

6

☐

9

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

When dividing a number expressed as a decimal by 10, the decimal point is moved one place to the left, so 641.29 divided by 10 is 64.129. The tens place is the second place to the left of the decimal point. In the number 64.129, that is the digit 6.

6	4	.	1	2	9
Tens	Ones		Tenths	Hundredths	Thousandths

The answer, therefore, is choice four.

When 641.29 is divided by 10, which digit of the resulting number is in the tens place?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 4
- ☒ 6
- ☐ 9

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

6. On the computer screen you will see the following:

If $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$, which of the following is equivalent to $\frac{3}{2x} - \frac{1}{y}$?

☐ $\frac{1}{xy}$
☐ $\frac{3}{2xy}$
☐ $\frac{3y - 2x}{2xy}$
☐ $\frac{2}{2x - y}$
☐ $\frac{3y - 2x}{2x - y}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

To subtract rational expressions, each rational expression must first be expressed with a common denominator. In this case, a common denominator is $2xy$. Multiply each rational expression by an expression equal to 1 so that each rational expression will have the same common denominator $2xy$ as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{3}{2x} - \frac{1}{y} &= \frac{3}{2x} \cdot \left(\frac{y}{y}\right) - \frac{1}{y} \cdot \left(\frac{2x}{2x}\right) \\
 &= \frac{3y}{2xy} - \frac{2x}{2xy} \\
 &= \frac{3y - 2x}{2xy}
 \end{aligned}$$

The answer, therefore, is choice three.

If $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$, which of the following is equivalent to $\frac{3}{2x} - \frac{1}{y}$?

☐ $\frac{1}{xy}$

☐ $\frac{3}{2xy}$

☒ $\frac{3y - 2x}{2xy}$

☐ $\frac{2}{2x - y}$

☐ $\frac{3y - 2x}{2x - y}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

7. On the computer screen you will see the following:

The numbers of absences in Mrs. Klein's class for each of the first 3 months of the year were 16, 12, and 17, respectively. If the average (arithmetic mean) number of absences for the first 4 months of the year was 14, how many absences were there in the 4th month?

☐ 9

☐ 10

☐ 11

☐ 12

☐ 13

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

For the average of a set of data, the sum of the data entries is equal to the product of the average and the number of entries.

Since

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum of data entries}}{\text{Total number of entries}},$$

Sum of data entries = Average \times Total number of entries.

Since the average of the absences for the first 4 months is 14, the number of absences for the first 4 months is $14 \times 4 = 56$. The number of absences in the fourth month is the number of absences in the first 4 months minus the number of absences in the first 3 months, or $56 - (16 + 12 + 17) = 11$.

The answer, therefore, is choice three.

The numbers of absences in Mrs. Klein's class for each of the first 3 months of the year were 16, 12, and 17, respectively. If the average (arithmetic mean) number of absences for the first 4 months of the year was 14, how many absences were there in the 4th month?

- ☐ 9
- ☐ 10
- ☒ 11
- ☐ 12
- ☐ 13

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

8. On the computer screen you will see the following:

At a computer store on Monday last week, the price of a computer was x dollars. On Tuesday the price of the computer was reduced by 25% of Monday's price. On Wednesday the price of the computer was further reduced by 40% of Tuesday's price. Which of the following expressions represents the price, in dollars, of the computer on Wednesday?

- ☐ $(0.35)x$
☐ $(0.4)(0.25)x$
☐ $(0.4)(0.75)x$
☐ $(0.6)(0.25)x$
☐ $(0.6)(0.75)x$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

The price on Monday was x dollars. A reduction of 25% means that the price on Tuesday is 75% of the price on Monday, or $(0.75)x$ dollars. The price on Tuesday is then reduced by 40%, so the price on Wednesday is 60% of $0.75x$ dollars, or $(0.60)(0.75x)$ dollars. The answer, therefore, is choice five.

