



HOW TO DO YOUR BEST ON A  
MCCANN ASSOCIATES

# POLICE OFFICER WRITTEN TEST

(A guide to familiarize you  
with our question formats  
and test instructions)



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## INTRODUCTION

McCann Associates has prepared this guide to give each candidate the opportunity to prepare for the test. Many persons have never taken a Police Officer entrance test or may have taken a different one. Most people tend to be fearful of the unknown, and this guide is intended to familiarize you with our question formats and the instructions for taking the test. If you study this guide, you should be able to concentrate your efforts during the test itself on reading and answering the questions.

This guide consists of four parts: questions about test taking, information about typical question formats, sample questions, and the test instructions. The key answer for each sample question is given and, with some of these questions, an explanation about the key answer is also given.

Don't try to memorize the answers to the sample questions; none of these questions will be on the test. However, by carefully studying these questions, you can become familiar with the style and format of our questions. The test instructions in this study guide appear exactly the way they appear on the test to be delivered via the Measured Success platform.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TEST

The test consists of three separately timed parts. The first part, Crime Scene Photo, is a timed portion for test takers to study and take notes on the crime scene photograph. The second part, Observation Test N100, consists of 30 Observation questions based on the crime scene photograph. Finally, the third part, Police Officer N100, consists of 70 questions. Instructions for taking the test can be found at the beginning of each separate section of the test. Reproductions of these instructions are attached at the end of this guide. Familiarize yourself with these instructions before the test and reread them on the day of the test when prompted to do so.

## THE BEST ANSWER

Your task in each question is to choose the **best** or most acceptable answer from among the five choices. The basis for the official key answer is not absolute rightness or wrongness, but comparative rightness. The key answer must be the **best** answer; that is, it must be **better** than any of the other four choices. There may be another answer, which is not among the five choices, which is a better answer than any of the five choices. Even if this is true, it is still your task to choose the **one** choice that is the best answer of the five choices given. To help you remember that your task is to choose the best or most acceptable answer, many questions include a superlative, such as "the most important reason," "the best course of action," "best describes," or "most likely to be."

## TO GUESS OR NOT TO GUESS

The instructions you will find prefacing each section of the test include the following statement:

**"ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL WEIGHT."**

This means that each of the 30 questions in the Observation Test N100 section and each of the 70 questions in the Police Officer N100 section have equal weight. This also means that there is no penalty for guessing. If you answer 85 questions correctly and 15 questions incorrectly, you will be given full credit for 85 correct answers. If you answer 85 questions correctly, 10 questions incorrectly, and fail to answer 5 questions, you will also be given full credit for 85 correct answers.

If you fail to answer one or more questions, you will not get credit. If you guess at the answer to one or more questions, you will get credit for any correct answers. Consequently, you should record an answer to every question – the answer that seems best to you – even though you may not be **sure** that it is the best answer.

## **TAKE TIME TO BE CAREFUL**

There are 30 questions in the Observation Test N100 section with a time allowance of 25 minutes. These questions are very short. There are 70 questions in the Police Officer N100 section with a time allowance of 2.25 hours (135 minutes). These time allowances are sufficient so that most candidates, even those who read slowly, should be able to finish each section. However, it is extremely important to plan your time and pace yourself. This is particularly important in the second section, Police Officer N100. The last 11 questions of this section, the Text Interpretation questions, are longer and may take more time than other questions. For this reason, it is advisable to give yourself extra time for the last 11 questions in the Police Officer N100 section.

During the actual test, the monitor will periodically announce the amount of remaining time that you have to complete each portion of the test in order to assist you in pacing yourself. It is a good test taking technique to check the timer on your computer screen regularly to see whether you are on schedule. In the first section (Observation Test N100), you should answer 6 questions in 5 minutes. In the second section (Police Officer N100), you should answer 5 questions in 10 minutes.

## **TOUGH QUESTIONS**

There will probably be some difficult questions. Don't spend too much time trying to figure out the answer to a tough question. It is usually wiser to skip a tough question and return to it later. During the exam, you will have access to a "Bookmark" utility feature. This will allow you to manually bookmark any test question you decide to skip. When you reach the end of a test section, you can use the Bookmark utility to easily locate all of the questions you have bookmarked.

## **"TRICKINESS"**

The test does not contain trick questions. However, a question that is not tricky for a candidate who knows the answer may seem tricky to someone who doesn't. The test creators try to make wrong answers attractive to persons who are poorly qualified. The wrong answers are intended to be incorrect, but nevertheless, wrong answers can't be so silly that no one would ever answer any questions incorrectly.

A candidate may believe an answer is correct, but feels that the answer is too easy or too obvious and that there must be a hidden meaning. Such a candidate may search for a hidden meaning and may be convinced that a right answer is wrong, simply by looking for a trick where there is none.

## REVIEWING AND CHANGING YOUR ANSWERS

If you have time after you have answered all of the questions, you can click the submit button. This will allow you to check to see if you have answered every question. Once you click the submit button, a table showing any questions that are unanswered or bookmarked by you will appear. You may click on the individual question number in this table, and you will be returned to that individual question in the exam.

