FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE
EL DORADO CENTER ◆ RANCHO CORDOVA CENTER

ENGLISH PLACEMENT/READING COMPETENCY

(Student Guide)

CTEP – College Tests for English Placement

Purpose of the Tests

The College Test for English Placement (CTEP) is an assessment instrument for community college students for placement into reading and writing classes. It was written by California community college English instructors with experience teaching reading and composition.

English Assessment

The CTEP consists of three tests: reading comprehension; sentence and syntax skills; and sentence structure and grammar. Based on your total scores, an English course will be recommended.

Reading Competency

Your reading competency will also be tested. If you PASS on your 1ˢᵗ attempt you have met the minimum reading competency graduation requirement. If you DO NOT PASS, you will have 2 attempts on the COMPASS reading competency test. If you do not pass the COMPASS reading test, one of the following reading courses will be recommended: English Reading 16, 110, or 208/310. Upon completion of English Reading 208 or 310 with a grade of C or better, you will have met the minimum reading graduation requirement. Reading competency is tracked district wide.

When and Where the Test Are Given

Tests are given at Folsom Lake College, the El Dorado Center, and the Rancho Cordova Center. Testing schedules are available in the Student Services lobby. You may also view the schedules at the assessment website: http://www.flc.losrios.edu/student-services/student-success/assessment

What to Take With You on Test Day

Be sure to bring a current picture I.D., your Los Rios student identification number and several number two pencils with erasers. There is no charge to students taking the test. Students without a picture I.D. and their Los Rios student identification number will not be admitted.

Special Arrangements for Disabled Students

If you have a disability that will prevent you from taking the test under standard conditions, you may request special accommodations. Contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services at FLC/RCC (916) 608-6611 or EDC (530) 642-5630.

Test Scores

Your scores will be based on the number of questions you answer correctly. No points will be subtracted for wrong answers. Mark only one answer for each question. You should answer as many questions as you can, regardless of how sure you are of the answer.

Test Results

Results are available immediately after completing computerized testing. No results will be given over the telephone or faxed to a second party. For students who complete English placement testing on or after February 16th, 2013 the assessment results will be valid for 2 years. For students who completed the English placement test prior to February 16th, 2013 the results will be valid for three years. Reading competency test results do not expire.

Description of the Tests

Reading Comprehension

This test consists of 35 questions, administered in 30 minutes. The test consists of seven reading selections. Each passage is followed by questions. The skills tested are main idea, literal comprehension, inferential comprehension, interpretive/evaluative comprehension and vocabulary in context. (See attached sample).

Sentence Structure

This test consists of 30 questions, administered in 20 minutes. The test consists of three sections of ten items each. The first section asks students to choose the correct sentence from four choices. The second asks students to fill in the blank to correctly complete a given sentence. The third gives students two sentences and asks them to choose which of the four choices correctly combines the two sentences. (See attached sample).

Sentence and Syntax Skills

This test consists of 40 questions, administered in 15 minutes. Test consists of two cloze type passages. These textbook selections have words missing, and students are asked to select the correct word. This measures a combination of students' reading and writing skills such as using context and understanding syntax. (See attached sample).

The study of history provides many benefits. First, we learn from the past. We may repeat mistakes, but, at least, we have the opportunity to avoid them. Second, history teaches us what questions to ask about the present. Contrary to some people's view, the study of history is not the memorization of names, dates, and places. It is the thoughtful examination of the forces that have shaped the courses of human life. We can examine events from the past and then draw inferences about current events. History teaches us about likely outcomes.

Another benefit of the study of history is the broad range of human experience which is covered. War and peace are certainly covered as are national and international affairs. However, matters of culture (art, literature, and music) are also included in historical study. Human nature is an important part of history: emotions like passion, greed, and insecurity have influenced the shaping of world affairs. Anyone who thinks that the study of history is boring has not really studied history.

1. **What is the main idea of this passage?**
    A. Studying history helps us to live in today's world.
    B. Studying history is not just memorization.
    C. The role of education is to help students deal with real life.
    D. Students should study both national and international history.

2. **In the first paragraph, inferences means**
    A. graphs
    B. articles
    C. conclusions
    D. circumferences

3. **Which method of teaching history would the author of this passage support?**
    A. Applying historical events to modern society.
    B. Using flash cards to remember specific facts.
    C. Weekly quizzes on dates and events.
    D. Student competitions for most books memorized.