At a computer store on Monday last week, the price of a computer was x dollars. On Tuesday the price of the computer was reduced by 25% of Monday's price. On Wednesday the price of the computer was further reduced by 40% of Tuesday's price. Which of the following expressions represents the price, in dollars, of the computer on Wednesday?

- ☐ $(0.35)x$
☐ $(0.4)(0.25)x$
☐ $(0.4)(0.75)x$
☐ $(0.6)(0.25)x$
☒ $(0.6)(0.75)x$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

9. On the computer screen you will see the following:

If $4x = 14 + 9y$ and $y = 2$, that is the value of x ?

☐ 4

☐ 5

☐ 6

☐ 7

☐ 8

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

Since $y = 2$, substituting the value 2 for y in the equation $4x = 14 + 9y$ gives the following equations.

$$4x = 14 + 9(2)$$

$$4x = 14 + 18$$

$$4x = 32$$

Dividing both sides of the equation $4x = 32$ by 4 gives the result $x = 8$.

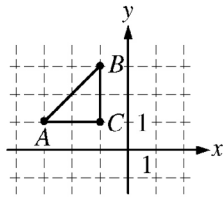
The answer, therefore, is choice five.

If $4x = 14 + 9y$ and $y = 2$, that is the value of x ?

- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☒ 8

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

10. On the computer screen you will see the following:



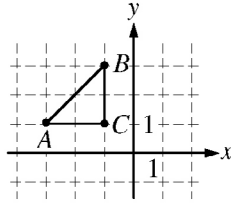
Triangle ABC in the xy -plane above will be translated 3 units to the right and then 2 units down. What point will correspond to vertex A after these translations?

- ☐ $(-1, -1)$
- ☐ $(-1, 0)$
- ☐ $(0, 0)$
- ☐ $(0, -1)$
- ☐ $(1, 1)$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

A horizontal translation changes the x -coordinate, and a vertical translation changes the y -coordinate. Translating 3 units to the right adds 3 to the x -coordinate. Translating 2 units down subtracts 2 from the y -coordinate. Since the coordinates of vertex A are $(-3, 1)$ the coordinates corresponding to vertex A after translation are $(-3 + 3, 1 - 2)$, or $(0, -1)$.

The answer, therefore, is choice four.



Triangle ABC in the xy -plane above will be translated 3 units to the right and then 2 units down. What point will correspond to vertex A after these translations?

- ☐ $(-1, -1)$
- ☐ $(-1, 0)$
- ☐ $(0, 0)$
- ☒ $(0, -1)$
- ☐ $(1, 1)$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

11. On the computer screen you will see the following:

$-\frac{1}{4}, _, _, \frac{3}{8}$

When placed into the blank spaces above in increasing order which of the following pairs of numbers creates a list of numbers that is ordered from least to greatest?

☐ $-\frac{1}{2}, 0$
 ☐ $-\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{3}$
 ☐ $-\frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{4}$
 ☐ $0, \frac{1}{2}$
 ☐ $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{5}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

The numbers to be placed in the blank spaces must be both greater than $-\frac{1}{4}$ and less than $\frac{3}{8}$. The first pair of numbers listed is $-\frac{1}{2}, 0$. Although 0 is both greater than $-\frac{1}{4}$ and less than $\frac{3}{8}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$ is less than $-\frac{1}{4}$, so this pair is not the correct answer. The second pair of numbers listed is $-\frac{1}{8}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$, both of which are greater than $-\frac{1}{4}$ and less than $\frac{3}{8}$, so this pair is the correct answer. At least one of the numbers in each of the other pairs is either less than $-\frac{1}{4}$ or greater than $\frac{3}{8}$.

The answer, therefore, is choice two.