However, be careful if you decide to change an existing answer. Many studies have been made of the erasures on answer sheets. The likelihood is about two to one that a candidate will change a correct answer to a wrong answer. This is why we suggest that you don't change your answer unless you are positive that the answer you originally recorded is wrong.

## "NEGATIVE" QUESTIONS

Most of the questions are "positive" questions, that is, they ask for "the best" answer or "the most important reason" or "the best course of action," etc. A much smaller number of questions are "negative" in that they ask for "the LEAST desirable course of action," "the LEAST important principle," etc.

Many times it is just as important to know what is wrong as it is to know what definitely should *not* be done because it would make an already bad situation even worse. This is why "negative" questions are included in the test. Some candidates tend to overlook the "negative" and try to answer a question which asks for the "LEAST desirable" as though it asks for the "most desirable." The best indication that you have made this mistake is when you find what appear to be two or more good answers to a question. When this occurs, immediately check the question to see if it asks for a positive or negative answer.

## WHAT TYPE OF QUESTIONS?

All of the questions test the abilities which are important to successful job performance as a police officer. Most of the questions deal with situations that a police officer might encounter, but no training in police work is necessary in order to answer the questions. Many of the questions test your powers of observation or your ability to apply reasoning and judgment. The other questions can be answered by any person who reads books and newspapers and watches television. ***No previous training or experience in police work is necessary to earn a very high score on this test.***

The questions will be in one of five formats: 1) the regular format, 2) the understanding and interpreting police text format, 3) the police judgment format, 4) the observation test format, and 5) the map reading format. In the following sections, we discuss each of the five formats.

## THE REGULAR FORMAT

The stem of each question describes the task that you must do to answer the question. The stem of Sample Question 1, on the following page, is marked to help you understand the term "stem." The task may be to identify the "best reason" or the "most advisable course of action" or a different kind of task. First read the stem of the question and try to understand its task.

After you understand the task, read each choice. If you are reasonably sure that a choice is wrong, mentally eliminate that choice as a viable option and focus on the other choices (See Choices A and E in Sample Question 1). On the other hand, if you are reasonably sure an answer is correct or could be correct, mentally acknowledge that choice to indicate that fact (Choice C in Sample Question 1 is marked as the best answer).

After you have read all the choices, you may find that there is only one choice which you are sure is the best. If so, click and mark that answer. There may be questions where you can eliminate one, two, or three of the answer choices. This will leave you with four, three, or possibly only two choices that could be the best answer. At this point, exercise your judgment and choose one of those choices. If you have no idea which of the choices on a question is best, then perhaps this is a "tough question." You might want to bookmark this question and return to it later when you have gone through the rest of the test.

### SAMPLE QUESTION 1

STEM [ It has been claimed that some persons who commit crimes have an unconscious wish to be punished. It is believed this wish is caused by strong feelings of guilt. Which one of the following actions by a criminal is most likely to be caused by an unconscious desire for punishment?

- X (A) Refusing to reply when questioned by police.
- (B) Claiming not to know anything about the crime.
- T (C) Revisiting the place where the crime was committed.
- (D) Giving an obviously false confession when interrogated.
- X (E) Accusing someone else of the crime upon capture by the police.

The key answer is (C).

### INTERPRETING TEXT MATERIAL

There are some questions that involve interpreting a quoted text (reading material). The stem starts with text, which is contained within quotation marks (see Sample Question 2). The quotation is followed by a question that asks you to interpret the quotation or to draw a conclusion from it. No training or experience in police work is needed to answer these questions because the answer is contained in the quotation. Base your answer on what the quotation says rather than on your outside knowledge.

## SAMPLE QUESTION 2

QUOTATION

"Although drug addiction in itself is not a crime under either federal or state law, it is a condition which easily, if not inevitably, leads to violations of narcotics laws."

Which one of the following conclusions is most reasonable, based on the above statement?

- X (A) People who violate narcotics laws are drug addicts.
- X (B) Drug addiction should be considered a criminal act.
- X (C) Federal and state laws against drug addiction are inevitable.
- (D) Federal and state laws cause drug addicts to become criminals.
- T (E) Drug addicts are prosecuted for crimes, rather than for being addicted.

The key answer is (E).

First read the quotation carefully and thoroughly to understand what it is saying. Then read the question and identify the task that is required. Look back at the quotation to be clear on what the quotation says regarding the question. After reading the quotation again, the only correct conclusion is that drug addicts can be prosecuted for violations of narcotics laws. The text does not support the conclusion that these laws cause drug addicts to become criminals.

## REASONING ABILITY QUESTIONS

The Reasoning Ability subtest consists of five questions designed to measure your ability to apply reasoning ability in a police situation. These questions measure the ability to recognize relationships between facts, to recognize the relevance or lack of relevance of facts, the ability to make deductive judgments from the facts given, and to reach correct conclusions. In many of the questions (or pairs of questions), you are given numerous facts about a crime and about the persons who may or may not be involved in the crime either as the criminal or the victim. (See Sample Questions 3 and 4.)

