



STATECIVILSERVICE

Sample Questions for Series 2100 – Protective Services (PSE) Exam

This booklet contains SAMPLE QUESTIONS ONLY.

None of the questions in this booklet are actual test questions. They are samples and are not intended to cover all topics, which may appear on the test.

Studying this booklet WILL NOT NECESSARILY IMPROVE YOUR TEST SCORE.

August 2021

Preparing for the PSE Exam

Protective Services (PSE) Exam

Introduction

The Protective Services Exam, or PSE, is given to applicants for entry-level through intermediate-level protective services jobs in state government. The PSE exam makes it possible for you to be considered for a variety of law enforcement, investigative, and other protective services jobs by taking a single test.

Information on these jobs can be obtained from Louisiana State Civil Service, the Testing and Recruiting Center, or on our website at www.civilservice.louisiana.gov.

Description of the Test Content

The PSE exam measures basic knowledge and abilities needed for entry-level protective services jobs. The 80 test questions cover five main areas:

READING COMPREHENSION – 23 questions

These questions test your ability to read and understand written information. All of the information needed to answer a question in this section is contained in each item. You are encouraged to read each passage as often as you wish before making your choice.

GRAMMAR AND SPELLING -15 questions

These questions test your ability of correct grammar and spelling usage.

MATHEMATICS/REASONING/LOGIC – 28 questions

These questions test your knowledge of basic numerical work (add, subtract, divide, multiply, percentages and averages) and word problems.

These questions test your ability to identify and resolve problems and to apply general principles of logic to given situations.

CODING – 9 questions

These questions test your ability to understand and use coding systems.

INTERPRETING MAPS – 5 questions

These questions test your ability to follow directions and interpret maps.

How to use this booklet

This booklet contains a Sample Test with examples of the different types of questions that you will see on the PSE examination. None of the sample questions will be on the actual test, but they are very similar.

At the end of the Sample Test is the answer key giving the correct answer to each sample question. Study each sample question carefully so that you will be familiar with questions of the same type on the actual test.

If you feel you need more practice in a certain subject area, your local library may have reference materials to help you.

Tips for taking the test

1. To avoid running the risk of arriving too late to be admitted to the test, allow extra time for traveling to the test center.
2. **Notify State Civil Service in advance if you will require special testing accommodations due to a disability.**
3. Pay close attention to the instructions given by the monitor at the beginning of the test session. Mistakes on your answer sheet can cause your grade notice to be delayed by several weeks.
4. Carefully read all instructions given in the actual test booklet. These instructions are given to help you and should be followed closely.
5. Use the clock or your watch to keep track of time during the examination.
6. Read each question carefully, then read all of the answers to the questions before deciding on which answer is the best choice.
7. If you are having a hard time answering a question, skip that one and come back to it later if you have the time.
8. Try to answer each question even if you must guess at the answer. The final grade will be based only on the number of correct answers. There is no penalty for guessing.
9. Be sure to mark your answers properly on your sheet and NOT in your test booklet. You will be given credit only for answers marked on your answer sheet.

Sample Questions

Instructions: Read each item carefully. Decide which of the choices given BEST answers the question. There will be only ONE best answer for each item.

READING COMPREHENSION

Instructions: The questions in this section will test your ability to read and understand written material. You will read a passage and then answer questions about the passage. The questions are NOT necessarily based on actual laws or policies of state and local law enforcement agencies. Use ONLY the information given in each passage to answer the questions.

1. According to the Louisiana Criminal Code, a misdemeanor is defined as any crime other than a felony. The crime of simple arson is NOT a felony.

From these statements, one can conclude that:

- A. the crime of simple arson is not a misdemeanor.
 - B. the crime of simple arson is a misdemeanor.
 - C. the crime of simple arson may or not be a misdemeanor, depending on the circumstances.
 - D. not enough information is given to determine whether or not the crime of simple arson is a misdemeanor.
2. When a person is arrested under a warrant in a parish other than that in which the alleged offense occurred, the person shall be booked in the parish where he was arrested. He shall be imprisoned there until he gives bail or is transferred to the parish where the offense occurred. However, he shall not be detained awaiting transfer for a period longer than ten days.

According to the above:

- A. the minimum period that a person may be detained in the parish of his arrest awaiting transfer to the parish where his alleged offense occurred is ten days.
 - B. a person arrested under a warrant in St. James Parish for an offense committed in Orleans Parish would normally be booked in Orleans Parish.
 - C. the normal waiting period before a person awaiting transfer from the parish of his arrest can be transferred to the parish where the crime occurred is ten days.
 - D. a person arrested in St. James Parish for a crime committed in Orleans Parish would normally be booked in St. James Parish and later transferred to Orleans Parish.
3. When it is lawful for a police officer to arrest a person without a warrant for his arrest for a misdemeanor, he may give a written summons instead of making an arrest if he has reasonable grounds to believe that the person will appear in answer to the summons. The summons is available only in misdemeanor cases, and its use is left up to the judgment of the officer.

According to the passage:

- A. an officer is required to use a summons in all misdemeanor cases.
 - B. a summons may be used only if an officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person will appear in answer to the summons.
 - C. an officer may issue a summons in a felony case provided it would be lawful for him to arrest the person without a warrant.
 - D. a summons may be used in a felony case at the officer's discretion.
4. No person shall go upon marsh or low prairie lands or swamp lands not under cultivation and belonging to another, and there capture, catch, trap, take, or ensnare any fur-bearing animal, without the consent of the owner or of one authorized to grant consent.