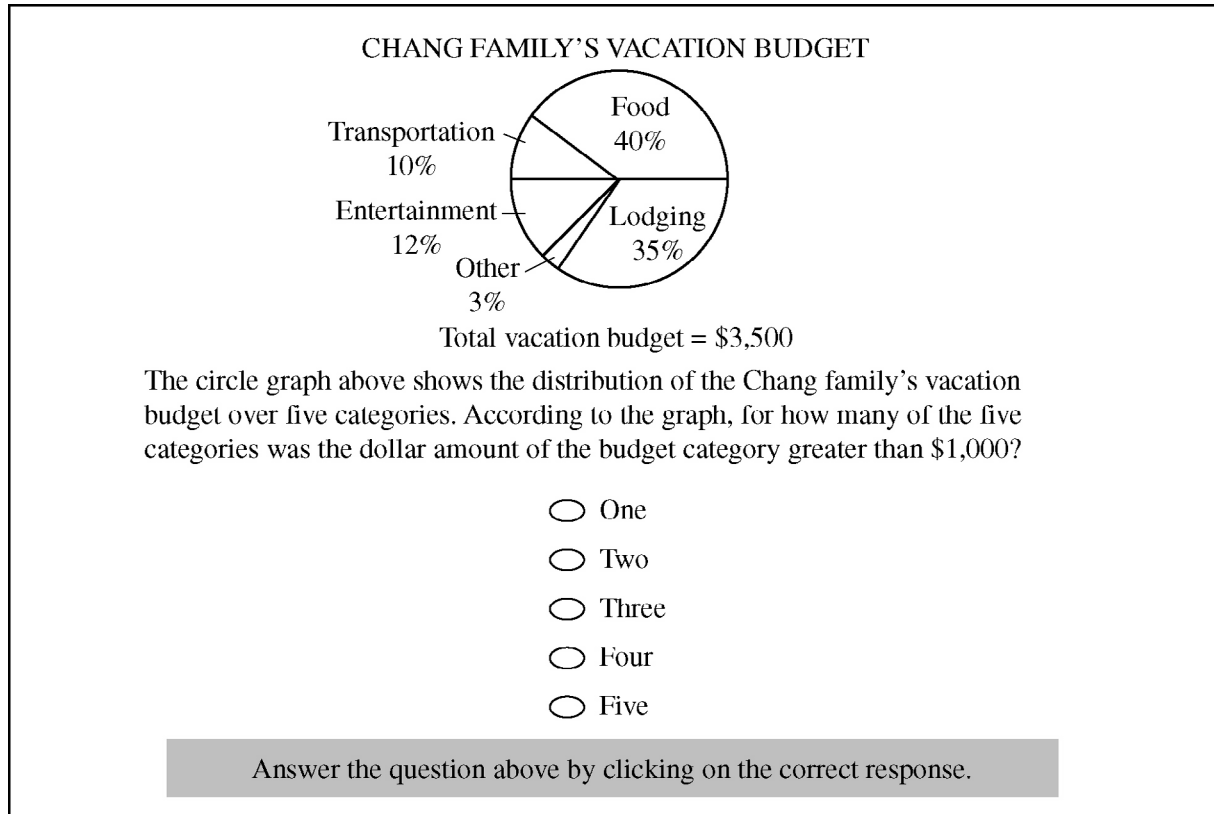
$$-\frac{1}{4}, _, _, \frac{3}{8}$$

When placed into the blank spaces above in increasing order which of the following pairs of numbers creates a list of numbers that is ordered from least to greatest?

☐ $-\frac{1}{2}, 0$ ☒ $-\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{3}$ ☐ $-\frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{4}$ ☐ $0, \frac{1}{2}$ ☐ $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{5}$

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

12. On the computer screen you will see the following:



To answer this question, compute the dollar amount for each of the five categories and compare each dollar amount to \$1,000.

$$\text{Dollar amount for food} = \$3,500 \times 40\% = \$1,400$$

$$\text{Dollar amount for lodging} = \$3,500 \times 35\% = \$1,225$$

$$\text{Dollar amount for other} = \$3,500 \times 3\% = \$105$$

$$\text{Dollar amount for entertainment} = \$3,500 \times 12\% = \$420$$

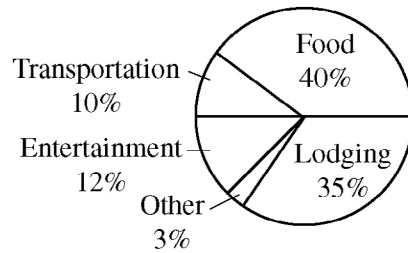
$$\text{Dollar amount for transportation} = \$3,500 \times 10\% = \$350$$

Of the five dollar amounts, only two are greater than \$1,000. An alternative solution method is to express \$1,000 as a percent of the total budget and determine how many of the percent values given in the circle graph are greater.