### SAMPLE QUESTION 3

One of the persons named below shot and instantly killed another of the persons named. Neighbors heard the shots at 9:30 p.m. on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The killer was seen driving a Ford away from the scene of the crime, at the corner of Main Street and East Avenue. He was alone in the car. Investigators have verified the following seven additional facts:

- 1- Joe, who is completely paralyzed from the waist down, hated the victim.
- 2- Doctors report that Pete was in stable condition in the hospital after his heart attack, on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 3- Mac, seen at the grave of the victim, was not known to the victim's family or friends.
- 4- Pete's heart attack occurred at 9:20 p.m. on June 7<sup>th</sup> at his home a mile from the scene of the crime.
- 5- Hank was seen four blocks from the scene of the crime at 9:35 p.m. on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 6- Friends said that Sam was deathly afraid of Joe.
- 7- Mac does not know how to drive a vehicle of any type.

Based on the above facts, which one of the following persons is most likely to have been the victim?

- (A) Hank.
- (B) Joe.
- (C) Mac.
- (D) Pete.
- (E) Sam.

### SAMPLE QUESTION 4

Based on the above facts, which one of the following persons is most likely to have been the murderer?

- (A) Hank.
- (B) Joe.
- (C) Mac.
- (D) Pete.
- (E) Sam.

In many questions, one or more of the persons named in the stem could not have been the criminal because each lacked the opportunity or the means for committing the crime. Others can be eliminated on the basis of the facts. By studying the facts, it is possible to determine who is most likely to be the criminal and who is most likely to be the victim.

Read each of the numbered facts, keeping in mind the other facts contained in the stem of the question. Fact 1 suggests that Joe might have had a motive. However, since Joe is paralyzed from the waist down, it is unlikely that he is the murderer, since the lead says that the murderer drove a Ford.

Fact 2 indicates that Pete was alive the day after the murder. Accordingly, Pete could not be the victim. Also, Mac cannot be the victim since, according to Fact 3, Mac was seen at the grave of the victim and is therefore still alive. Bear in mind, many people believe that a murderer is often present at the burial of his victim. This might suggest that Mac is the murderer but certainly does not *prove* it.

Now read Fact 4. Since Pete's heart attack occurred ten minutes before the murder, he did not have the opportunity to commit the murder. And since the murderer was driving a car, Fact 5 indicates that Hank had an opportunity to commit the crime because he was seen only four blocks away, five minutes after the murder. This fact neither establishes that he did commit the murder nor eliminates him, so let's just acknowledge that Hank had the opportunity to commit the murder for now.

Fact 6 says that Sam was deathly afraid of Joe. Since Fact 1 establishes that Joe was not the murderer, Sam's fear of Joe is probably completely irrelevant, and the fact does not indicate whether or not Sam is either the murderer or the victim. According to Fact 7, Mac doesn't know how to drive a vehicle of any type. The stem says "the killer was seen driving a Ford..." Therefore, Mac is not the murderer.

At this stage, the only possible victims are Joe and Sam, and the only possible murderers are Hank and Sam. This greatly improves your odds, so let's look at the facts that speak directly about those four options.

Look back at Fact 1, which indicates that Joe hated the victim. If Joe hated the victim, Joe could not have been the victim. This leaves only Sam as a possible victim. Sam is the person most likely to have been the victim, and you should choose (E) for Sample Question 3. And if Sam is the victim, then he could not have been the murderer. This leaves only Hank as a potential murderer. Therefore, Hank is most likely to have been the murderer, and you should mark (A) for Sample Question 4.

Most of the Reasoning Ability questions can be solved in much the same way, using the facts provided as a basis for eliminating one or more of the persons named in the question.

## **OBSERVATION TEST AND MAP READING**

The best way to understand the Observation Test and the Map Reading Test is to study a sample test. Beginning on page 15, you will find a sample Observation Test. First, you will find instructions for the sample test, which are very similar to the instructions for the real Observation Test. On page 16, there is a sample observation picture. (In the real test, there will be a picture that is different from the sample picture.) After the picture, there are seven Observation Test questions, followed by the correct answers. Some of the questions require you to answer questions about facts shown in the picture. Other questions ask you to understand the meaning of what you see in the picture and to draw conclusions from what you see in the picture. You do not need any police training or experience to do well in the Observation Test. On page 12, you will find a sample Map Reading Test.

## **THE DAY OF THE TEST**

We realize that taking a high-stakes examination can make a person tense and fearful. We hope this study guide has eliminated most of your fear. The most important advice we can give you is to try to enter the testing room in a positive, cheerful frame of mind, with as much self-confidence as possible. Tell yourself, "I'm going to read each question and all the choices carefully, and then I'm going to select the best answer. If I'm not sure of any answer, I'm not going to worry about it. Instead, I'm going to skip it and go on to the next question." With this frame of mind, you should do well. It is also a good idea to get a good night's sleep before the examination and to allow yourself plenty of time to get to the examination room, so you don't feel rushed because you're late.

## **CONCLUSION**

Studying this guide will not increase your level of knowledge, ability, or skill in police work. However, if you read and study this guide and the questions that accompany it, you should be better able to do your best on this high stakes exam.



