

Directions

This subpart of the test contains several types of questions. The following samples show the types of test questions used.

Read the sample passage and answer the sample questions that follow.

Excerpt from *The Call of the Wild*

by Jack London

And over this great demesne Buck ruled. Here he was born, and here he had lived the four years of his life. It was true, there were other dogs. There could not but be other dogs on so vast a place, but they did not count. They came and went, resided in the populous kennels, or lived obscurely in the recesses of the house after the fashion of Toots, the Japanese pug, or Ysabel, the Mexican hairless, strange creatures that rarely put nose out of doors or set foot to ground. On the other hand, there were the fox terriers, a score of them at least, who yelped fearful promises at Toots and Ysabel looking out of the windows at them and protected by a legion of housemaids armed with brooms and mops.

Excerpt from *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London. July 1, 2008 [EBook #215]. Copyright © 2008, Gutenberg.org. In the public domain.

Read the passages and answer Questions 1 through 7.

Passage 1

Excerpt from *Jane Eyre*

by Charlotte Brontë

In this scene, the narrator, Jane Eyre, is taking up a new job as a governess. She has been welcomed by the housekeeper and has spent some time talking with her.

- 1 My heart really warmed to the worthy lady as I heard her talk; and I drew my chair a little nearer to her, and expressed my sincere wish that she might find my company as agreeable as she anticipated.
- 2 “But I’ll not keep you sitting up late to-night,” said she; “it is on the stroke of twelve now, and you have been travelling all day: you must feel tired. If you have got your feet well warmed, I’ll show you your bedroom. I’ve had the room next to mine prepared for you; it is only a small apartment, but I thought you would like it better than one of the large front chambers: to be sure they have finer furniture, but they are so dreary and solitary, I never sleep in them myself.”
- 3 I thanked her for her considerate choice, and as I really felt fatigued with my long journey, expressed my readiness to retire. She took her candle, and I followed her from the room. First she went to see if the hall-door was fastened; having taken the key from the lock, she led the way upstairs. The steps and banisters were of oak; the staircase window was high and latticed; both it and the long gallery into which the bedroom doors opened looked as if they belonged to a church rather than a house. A very chill and vault-like air pervaded the stairs and gallery, suggesting cheerless ideas of space and solitude; and I was glad, when finally ushered into my chamber, to find it of small dimensions, and furnished in ordinary, modern style.
- 4 When Mrs. Fairfax had bidden me a kind good-night, and I had fastened my door, gazed leisurely round, and in some measure effaced¹ the eerie impression made by that wide hall, that dark and spacious staircase, and that long, cold gallery, by the livelier aspect of my little room, I remembered that, after a day of bodily fatigue and mental anxiety, I was now at last in safe haven. The impulse of gratitude swelled my heart, and I knelt down at the bedside, and offered up thanks where thanks were due; not forgetting, ere I rose, to implore aid on my further path, and the power of meriting the kindness which seemed so frankly offered me before it was earned. My couch had no thorns in it that night; my solitary room no fears. At once weary and content, I slept soon and soundly: when I awoke it was broad day.

¹ **effaced:** erased

- 5 The chamber looked such a bright little place to me as the sun shone in between the gay blue chintz window curtains, showing papered walls and a carpeted floor, so unlike the bare planks and stained plaster of Lowood, that my spirits rose at the view. External have a great effect on the young: I thought that a fairer era of life was beginning for me, one that was to have its flowers and pleasures, as well as its thorns and toils.

Excerpt from *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë. October 2007. [EBook #23077]. Copyright © 2007, Gutenberg.org. In the public domain.

Passage 2

Excerpt from “The Fall of the House of Usher”

by Edgar Allan Poe

In this story, the narrator is visiting Roderick Usher, an old friend he has not seen for many years.