That is, \$1,000 is $\left(\frac{1,000}{3,500}\right) \cdot 100\% \approx 28.6\%$ of \$3,500. Of the five percent values in the circle graph, only two percent values are greater than 28.6%. The answer is indicated by choice 2.

The answer, therefore, is choice two.

CHANG FAMILY'S VACATION BUDGET



Total vacation budget = \$3,500

The circle graph above shows the distribution of the Chang family's vacation budget over five categories. According to the graph, for how many of the five categories was the dollar amount of the budget category greater than \$1,000?

- ☐ One
- ☒ Two
- ☐ Three
- ☐ Four
- ☐ Five

Answer the question above by clicking on the correct response.

9. Check on Testing Accommodations

See if you qualify for accommodations that may make it easier to take the Praxis test

What if English is not my primary language?

Praxis tests are given only in English. If your primary language is not English (PLNE), you may be eligible for extended testing time. For more details, visit www.ets.org/praxis/register/accommodations/plne.

What if I cannot take the paper-based test on Saturday?

Monday is the alternate paper-delivered test day for test takers who can't test on Saturday due to:

- religious convictions
- duties as a member of the United States armed forces

Online registration is not available for Monday test takers. You must complete a registration form and provide a photocopy of your military orders or a letter from your cleric. You'll find details at www.ets.org/praxis/register/accommodations/monday_testing.

What if I have a disability or other health-related need?

The following accommodations are available for *Praxis* test takers who meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Amendments Act disability requirements:

- Extended testing time
- Additional rest breaks
- Separate testing room
- Writer/recorder of answers
- Test reader
- Sign language interpreter for spoken directions only
- Perkins Braille
- Braille slate and stylus
- Printed copy of spoken directions
- Oral interpreter
- Audio test
- Braille test
- Large print test book (14 pt.)
- Large print answer sheet
- Listening section omitted

For more information on these accommodations, visit www.ets.org/praxis/register/disabilities.

Note: Test takers who have health-related needs requiring them to bring equipment, beverages, or snacks into the testing room or to take extra or extended breaks must request these accommodations by following the procedures described in the *Bulletin Supplement for Test Takers with Disabilities or Health-Related Needs* (PDF), which can be found at <http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/disabilities>.

You can find additional information on available resources for test takers with disabilities or health-related needs at www.ets.org/disabilities.

10. Do Your Best on Test Day

Get ready for test day so you will be calm and confident

You followed your study plan. You are prepared for the test. Now it's time to prepare for test day.

Plan to end your review a day or two before the actual test date so you avoid cramming. Take a dry run to the test center so you're sure of the route, traffic conditions, and parking. Most of all, you want to eliminate any unexpected factors that could distract you from your ultimate goal—passing the *Praxis* test!

On the day of the test, you should:

- be well rested
- wear comfortable clothes and dress in layers
- eat before you take the test and bring food with you to eat during break to keep your energy level up
- bring an acceptable and valid photo identification with you
- bring a supply of well-sharpened No. 2 pencils (at least 3) and a blue or black pen for the essay or constructed-response questions for a paper-delivered test
- be prepared to stand in line to check in or to wait while other test takers check in
- select a seat away from doors, aisles, and other high-traffic areas

You can't control the testing situation, but you can control yourself. Stay calm. The supervisors are well trained and make every effort to provide uniform testing conditions, but don't let it bother you if the test doesn't start exactly on time. You will have the necessary amount of time once it does start.

You can think of preparing for this test as training for an athletic event. Once you've trained, prepared, and rested, give it everything you've got.