Answers: (1) A (2) C (3) A

SENTENCE STRUCTURE & GRAMMAR: Sample Questions

Section 1: In this section, each question contains 4 sentences. Choose the one that is best.

Example:
A. One of the musicians who is Eric has been looking for a practice room.
B. Eric, one of the musicians, are looking for a practice room.
C. Eric who is one of the musicians who are looking for a practice room.

D. Eric, one of the musicians, is looking for a practice room.

Answer: "D" is the only choice that makes sense and is grammatically correct.

Section 2: In this section, you are given a sentence which has words left out. Fill in the blank space and complete the sentence by choosing the correct answer from the choices given.

Example: The workers left early and _____home.

A) gone   B) went   C) have dinner   C) drives

Answer: "B" is the only answer that makes sense and is grammatically correct.

Section 3: In this section, you are first given two sentences. Then you are given four choices of how these two sentences can be combined. Choose the best answer.

Example: The traffic was heavy. I was late to work.

A. I was late to work because the traffic was heavy.
B. I was late to work, so the traffic was heavy.
C. The traffic was heavy, I was late to work.
D. The traffic was heavy: and then I was late to work.

Answer: "A" is the only sentence that makes sense and is grammatically correct.

SENTENCE & SYNTAX SKILLS: Sample Questions

Directions: Words have been left out of reading passages. Choose the answer that will correctly fill in the blank. When you finish, you should have a logical and grammatical passage. It may be useful to try to read the passage through to check your answers. Don't get stuck; if one blank is difficult to fill in, go on to the next one.

Example: It used to be common for dentists to have to remove teeth. However, with modern technology, (1)_____visits to the dentist's office and good (2)_____hygiene at home, most people can keep (3)_____teeth for their lives.

1. a. the	2. a. dental	3. a. their
b. infrequent	b. person	b. his
c. regular	c. cleaning	c. front
d. often	d. tooth	d. cleaned

Answers: (1) c (2) a (3) a

Testing Regulations
Notebooks, dictionaries, or calculators are not allowed in the testing room. Furthermore, anyone who gives or receives help during the test will not be permitted to continue the test. Following the test period, no test materials or notes may be removed from the room. Your college will cancel any test score if there is reason to question its validity.

MATH ASSESSMENT INFORMATION
4 LEVELS OF MATH ASSESSMENT
CHOOSE YOUR "COMFORT" LEVEL
*Please note that if you choose to take a test that is too difficult for you, your placement will be "undetermined" and you will need to take a math test that is a lower level.

ALGEBRA READINESS
WHITE COVER 45 MINUTES 50 QUESTIONS
SKILLS ASSESSED: INTEGERS, FRACTIONS, DECIMALS, EXPONENTS, GEOMETRY
RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT
Math 20: Arithmetic
Math 30: Pre-Algebra
Math 100: Elementary Algebra

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA
YELLOW COVER 45 minutes 50 questions
SKILLS ASSESSED: ARITHMETIC OPERATIONS, POLYNOMIALS, LINERAR EQUATIONS & INEQUAL.,
QUADRATIC EQUATIONS, GRAPHING, RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS, EXPONENTS & SQUARE ROOTS,
GEOMETRIC MEASUREMENT, WORD PROBLEMS
RECOMMENDED COLLEGE PLACEMENT
Math 100: Elementary Algebra
Math 110: Elementary Geometry
Math 120: Intermediate Algebra

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA
GREEN COVER 45 minutes 45 questions
SKILLS ASSESSED: ELEMENTARY OPERATIONS, RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS, EXPONENTS & RADICALS,
LINEAR EQUATIONS & INEQUAL, QUADRATIC POLYS, EQS. & INEQ, GRAPHING, LOGARITHMS &
FUNCTIONS, WORD PROBLEMS
RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT
Math 120: Intermediate Algebra
Math 310: Mathematical Discovery
Statistics 300: Intro. to Probability & Statistics
Math 335: Trigonometry with College Algebra