*Following are some sample questions.*

#### SAMPLE QUESTIONS 5 THROUGH 16

5. A Detective is investigating the death of M. It is important to find evidence that will establish the date of M's death with as much accuracy as possible. The Detective finds an evening newspaper dated April 11<sup>th</sup> with some writing on it, and establishes that the writing is M's handwriting. Which one of the following most accurately describes the significance of this evidence?
- (A) It is positive evidence that M died on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - (B) It is some indication that M was alive on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - (C) It is positive evidence that M was alive on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - (D) It is positive evidence that M was alive after April 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - (E) Without other supporting evidence, it suggests the probability that M was murdered on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
6. A Police Officer says, "X is a junkie." Which one of the following best describes the meaning of this statement?
- (A) It means that X is a male prostitute.
  - (B) It means that X is a habitual criminal.
  - (C) It means that X is a professional gambler.
  - (D) It means that X is an illegal used car dealer.
  - (E) It means that X is a habitual user of addictive drugs.
7. Many police departments prefer to use the military system of stating the time of day. In this system, 12:01 a.m. is 00:01 and 11:59 p.m. is 23:59. Which one of the following is the most important reason for using the military system of stating time, rather than the conventional system?
- (A) To avoid confusion as to whether a stated time is a.m. or p.m.
  - (B) To confuse the civilians who frequently monitor police dispatches.
  - (C) To make it easier for Police Dispatchers to report the times of police calls in their logs.
  - (D) To remind Police Officers of the similarities between law enforcement and the military.
  - (E) To make it easier for police information to be entered into computers, since computers deal with numbers more easily than letters.
8. A municipality has recently adopted a curfew law because of an increase in late hour juvenile crime. This law requires all children under seventeen years of age to be in their homes by 10:30 p.m. While on patrol, you enter a coffee bar at 12:30 a.m. and find several teens under the age limit. Under these circumstances, which one of the following would be the best action for you to take?
- (A) To arrest the owner of the coffee bar and the teens for curfew violations.
  - (B) To arrest the owner of the coffee bar and to send the teens home after giving them a warning.
  - (C) To take the teens to the station and to arrest the parents for contributing to juvenile delinquency.
  - (D) To take the teens to the station, to notify their parents, and to issue a warning to the parents and teens.
  - (E) To overlook the situation, since these teens are obviously not the ones who have been committing the crimes.

9. While on patrol, you find a car parked in a No Parking zone. You have recently been instructed to issue citations for all cars illegally parked in this area. You issue a citation for illegal parking and place it behind the car's windshield wiper. As you are leaving, the car's owner, X, returns and becomes very angry upon seeing the ticket. X claims that X was only in the store for two or three minutes, then takes the citation and throws it in the street. Which one of the following is the best action for you to take in this situation?
- (A) To also cite X for littering and then to leave.
  - (B) To inform X of the legal result of failing to respond to a summons and then to leave the scene.
  - (C) To explain that you do not like giving out tickets for this offense but that it is something that you have been ordered to do.
  - (D) To tell X that if he/she doesn't quiet down immediately and move the car, you will give X a second citation for illegal parking.
  - (E) In the interest of good police-community relations, to void the ticket since X is obviously quite upset and this is only a minor violation.
10. While you are on patrol at night in a one-Officer patrol car, you respond to a prowler call. You are the first Officer to arrive, and you are waiting for another patrol car which has also been instructed to respond. While you are waiting, a car stops and a civilian, M, approaches you. M explains that your vehicle is parked in front of M's friend's house and asks what the problem is. After you explain that you have responded to a prowler call, M offers to help you search the neighborhood. Which one of the following is the most appropriate action for you to take in this situation?
- (A) To give M an errand that will take M away from the scene of the investigation.
  - (B) To instruct M in the proper search procedure and to immediately begin to search the area with M's assistance.
  - (C) To tell M that you don't have the authority to accept M's assistance, but that you will notify your Sergeant of the offer.
  - (D) To inform M that the police are perfectly capable of handling the situation and that if M does not leave the scene immediately, you will arrest him/her.
  - (E) To tactfully inform M that his/her assistance is not necessary and to request that, for M's own safety, M should not become involved in the investigation.

11. An armed robbery was committed in a grocery store on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The suspect, described as about 5' and very thin, was chased on foot for two blocks, but outran the pursuers. From the following verified facts about the suspects, you can deduce the identity of the robber:
- 1- Joe broke his leg on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - 2- Al is 40 lbs. overweight for his height.
  - 3- Steve is an astounding athlete and stands at 6'4".
  - 4- Ralph told police that the robber took \$50 from him.
  - 5- Sam was fired from his job as a jockey because he bet heavily on the races in which he took part.

Based on the above facts, which one of the following is most likely to be the robber?

- (A) Al.
  - (B) Joe.
  - (C) Sam.
  - (D) Ralph.
  - (E) Steve.
12. A young woman was assaulted in a dark alley at 5:17 p.m. on April 15<sup>th</sup>. From the following verified facts about the movements of four suspects, you are to determine which one, if any, had the best opportunity to commit the crime:
- 1- Sam was arrested by Officer O for a traffic violation on April 15<sup>th</sup>, six miles from the scene of the assault.
  - 2- Jim got off the only train from X-burg on April 15<sup>th</sup>, which arrived on time at the Main Street station, ten blocks from the scene of the assault.
  - 3- Fred paid for a drink in a bar one mile from the scene of the assault at 5:22 p.m., April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - 4- Officer O's notebook showed that O arrested Sam for a traffic violation at 5:19 p.m., April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - 5- Larry was released from jail, after serving a 10-day sentence for assault, at 4:45 p.m., April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - 6- The train from X-burg on April 15<sup>th</sup> left X-burg at 4:36 p.m. for the 40-minute trip to the Main Street station.