What items am I restricted from bringing into the test center?

You cannot bring into the test center personal items such as:

- handbags, knapsacks, or briefcases
- water bottles or canned or bottled beverages
- study materials, books, or notes
- scrap paper
- any electronic, photographic, recording, or listening devices

Note: All cell phones, smart phones (e.g., BlackBerry® devices, iPhones®, etc.), PDAs, and other electronic, photographic, recording, or listening devices are strictly prohibited from the test center. If you are seen with such a device, you will be dismissed from the test, your test scores will be canceled, and you will forfeit your test fees. If you are seen USING such a device, the device will be confiscated and inspected. For more information on what you can bring to the test center, visit www.ets.org/praxis/test_day/bring.

Are You Ready?

Complete this checklist to determine whether you are ready to take your test.

- ☐ Do you know the testing requirements for the license or certification you are seeking in the state(s) where you plan to teach?
- ☐ Have you followed all of the test registration procedures?
- ☐ Do you know the topics that will be covered in each test you plan to take?
- ☐ Have you reviewed any textbooks, class notes, and course readings that relate to the topics covered?
- ☐ Do you know how long the test will take and the number of questions it contains?
- ☐ Have you considered how you will pace your work?
- ☐ Are you familiar with the types of questions for your test?
- ☐ Are you familiar with the recommended test-taking strategies?
- ☐ Have you practiced by working through the practice questions in this study companion or in a study guide or practice test?
- ☐ If constructed-response questions are part of your test, do you understand the scoring criteria for these items?
- ☐ If you are repeating a *Praxis* test, have you analyzed your previous score report to determine areas where additional study and test preparation could be useful?

If you answered “yes” to the questions above, your preparation has paid off. Now take the *Praxis* test, do your best, pass it—and begin your teaching career!

Appendix: Other Questions You May Have

Here is some supplemental information that can give you a better understanding of the *Praxis* tests.

What do the *Praxis* tests measure?

The *Praxis* tests measure the specific pedagogical skills and knowledge that beginning teachers need. The tests do not measure an individual's disposition toward teaching or potential for success. The assessments are designed to be comprehensive and inclusive, but are limited to what can be covered in a finite number of questions and question types.

What are the *Praxis I* tests?

The *Praxis I* tests measure basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. All these tests include multiple-choice questions and the Writing test also includes an essay question. *Praxis I* tests are designed to evaluate whether you have the academic skills needed to prepare for a career in education.

What are the *Praxis II* tests?

Praxis II Subject Assessments measure knowledge of specific subjects that K–12 educators teach, as well as general and subject-specific teaching skills and knowledge. Ranging from Agriculture to World Languages, there are more than 130 *Praxis II* tests, which contain multiple-choice or constructed-response questions, or a combination of both.

What is the difference between *Praxis* multiple-choice and constructed-response tests?

Multiple-choice tests measure a broad range of knowledge across your content area. Constructed-response tests measure your ability to provide in-depth explanations of a few essential topics in a given subject area. Content-specific *Praxis II* pedagogy tests, most of which are constructed-response, measure your understanding of how to teach certain fundamental concepts in a subject area.

The tests do not measure your actual teaching ability, however. Teaching combines many complex skills that are typically measured in other ways, including classroom observation, videotaped practice, or portfolios not included in the *Praxis* test.

Who takes the tests and why?

Some colleges and universities use the *Praxis I* tests to evaluate individuals for entry into teacher education programs. The assessments are generally taken early in your college career. Many states also require *Praxis I* scores as part of their teacher licensing process.

Individuals entering the teaching profession take the *Praxis II* tests as part of the teacher licensing and certification process required by many states. In addition, some professional associations and organizations require *Praxis II* tests for professional licensing.

Do all states require these tests?

The *Praxis Series* tests are currently required for teacher licensure in approximately 40 states and United States territories. These tests are also used by several professional licensing agencies and by several hundred colleges and universities. Teacher candidates can test in one state and submit their scores in any other state that requires *Praxis* testing for licensure. You can find details at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

What is licensure/certification?