PRE-CALCULUS
BLUE COVER 90 minutes 60 QUESTIONS
SKILLS ASSESSED: RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS, EXPONENTS AND RADICALS, LINEAR EQUATIONS AND
INEQUAL., POLYNOMIALS & POLYN. FUNCTIONS, FUNCTIONS, TRIG, LOGS & EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS,
WORD PROBLEMS
RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT
Statistics 300: Intro. to Probability & Statistics
Math 335: Trigonometry with College Algebra
Math 370: Pre-Calculus
Math 350: Calculus for the life & social sciences
Math 400: Calculus I

FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE
EL DORADO CENTER
RANCHO CORDOVA CENTER

ALGEBRA READINESS SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The **ALGEBRA READINESS** (white cover) test will assess: Arithmetic (Math 20) or pre-algebra (Math 30) or Elementary Algebra (Math 100) or Basic Algebra with applications (Math 105) or Math for Technical Fields (Math 106). This is a 45minute 50 question readiness assessment. **Calculators are not allowed.**

1.   .29 can be written as :

   (A) $2\frac{9}{100}$ (B) $\frac{29}{100}$ (C) $\frac{29}{10}$ (D) $2\frac{9}{10}$

2. $4 + 2 \times 6 =$

   (A) 36   (B) 12   (C) 16   (D) 48

3. $.111 + 12.2 + 3.12 =$

   (A) 15.431   (B) 16.43   (C) 435.2   (D) 43.511

4. $\frac{6}{7} \div \frac{2}{9} =$ (A) $\frac{4}{21}$ (B) $\frac{15}{14}$ (C) $\frac{3}{7}$ (D) $\frac{27}{7}$

5. $(-3) - [\, 3\,(-4) + 7\,] =$

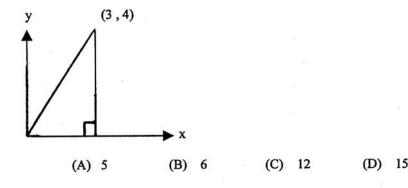   (A) -22   (B) 16   (C) 2   (D) -8

6.   16 is 8% of what number?

   (A) 80   (B) 20   (C) 4.8   (D) 200

7.   If $X = 2$, then $\frac{2+5X}{2+X} =$

   (A) 3   (B) $\frac{11}{3}$ (C) 5   (D) $\frac{7}{2}$

8. $3^7 \cdot 3^3 =$

   (A) 3^{10} (B) 3^{21} (C) 9^{10} (D) 9^{21}

9. $4\frac{3}{5} + 1\frac{4}{15} =$

   (A) $5\frac{7}{15}$ (B) $5\frac{7}{20}$ (C) $5\frac{13}{15}$ (D) $5\frac{4}{25}$

10. The area of the figure below is

   (A) 5   (B) 6   (C) 12   (D) 15

ANSWERS: (1) B   (2) C   (3) A   (4) D   (5) C   (6) D   (7) A   (8) A   (9) C   (10) B

FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE
EL DORADO CENTER • RANCHO CORDOVA CENTER

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The **ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA** (Yellow cover) test will assess: Elementary Algebra (Math 100), Elementary Geometry (Math 110), and Intermediate Algebra (Math 120). This is a 45 minute 50 question readiness assessment. **Calculators are not allowed.**

Elementary numerical operations

1. $\dfrac{c}{d} + 2 =$

    (A) $\dfrac{c + 2d}{d}$ (B) $\dfrac{c + 2}{d+2}$ (C) $\dfrac{c + 2}{d}$ (D) $c + 2d$

Polynomials

2. $(x^3 + 3y)(2x^3 + 3y) =$

    (A) $2x^6 + 9y^2$ (B) $2x^9 + 9x^3y + 9y$ (C) $20x^9y^2$ (D) $2x^6 + 9x^3y + 9y^2$

Linear equations and inequalities

3. If $3x + 2y = 8$ and $y = x - 1$, then $x =$

    (A) -6   (B) $-\dfrac{4}{3}$ (C) $-\dfrac{3}{4}$ (D) 2

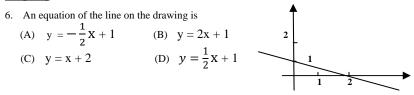4. The inequality $7 - 2x < 1$ is equivalent to