Based solely on the above facts, which one of the following, if any, best states the person who had the opportunity to commit the crime?

- (A) Fred.
- (B) Jim.
- (C) Larry.
- (D) Sam.
- (E) None of the above had the opportunity to commit the crime.

*Sample Questions 13 and 14 are Interpreting Text questions. These two sample questions are based on the same quotation. In the actual test, more than one question can be based on a quotation.*

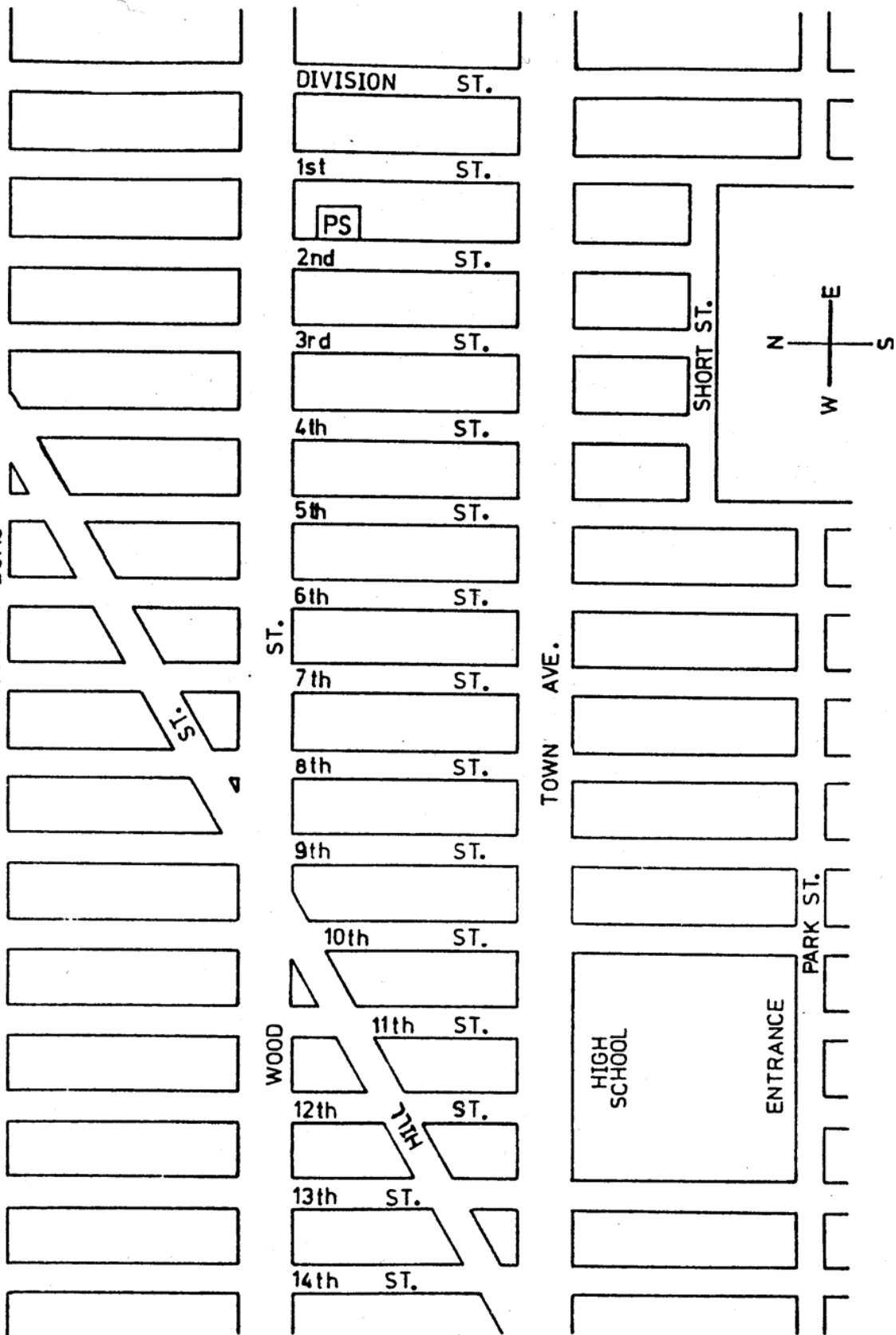
### Characteristics of Explosives

"Many explosives do not need outside oxygen to burn or explode. Most explosives contain enough oxygen in their chemical makeup for complete burning. This is why extinguishing agents of the smothering type are ineffective on already burning explosives. When involved in a fire, some explosives only burn while others burn to a point and then explode. What happens depends on the nature of the explosive, the temperature, and the pressure; i.e., the degree of confinement. The greater the degree of confinement, the greater the rate at which a given explosive reacts."