Licensure in any area—medicine, law, architecture, accounting, cosmetology—is an assurance to the public that the person holding the license possesses sufficient knowledge and skills to perform important occupational activities safely and effectively. In the case of teacher licensing, a license tells the public that the individual has met predefined competency standards for beginning teaching practice.

Because a license makes such a serious claim about its holder, licensure tests are usually quite demanding. In some fields, licensure tests have more than one part and last for more than one day. Candidates for licensure in all fields plan intensive study as part of their professional preparation. Some join study groups, others study alone. But preparing to take a licensure test is, in all cases, a professional activity. Because it assesses the entire body of knowledge for the field you are entering, preparing for a licensure exam takes planning, discipline, and sustained effort.

Why does my state require *The Praxis Series* tests?

Your state chose *The Praxis Series* tests because they assess the breadth and depth of content—called the “domain”—that your state wants its teachers to possess before they begin to teach. The level of content knowledge, reflected in the passing score, is based on recommendations of panels of teachers and teacher educators in each subject area. The state licensing agency and, in some states, the state legislature ratify the passing scores that have been recommended by panels of teachers.

How were the tests developed?

ETS consulted with practicing teachers and teacher educators around the country during every step of *The Praxis Series* test development process. First, ETS asked them which knowledge and skills a beginning teacher needs to be effective. Their responses were then ranked in order of importance and reviewed by hundreds of teachers.

After the results were analyzed and consensus was reached, guidelines, or specifications, for the multiple-choice and constructed-response tests were developed by teachers and teacher educators. Following these guidelines, teachers and professional test developers created test questions that met content requirements and ETS Standards for Quality and Fairness.*

When your state adopted the research-based *Praxis* tests, local panels of teachers and teacher educators evaluated each question for its relevance to beginning teachers in your state. During this “validity study,” the panel also provided a passing-score recommendation based on how many of the test questions a beginning teacher in your state would be able to answer correctly. Your state’s licensing agency determined the final passing-score requirement.

ETS follows well-established industry procedures and standards designed to ensure that the tests measure what they are intended to measure. When you pass the *Praxis* tests your state requires, you are proving that you have the knowledge and skills you need to begin your teaching career.

*ETS Standards for Quality and Fairness (2003, Princeton, NJ) are consistent with the “Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing,” industry standards issued jointly by the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education (1999, Washington, DC).

How are the tests updated to ensure the content remains current?

Praxis tests are reviewed regularly. During the first phase of review, ETS conducts an analysis of relevant state and association standards and of the current test content. State licensure titles and the results of relevant job analyses are also considered. Revised test questions are then produced following the standard test development methodology. National advisory committees may also be convened to review existing test specifications and to evaluate test forms for alignment with the specifications.

How long will it take to receive my scores?

Scores for computer-delivered tests are available faster than scores for paper-delivered tests. Scores for most computer-delivered multiple-choice tests are reported on the screen immediately after the test. Scores for tests that contain constructed-response questions or essays aren't available immediately after the test because of the scoring process involved. Official scores for computer-delivered tests are reported to you and your designated score recipients approximately two to three weeks after the test date. Scores for paper-delivered tests will be available within four weeks after the test date. See the test dates and deadlines calendar at www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates for exact score reporting dates.

Can I access my scores on the Web?

All test takers can access their test scores via their *Praxis* account free of charge for one year from the posting date. This online access replaces the mailing of a paper score report.

The process is easy—simply log in to your *Praxis* account at www.ets.org/praxis and click on your score report. If you do not already have a *Praxis* account, you must create one to view your scores.

Note: You must create a *Praxis* account to access your scores, even if you registered by mail or phone.

Your teaching career is worth preparing for, so start today!
Let the *Praxis*™ *Study Companion* guide you.



To search for the *Praxis* test prep resources
that meet your specific needs, visit:

www.ets.org/praxis/testprep

To purchase official test prep made by the creators
of the *Praxis* tests, visit the ETS Store:

www.ets.org/praxis/store

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