    (A) $x < 3$ (B) $x < -4$ (C) $x > 3$ (D) $x > -4$

Quadratic equations

5. One solution of $x^2 - 4x = 12$ is

    (A) 2   (B) 6   (C) 12   (D) 16

Graphing

6. An equation of the line on the drawing is

    (A) $y = -\dfrac{1}{2}x + 1$ (B) $y = 2x + 1$

    (C) $y = x + 2$ (D) $y = \dfrac{1}{2}x + 1$

Rational expressions

7. $\dfrac{1}{x} + \dfrac{2}{x+1} =$

    (A) $\dfrac{3}{2x+1}$ (B) $\dfrac{x+3}{x\,(x+1)}$ (C) $\dfrac{3x+1}{x\,(x+1)}$ (D) $\dfrac{4}{x+1}$

Exponents and roots

8. $\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{27} =$

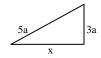   (A) 6   (B) $3\sqrt{3}$ (C) $4\sqrt{3}$ (D) $\sqrt{30}$

Geometric measurements

9. In the triangle at right, $x =$

    (A) $2a$ (B) $\sqrt{34a}$ (C) $16a^2$ (D) $4a$

Word problems

10. A student who correctly answered 72 questions on a test received a score of 75%. How many questions were on the test?

    (A) 54   (B) 75   (C) 96   (D) 104

ANSWERS: (1) A (2) D (3) D (4) C (5) B (6) A (7) C (8) C (9) D (10) C

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The **INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA** (Green cover) test will assess: Intermediate Algebra (Math 120), Mathematical Discovery (Math 310), Trigonometry with College Algebra (Math 335) and Statistics (Statistics 300). This is a 45 minute 45 question readiness assessment. **Calculators are not allowed.**

Elementary operations

1. **2x – 3 [2x – (3 – 4x)] =**

    (A) $8x - 9$ (B) $-8x + 3$ (C) $9 - 16x$ (D) $12x^2 - 24x + 9$

Rational expressions

2. $\dfrac{x^2 + 4x}{x^2 + 4} \cdot \dfrac{(x+2)^2}{x^2} =$

    (A) $\dfrac{(x+2)^2}{x}$ (B) $\dfrac{x+4}{x}$ (C) $4x$ (D) $\dfrac{(x+4)(x+2)^2}{x^3 + 4x}$

Exponents and radicals

3. $\dfrac{x^{6a}x^2}{x^{2a}} =$

    (A) x^5 (B) x^{4a+2} (C) x^6 (D) x^{10a}

4. $\sqrt[3]{4}\ \sqrt[3]{12} =$

    (A) $4\sqrt[3]{3}$ (B) $2\sqrt[3]{6}$ (C) $\sqrt[6]{48}$ (D) $2\sqrt[3]{2}$

Linear equations and inequalities

5. If **2x + y = 8**
    x – y = 1, then **y =**   (A) 3   (B) 5   (C) 2   (D) There are no solutions for y.

Quadratic polynomials, equations, and inequalities

6. The solutions to **$y^2 - 2y + 3 = 0$** are:
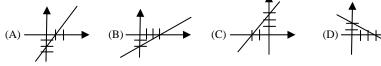
    (A) $1 \pm \sqrt{2}i$ (B) 3 and -1   (C) $\pm 2\sqrt{2}i$ (D) $1 \pm 2\sqrt{2}$

Graphing and the coordinate plane

7. Which of the following could be part of the graph of **2x – 3y = 6**

    (A)   (B)   (C)   (D)

Logarithms and functions

8. If **$f(x) = \dfrac{x^2 + 5}{x - 1}$**, then **f(-3) =**

    (A) $\dfrac{-7}{2}$ (B) 1   (C) -7   (D) $\dfrac{14}{3}$

9. If **$\log_2(x) = 3$**, then **x =**

    (A) $\sqrt[3]{2}$ (B) 6   (C) 8   (D) 9

Word Problems

10. If $\dfrac{2}{3}$ is $\dfrac{1}{2}$ of $\dfrac{4}{5}$ of a certain number, then that number is

    (A) $\dfrac{15}{4}$ (B) $\dfrac{5}{3}$ (C) $\dfrac{5}{6}$ (D) $\dfrac{5}{12}$

ANSWERS: (1) C   (2) D   (3) B   (4) B   (5) C   (6) A   (7) B   (8) A   (9) C   (10) B