13. According to the selection, which one of the following factors has the greatest effect on the rate at which a given explosive reacts?
- (A) The amount of oxygen in the explosive.
  - (B) The degree of confinement of the explosive.
  - (C) The pressure at which the explosion occurred.
  - (D) The temperature at which the explosion occurred.
  - (E) The amount of oxygen in the air around the explosive.
14. According to the selection, which one of the following is the most important reason why extinguishing agents of the smothering type are often ineffective on burning explosives?
- (A) Because many explosives burn without using any oxygen at all.
  - (B) Because energy from burning explosives is released very rapidly.
  - (C) Because explosives are lighter than the extinguishing agents of the smothering type.
  - (D) Because heat from the burning explosives causes the smothering agents to break down.
  - (E) Because many explosives contain enough oxygen in their chemical makeup to burn without outside oxygen.

*The remaining sample questions follow after the map on the next page.*

MAP OF DOWNTOWN Y-BURG





Use the map of downtown Y-burg, shown on the preceding page, to answer Questions 15 and 16. The following facts about Y-burg's streets are needed to interpret the map and answer the questions:

- 1- All even-numbered streets are one-way northbound. All odd-numbered streets are one-way southbound. All other streets are two-way.
- 2- Not more than 100 street address numbers are possible within each block. On the east-west streets, street numbers in the first block west of Division Street start with 001, the second block west with 101, the third block west with 201, etc. Even-numbered addresses are on the north side of streets running east and west, and the east side of streets running north and south.
- 3- Police department policy prevents police vehicles from traveling the wrong way on one-way streets.
- 4- The square marked "PS" shows the location of the police station.

15. Which one of the following is most likely to be the address of the entrance to the high school?

- (A) 1101 Park Street.
- (B) 1200 Park Street.
- (C) 1201 Park Street.
- (D) 1300 Park Street.
- (E) 1301 Park Street.

Explanation - Since the entrance to the high school is on the north side of Park Street, the address must be an even number (Fact 2 in the reading selection). Therefore, only Choices B and D are possible correct choices. The 1300 Park St. address is between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Street; therefore, (D) cannot be the correct answer. Although the exact location of the entrance is not shown on the map, only (B), 1200 Park Street, is a possible answer. Therefore, B is the correct answer to Question 15.

16. Which one of the following is the shortest route from the police station to the northeast corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and Hill Streets?

- (A) Turn right out of the station. Turn left onto Wood St. to Hill St. Turn left onto Hill St.
- (B) Turn right out of the station. Turn left onto Wood St. to 13<sup>th</sup> St. Turn left onto 13<sup>th</sup> St.
- (C) Turn left out of the station. Turn right onto Town Ave. to 13<sup>th</sup> St. Turn right onto 13<sup>th</sup> St.
- (D) Turn left out of the station. Turn right onto Town Ave. to Hill St. Make a sharp right turn onto Hill St.
- (E) Turn left out of the station. Turn right onto Town Ave. to 12<sup>th</sup> St. Turn right onto 12<sup>th</sup> St. to Hill St. Turn left onto Hill St.

Explanation - Fact 3 states that police vehicles are prohibited from traveling the wrong way on one-way streets. The door to the police station is on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, which is one-way northbound. Therefore, the police vehicles must turn right out of the police station. From that point, the shortest route from the police station to the northeast corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and Hill Streets is described by (A). Therefore, A is the correct answer to Question 16.

OFFICIAL KEY ANSWERS TO SAMPLE QUESTIONS 5 THROUGH 16

Question Number	Key Answer
5	C
6	E
7	A
8	D
9	B
10	E
11	C
12	A
13	B
14	E
15	B
16	A

## SAMPLE OBSERVATION TEST

### OBSERVATIONAL TEST – CRIME SCENE

DO NOT CLICK TO THE NEXT SCREEN UNTIL THE MONITOR TELLS ALL THE CANDIDATES TO DO SO AT ONCE.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

This test is designed to measure your ability to observe facts and to draw direct inferences from the facts you observe.

On the next screen is a picture that shows the scene of a possible crime. The picture shows the front part of a room and the view through a large picture window. From the picture, many facts can be observed about the potential crime, the conditions existing at the time when the picture was made, and details about the room where the incident occurred. You will later be asked questions about the picture.

You will be allowed 10 minutes to study the picture and to make notes about it on the scratch paper provided. After the 10-minute period has elapsed, this portion of the exam will close, and you will no longer be able to review the photo. You will then be required to answer thirty questions about the picture (please note that there are only seven questions for the practice exam on the following pages). You will be allowed to use your notes to answer the questions, but you will **NOT** be able to look at the picture again.