- 6 During the whole of a dull, dark, and soundless day in the autumn of the year, when the clouds hung oppressively low in the heavens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, through a singularly dreary tract of country, and at length found myself, as the shades of the evening drew on, within view of the melancholy House of Usher. I know not how it was—but, with the first glimpse of the building, a sense of insufferable gloom pervaded my spirit. . . .
- 7 A servant in waiting took my horse, and I entered the Gothic archway of the hall. A valet, of stealthy step, thence conducted me, in silence, through many dark and intricate passages in my progress to the studio of his master. Much that I encountered on the way contributed, I know not how, to heighten the vague sentiments of which I have already spoken. While the objects around me—while the carvings of the ceilings, the sombre tapestries of the walls, the ebon blackness of the floors, and the phantasmagoric¹ armorial trophies which rattled as I strode, were but matters to which, or to such as which, I had been accustomed from my infancy—while I hesitated not to acknowledge how familiar was all this—I still wondered to find how unfamiliar were the fancies which ordinary images were stirring up. On one of the staircases, I met the physician of the family. His countenance, I thought, wore a mingled expression of low cunning and perplexity. He accosted² me with trepidation³ and passed on. The valet now threw open a door and ushered me into the presence of his master.

¹ **phantasmagoric:** strange and dreamlike

² **accosted:** spoke to

³ **trepidation:** nervousness

- 8 The room in which I found myself was very large and lofty. The windows were long, narrow, and pointed, and at so vast a distance from the black oaken floor as to be altogether inaccessible from within. Feeble gleams of encrimsoned light made their way through the trellissed panes, and served to render sufficiently distinct the more prominent objects around; the eye, however, struggled in vain to reach the remoter angles of the chamber, or the recesses of the vaulted and fretted ceiling. Dark draperies hung upon the walls. The general furniture was profuse, comfortless, antique, and tattered. Many books and musical instruments lay scattered about, but failed to give any vitality to the scene. I felt that I breathed an atmosphere of sorrow. An air of stern, deep, and irredeemable gloom hung over and pervaded all.

Excerpt from "The Fall of the House of Usher" by Edgar Allan Poe. December 15, 2010 [EBook #932]. Copyright © 2010, Gutenberg.org. In the public domain.

Read the passage and answer Questions 8 through 14.

To Remember a Lecture Better, Take Notes by Hand

by Robinson Meyer

- 1 Psych 101 was about to start, and Pam Mueller had forgotten her laptop at home. This meant more than lost Facebook time. A psychology grad student at Princeton, Mueller was one of the class teaching assistants. It was important she have good notes on the lecture. Normally she used her laptop to take notes, but, without it, she'd have to rely on a more traditional approach.
- 2 So she put pen to paper—and found something surprising.
- 3 Class just seemed *better*. “I felt like I had gotten so much more out of the lecture that day,” she said. So she shared the story with Daniel Oppenheimer, the professor teaching the class.
- 4 “I had a similar experience in a faculty meeting the other day,” Mueller remembers him saying. “And we both sort of had that intuition that there might be something different about writing stuff down.”
- 5 It turns out there is.
- 6 A new study—conducted by Mueller and Oppenheimer—finds that people remember lectures better when they've taken handwritten notes, rather than typed ones.
- 7 What's more, knowing how and why typed notes can be bad doesn't seem to improve their quality. Even if you warn laptop-notetakers ahead of time, it doesn't make a difference. For some tasks, it seems, handwriting's just better.
- 8 The study comes at a ripe time for questions about laptop use in class. Educators still debate whether to allow students to bring their laptops into the classroom. And while researchers have found that laptop use during class-time tends to be distracting—not only do laptop-using students not perform as well academically, but also they're less happy with their education—Mueller and Oppenheimer's research seems to be the first quantitative attempt to compare laptops disconnected from the Internet with plain-old pencil and paper.
- 9 The study was conducted in three parts. At the beginning of each, students watched video of a lecture or a TED¹ talk, and took notes on it either longhand or on laptops.

