



## Sample Questions for the PSB Aptitude for Practical Nursing Examination

### Academic Aptitude

Directions: Academic Aptitude measures how well you think and learn. The following samples demonstrate the types of questions you will be expected to answer in this part of the exam.

Sample A. a. Bad b. Evil c. Wicked d. Good e. Naughty

In the above set of words, which is most different in meaning from the other words?

Good is the correct answer. The word Good should be the chosen answer for sample question A.

Sample B. You have \$10 and give \$3 to your mother. How much do you have remaining? a. \$1 b. \$2 c. \$4 d. \$5 e. \$7

Ten dollars minus three dollars is seven dollars, so \$7 should be chosen as the answer for sample question B.

Sample C. is to as is to? a. b. c. d. e.

A large circle is to a smaller circle as a large square is to a smaller square. The small square should be chosen as the answer for sample question C.

This is the way you mark all of your answers for the questions that follow.

**\*\*Remember that in the sets of words that follow in part 1 *always* select the word that is most different in meaning.\*\***

1. a. augment b. decrease c. diminish d. lessen e. reduce

2. What is the remainder when 0.063 is subtracted from 3? a. 2.937 b. 2.739 c. 2.379 d. 0.2739 e. 0.0297

3. is to as is to? a. b. c. d. e.

4. a. extract b. instill c. deduce d. elicit e. extort

5. What is the cost of a \$30 item after successive discounts of 10% and 20%? a. \$27.00 b. \$25.50 c. \$23.75 d. \$21.60 e. \$20.00

6. is to as is to? a. b. c. d. e.

7. a. turmoil b. tranquil c. serene d. quiet e. peaceful

8. The first minute of a phone call cost 37 cents and each additional minute 22 cents. What is the cost of a six minute call? a. \$1.10 b. \$1.32 c. \$1.47 d. \$1.62 e. \$1.84

9. is to as is to? a. b. c. d. e.

### Spelling

Directions: Spelling measures how well you can spell and what you know about the various rules of grammar as they are reflected in the spelling of certain words. Each line below contains a word with three different spellings. Select the word from each set that is spelled correctly.

Sample A. a. acheive b. achieve c. achive

The answer with the correct spelling is achieve.

1. a. tharapeutic

b. tharaputic

c. therapeutic

6. a. disinfectant

b. disenfectant

c. disenfectent

2. a. inmunity

b. immunity

c. inmunity

7. a. enzymes

b. enzimes

c. enzymines

3. a. psysiologic

b. physiologic

c. phsiologic

8. a. antesepsis

b. antisepsis

c. antiseptes

4. a. molecules

b. mollecus

c. mollecules

9. a. poioneus

b. poiseneus

c. poisonous

5. a. hemorrhage

b. hemorrhage

c. hemmorrhage

10. a. circulatory

b. circuletary

c. circulatory

### Information in the Natural Sciences

Directions: This section is concerned with measuring your accumulated knowledge of information in the area of the natural sciences. Below is a sample exercise to show you how to do this part of the examination.

Sample A. Discoveries in the operation of the force of gravity were made by a. Lamarck b. Fields c. Wells d. Newton e. Bonet

The correct answer is Newton.

1. The supporting structural substance of plants is provided by

a. fructose b. comatose c. lactose d. cellulose e. foliose

2. One 1.0567 U.S. liquid quarts is equivalent to one

a. milliliter b. kilometer c. millimeter d. liter e. meter

3. An acidic solution will turn blue litmus paper

a. rusty b. white c. blackish d. yellow e. red

4. Water boils at how many degrees on the Celsius temperature scale?  
a. 212 b. 100 c. 64 d. 32 e. 16
5. A Nobel Prize winning scientist was  
a. Darwin b. DeVries c. McClintock d. Mollier e. Bacon
6. The gland producing the hormone insulin to control the blood sugar is the  
a. pancreas b. liver c. pituitary d. thyroid e. adrenal
7. Alcohol solutions containing plant or animal materials are called  
a. acetlys b. glycols c. tinctures d. coagulates e. thiols
8. The study of the heart is called  
a. cardiology b. proctology c. oncology d. neurology e. cytology
9. The nutrient that yields the most energy per ounce is  
a. fat b. protein c. starch d. sugar e. milk
10. An organism in its early stage of development is called an  
a. enzyme b. embryo c. endoderm d. estrogen e. element

**Judgment and Comprehension in Practical Nursing Situations**

Directions: In this part there are a number of questions about the working relationships of the practical and vocational nurse. Be sure you read carefully, to comprehend and understand, the description of the work situation and the questions that follow. Each work situation is followed by four possible answers to the problem presented. Select the one answer that, in your judgment, is the best of the four. You may not agree completely with any of the answers, or you may find more than one answer to be correct. However, select the one best answer.

Sample A. Practical nurses, in selling their services to a hospital, will serve best their interests by emphasizing the saving of which of the following?

- a. waste b. money c. time d. skilled services

The best answer is probably skilled services. The practical nurse can work jointly with registered nurses and physicians in providing skilled services to hospital patients. Do the following in the same manner.

1. A very sick patient is allowed only one visitor in the room at any one time. An entire family of five crowds into the room. When the practical nurse requests that they obey the hospital rules, they refuse to leave the room. The practical nurse should:  
a. demand that four of the five leave. b. call for a security officer. c. tell the patient to ask them to leave. d. ask the supervisor for instructions.
2. A recently graduated practical nurse, newly employed by the hospital, is assigned to your unit. This practical nurse seems, to you, too quick to tell you what to do and how to do it. You might best handle this situation by:  
a. exercising patience and tolerance. b. asking for a transfer. c. threatening to resign. d. complaining to your supervisor.
3. The visitor of a patient behaves very improperly toward you. The best thing to do is:  
a. tell the visitor off. b. call your supervisor c. ignore the visitor. d. "play along" with the visitor.
4. The oxygen tube has just been removed from the patient's nostrils. The patient asks you for a cigarette. The best response to the patient is to:  
a. ignore the patient. b. explain the fire hazard. c. say you don't smoke. d. say "I will get you a cigarette."
5. The practical nurse's HIV positive patient expresses concern about possible staff hostility. The practical nurse might best ease the patient' anxiety by:  
a. mildly scolding the patient. b. saying "You don't belong here." c. saying "Don't worry, I will avoid close contact with you." d. stating "We are all here to help."

**Vocational Adjustment Index**

Directions: In this section there are statements that concern how you feel about yourself and certain situations in relation to potential work environment. This part is not really a test. It is an inventory of feelings, attitudes, and opinions designed to assist in placing you in a work situation where you will find satisfaction and happiness. There are no right or wrong answers - some feel one way; others feel another way. Agreement or disagreement with the statements that follow simply indicates what you usually think, how you usually feel, or what you usually do about things. Mark accordingly as you agree or disagree with the statement. Choose the answer that is really true for you, and answer immediately. WORK RAPIDLY.

1. A definite choice of a vocation is important.
2. Unemployment after graduation is a source of anxiety.
3. Working with sick people should be very rewarding.
4. It is difficult to relate to people in authority.
5. Most employers care little about their employees.
6. It is easy to talk with one's teachers.
7. Friends are an important part of happiness.
8. Most people enjoy good health.
9. To help the less fortunate is a worthwhile goal.
10. To speak up in class discussions is quite easy.
11. High stress vocations are often the most satisfying.
12. It is worthwhile to plan ahead for the future.