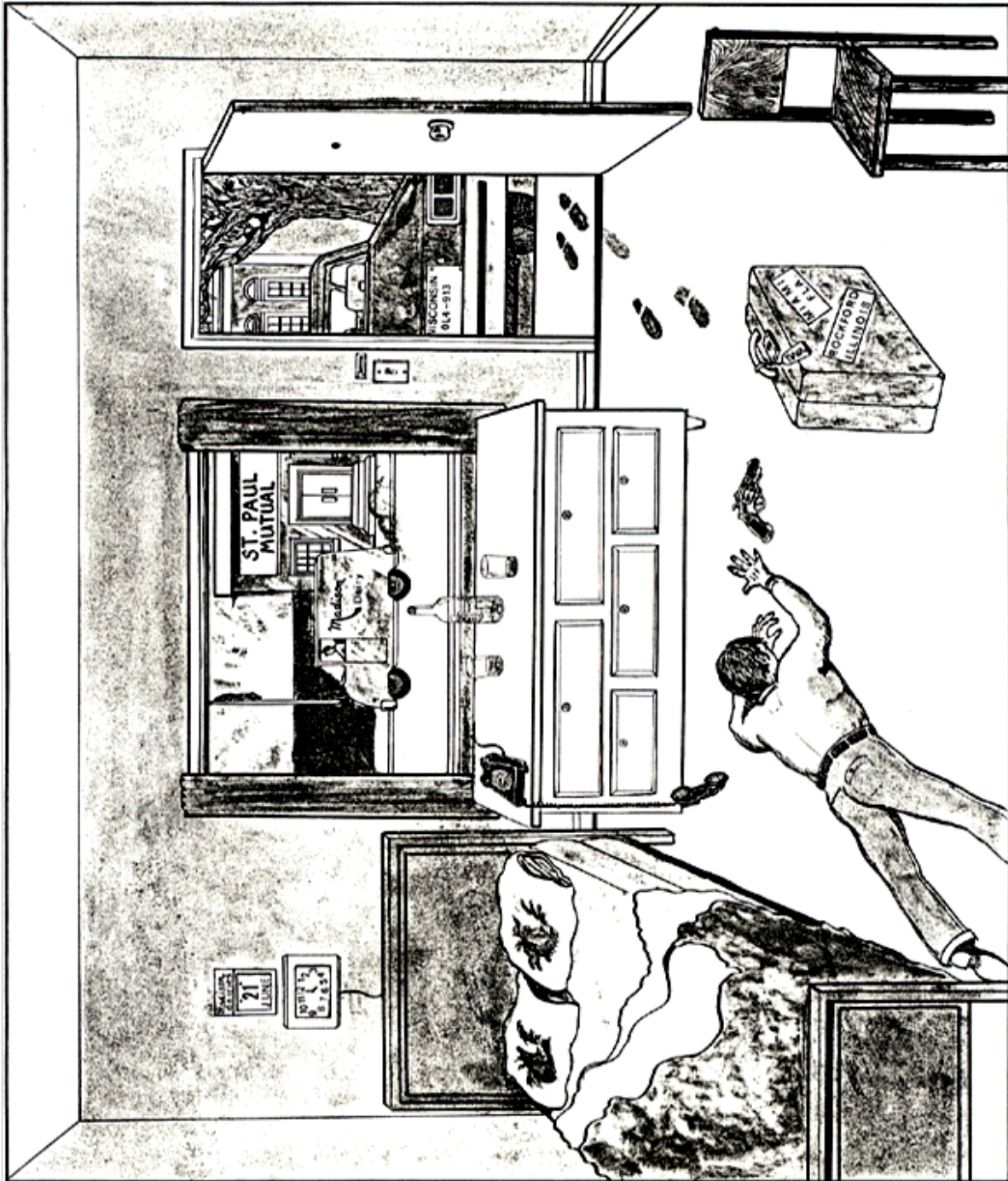
The following sample questions are similar to the ones that you will be asked:

- What is the total number of vehicles shown in the picture?
- What has happened?
- What is the total number of flags shown?
- What business is across the street from the room?

To do well in this test, you must make good use of the 10-minute study period. Observe all the details of the scene that you can. Make notes of your observations just as a police officer would if this was a real crime scene. Think about the meaning of what you observe.

When you have finished reading these instructions, **STOP** without clicking to the next screen and wait for the Monitor to say, "You have 10 minutes to study the picture. Click **Begin**."

# OBSERVATION TEST



*During the actual test, the Observation Picture will no longer be available for review after the ten-minute window has elapsed, and you will have to rely on your notes to answer the test questions. Try to answer the following questions using only your notes, as you would on the day of the test.*

1. Which one of the following best states how many doors to the room are shown in the picture?
  - (A) 1.
  - (B) 2.
  - (C) 3.
  - (D) 4.
  - (E) No doors to the room are shown in the picture.
2. Which one of the following pieces of furniture is NOT shown in the picture?
  - (A) A bed.
  - (B) A chair.
  - (C) A clock.
  - (D) A TV set.
  - (E) A chest of drawers.
3. Which one of the following is most nearly the time shown in the picture?
  - (A) 5:00 a.m.
  - (B) 5:00 p.m.
  - (C) 12:25 a.m.
  - (D) 12:25 p.m.
  - (E) Either 12:25 a.m. or 12:25 p.m.
4. Which one of the following is the most accurate conclusion about what the man in the picture was doing immediately before he fell to the floor?
  - (A) Getting dressed.
  - (B) Getting into the bed.
  - (C) Opening his suitcase.
  - (D) Starting to get out of bed.
  - (E) Starting to get undressed.
5. Which one of the following is most likely the city in which the scene pictured is located?
  - (A) Miami, Florida.
  - (B) Rockford, Illinois
  - (C) Madison, Wisconsin.
  - (D) St. Paul, Wisconsin.
  - (E) St. Paul, Minnesota.