¹ **TED:** Technology, Entertainment, and Design

- 10 Students watched the video, completed difficult mental tasks for 30 minutes, then took a quiz on the content. In this group, longhand-notetakers outperformed laptop-notetakers on the quiz. Analysis of student notes showed that laptop-notetakers tended to transcribe a lot of the speaker’s words verbatim. Mueller and Oppenheimer suspected that this was because those who typed notes were inclined to transcribe lectures, rather than process them. This makes sense: If you can type quickly enough, word-for-word transcription is possible, whereas writing by hand usually rules out capturing every word.
- 11 So students in the second group were given a warning. Before the laptop-users watched the lecture or took any notes on it, the study administrator told some of them:
- 12 People who take class notes on laptops when they expect to be tested on the material later tend to transcribe what they’re hearing without thinking about it much. **Please try not to do this as you take notes today.** Take notes in your own words and don’t just write down word-for-word what the speaker is saying.
- 13 The warning seemed to have no effect. The quiz showed that longhand-notetakers still remembered lecture content better than laptop-notetakers. And analyzing the notes that laptop-using students took, the two authors admit: “The instruction to not take verbatim notes was completely ineffective at reducing verbatim content.”
- 14 The final group of students took the quiz a full week after watching a recorded lecture. Some of these students were allowed to study their notes for 10 minutes before taking the quiz. In this last group, longhand-notetakers who had time to study outperformed everyone else. Longhand-notetakers of any sort, in fact, did better on the quiz than laptop-notetakers.
- 15 What’s more, if someone took verbatim notes on their laptop, then studying seemed more likely to hinder their performance on the quiz.
- 16 In other words, taking notes on a laptop seems to lead to verbatim notes, which make it tough to study well. And you can’t successfully warn someone to keep them from taking verbatim notes if they’re using a laptop.
- 17 “We don’t write longhand as fast as we type these days, but people who were typing just tended to transcribe large parts of lecture content verbatim,” Mueller told me. “The people who were taking notes on the laptops don’t have to be judicious in what they write down.”
- 18 She thinks this might be the key to their findings: Take notes by hand, and you have to process information as well as write it down. That initial selectivity leads to long-term comprehension.

- 19 “I don’t think we’re gonna get more people to go back to notebooks necessarily,” Mueller said. “Tablets might be the best of both worlds—you have to choose what to write down, but then you have the electronic copy.”
- 20 Incidentally, the two researchers might look at tablet use next. (They didn’t include them in this study.) But they have busy scientific docket outside this work, as neither of them specialize in educational psychology. Mueller researches questions of law and morality, and Oppenheimer tends to focus on decision-making and the psychology of democracy.
- 21 But the two say they’ve appreciated their foray into note-taking research, which stemmed from a real-life problem. “I think,” Mueller said, “that’s where the best research comes from, because the questions resonate with other people.”

“To Remember a Lecture Better, Take Notes by Hand” by Robinson Meyer, from *The Atlantic*, May 2015. Copyright © Atlantic Media Inc. Used by permission of the publisher via Copyright Clearance Center.

There are seven underlined parts in the passage. They may be errors to be corrected, or they may need to be changed for better wording. If a change is needed, select the correct replacement. If no change is needed, select “No change.”

The poet Samuel Coleridge, in “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” poetically describes an ironic situation faced by a sailor “Water, water, everywhere, / Nor any drop to drink.” The quote also serves as a reminder of the more practical truth that humans need water to live. In fact, most people would not be able to survive to make it much longer than two or three days without having water. This makes sense when you consider that the human body is made up of about 60% water. Water plays several key roles in physical health: protecting joints, preventing injury and fatigue during exercise, and it helps keep kidneys healthy.

Human cartilage is composed of about 85 percent water. The tough yet spongy substance keeps joints lubricated and mobile. The vertebrae of the spinal column rely on cartilage to absorb shock caused by an array of everyday activities from walking to running to lifting as well as to sitting. Cartilage is like a suit of armor that coats the bones beneath our skin. When you take most of the water out of the picture, cartilage would dehydrate and result in painful friction.

Hydration is also key to healthy exercise. The fluids sweated out during a workout must be replaced in order to prevent muscle cramping and injury. Water restores the fluid balance to muscles and helps the body transport electrolytes to replace those lost during exercise. Staying well-hydrated before, during, and when you are done with exercise can reduce fatigue.

Finally, water is essential to the proper function of kidneys. Those vital organs remove waste from the body, they also help regulate blood pressure and some bodily fluid levels. Without adequate hydration, kidneys are unable to perform their critical functions. Water’s valuable role in ensuring human health is difficult to overestimate.