6. Which one of the following conclusions, if any, about the man in the picture is most clearly supported by the picture?
- (A) The man is dead.
  - (B) The man has fainted.
  - (C) The man is pretending to be dead.
  - (D) The man has passed out from drinking.
  - (E) None of the above conclusions is clearly supported by the picture.
7. Which one of the following conclusions as to who stood in the doorway is most clearly supported by the evidence in the picture?
- (A) No one stood in the doorway.
  - (B) The milkman stood in the doorway.
  - (C) The murderer stood in the doorway.
  - (D) Someone other than the man on the floor stood in the doorway.
  - (E) The driver of the Wisconsin car, parked outside, stood in the doorway.

#### ANSWERS TO OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

Question Number	Key Answer
1	A
2	D
3	A
4	A
5	D
6	E
7	D

#### Explanation for Observation Test Question 3

Since the big hand on the clock indicates minutes and the small hand indicates hours, Choices C, D and E are wrong. This leaves Choices A and B. In the picture, it is either sunrise or sunset. Since the calendar on the wall indicates that it is June, and since nowhere in the United States does the sun set at 5:00 p.m. in June, the sun must be rising. The correct answer is (A), 5:00 a.m.

#### Explanation for Observation Test Question 4

This question requires an inference. In the picture, the pants, the shirt, the belt, and the loops through which the belt passes indicate that the man is dressed in street clothes. Therefore, since most people usually do not sleep in their clothes or get into bed in their clothes, it is relatively unlikely that the man was doing either (B) or (D). The man might have been starting to get undressed, but the condition of the bed, and the fact it is 5:00 a.m., indicates that he has probably already slept in it, and it is relatively unlikely that he would be going back to bed. Therefore, (E) is not likely to be the right answer. Since the suitcase is closed, (C) is unlikely. Therefore, the most likely conclusion is (A), that he was getting dressed.

#### Explanation for Observation Test Question 5

It is more reasonable to conclude that St. Paul is the locality than to conclude that Madison is the locality. Madison is more likely a family name with strong business ties to the locality of St. Paul. It can be reasonably concluded that St. Paul is in Wisconsin based on the license plate seen through the open door. Therefore, the correct answer is (D), "St. Paul, Wisconsin."


#### Explanation for Observation Test Question 6

There is nothing in the picture to make it more likely that the man is dead, or that he has fainted, or is pretending to be dead, or has passed out. The fact that there is a gun on the floor does not prove that the man is dead. Therefore, the correct answer is (E), "None of the above conclusions is clearly supported."

#### Explanation for Observation Test Question 7

Clearly, the footprints in the picture show that someone stood in the doorway. This eliminates Choice A. There is nothing to support a conclusion that a milkman, or a murderer, or the driver of the Wisconsin car stood in the doorway. The man on the floor could not have made the footprints since his feet are far from the nearest print. Therefore, the best answer is (D), that someone other than the man on the floor stood in the doorway.

## SECTION ONE INSTRUCTIONS: OBSERVATION PHOTO N100



Welcome, Mike!

[My Account](#)[Dashboard](#)

Welcome PageObservation Test N100Mike Tosti

Observation Test Instructions

Time Allowed for Answering Questions: 25 minutes  
Number of Multiple-Choice Questions: 30

This test is designed to measure your ability to observe facts and to draw direct inferences from the facts you observe.

The questions in this test are not intended to be tricky or misleading. Read each option carefully before answering.


Your task is to select the choice for each question that you believe to be the most acceptable of the choices offered. You are to select one choice and only one choice to each question. The choice you select for each question will be scored "correct" or "incorrect" on the basis of the standard answer, which has been determined to be most acceptable. Any unanswered question is counted as "incorrect." Your score will be based on the number of questions scored "correct."

ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL WEIGHT.

CancelBegin

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## SECTION TWO INSTRUCTIONS: POLICE OFFICER N100



Welcome, Mike!

My Account

Dashboard

Welcome PagePolice Officer N100Mike Tosti

Police Officer Test

Time Allowed for Answering Questions: 2 1/4 hours  
Number of Multiple-Choice Questions: 70

The questions in this test are not intended to be tricky or misleading. Read each option carefully before answering.

Your task is to select the choice for each question that you believe to be the most acceptable of the choices offered. You are to select one choice and only one choice to each question. The choice you select for each question will be scored "correct" or "incorrect" on the basis of the standard answer, which has been determined to be most acceptable. Any unanswered question is counted as "incorrect." Your score will be based on the number of questions scored "correct."

ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL WEIGHT.

Cancel

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## SAMPLE QUESTION AND SITE LAYOUT

Measured  
Success

change happens. be prepared.

Welcome, Michael!

My AccountDashboard

Police Officer Entry Level Practice  
Test

Question 40 of 100

Most modern authorities agree that a written examination such as this is the best way to select new police officers. Which one of the following is the most important reason offered by persons of this opinion?

☐ A

Because most authorities are generally of this opinion.

☐ B

Because it helps to obtain the best qualified candidates for the police force.

☐ C

Because police officers should be protected from being fired for political reasons.

☐ D

Because it protects the police force from having to make political appointments.

☐ E

Because it protects police officers from political pressures in the performance of their duties.

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