According to this passage:

- A. fur-bearing animals may not be trapped on marsh or low prairie lands.
- B. only the owner of the land can give consent to trap fur-bearing animals on his land.
- C. fur-bearing animals may be trapped on marsh or low prairie lands only by the owner or other authorized person.
- D. persons may not engage in trapping fur-bearing animals on marsh or low prairie lands without first obtaining proper consent.

GRAMMAR AND SPELLING

5. Which of the following words is the correct spelling for its usage in this sentence: The victim had cuts all over his _____ feet.
- A. bear
 - B. bare
 - C. barre
 - D. bar
6. Which of the following words is the correct spelling for its usage in this sentence: The police department has \$100,000 to _____ new police cruisers.
- A. by
 - B. bye
 - C. buy
 - D. bee
7. Select the correct contraction for 'let us'.
- A. let's.
 - B. lets.
 - C. let'us.
 - D. It's.

8. Select the grammatically correct response.
- A. The caller thought her arm was broken, but was afraid the EMTs would say it was only a sprain.
 - B. The caller thought her arm was broken but was afraid the EMTs would say it was only a sprain
 - C. The caller thought her arm was broken. But was afraid the EMTs would say it was only a sprain
 - D. The caller thought her arm was broken; afraid the EMTs would say was sprain.

MATHEMATICS / REASONING / LOGIC

9. You have been asked to provide the average length of service to a reporter looking into tenure in the police department. You have five officers with the following years of service: 12, 10, 7, 5, 1. What is the average length of service in years and months?
- A. 12
 - B. 10
 - C. 7
 - D. 3.5
10. The population of the area of a police district is 100,000 people. 20% of those people are children under the age of 18. 15% of those people are elderly persons over the age of 65. In the police district, how many people are between the age of 18 and 65?
- A. 15,000
 - B. 20,000
 - C. 35,000
 - D. 65,000
11. Choose the option that contains this exact pattern of letters, symbols and numbers:
LiTI{[..83B!?!~-=oOO_-NMMn
- A. LiTI{[..83B!?!~-=oOO_-NMMn
 - B. LiTI{[..8B3!?!~-=oOO_-NMMn
 - C. LiTI{[..83B!?!~_oOO_-NMMn
 - D. LiTI{[..83B!?!~-=oOO_NMMn

CODING

Use the Accident Report Form below to answer the next three questions.

Accident Report Form						
Violation	Weather	Road Surface	Roadway Condition	Vehicle Condition	Alignment	Lighting Condition
Develop the codes for the Accident Report Form using the following key:						
Accident Report Key						
<p><u>Violations</u></p> <p>A. Improper passing</p> <p>B. Improper turning</p> <p>C. Exceeding the stated speed limit</p> <p>D. Exceeding safe speed limit</p> <p>E. Following too closely</p> <p>F. Failure to yield</p> <p>G. No violation</p>		<p><u>Weather</u></p> <p>A. Clear</p> <p>B. Rain</p> <p>C. Cloudy</p> <p>D. Fog</p> <p>E. Ice</p> <p>F. Dust</p>		<p><u>Road Surface</u></p> <p>A. Asphalt</p> <p>B. Concrete</p> <p>C. Dirt</p> <p>D. Gravel</p> <p>E. Other</p>		
<p><u>Roadway Condition</u></p> <p>A. Construction</p> <p>B. Bumps</p> <p>C. Holes</p> <p>D. Deep ruts</p> <p>E. Loose surface materials</p> <p>F. Defective shoulders</p> <p>G. No defects</p>		<p><u>Vehicle Condition</u></p> <p>A. Worn or smooth tires</p> <p>B. Tire failure</p> <p>C. Defective brakes</p> <p>D. Defective turn signals</p> <p>E. Defective headlights</p> <p>F. Other defects</p> <p>G. No defects</p>		<p><u>Alignment</u></p> <p>A. Level - straight</p> <p>B. Level - curve</p> <p>C. Hillcrest - straight</p> <p>D. Hillcrest - curve</p> <p>E. On grade - straight</p> <p>F. On grade - curve</p>		
<p><u>Lighting Condition</u></p> <p>A. Daylight</p> <p>B. Dusk or Dawn</p> <p>C. Dark - no streetlights</p> <p>D. Dark - continuous streetlight</p>						

For the following question, use the information given to determine what would be missing from the Accident Report Form. The report code should be in the same order shown in the Accident Report Form, from left to right.

12. At 5 a.m. on a cold, overcast Tuesday morning, Zachary Moss was ticketed for following too closely after rear ending another vehicle on an asphalt residential roadway. The roadway was straight and level with no defects. Brinker's front tires were worn.
- A. B C E A A G A
 - B. A C E A A G A
 - C. E C A G A A B
 - D. D F A A B A C

For the following question, use the information given to determine what would be missing from the Accident Report Form.

13. A three car accident on I-49 occurs after Jane's tire explodes when she hits a pothole. The accident took place on a straight level asphalt stretch of highway in broad daylight. None of the motorists were issued citations.
- A. Violation
 - B. Weather
 - C. Roadway Condition
 - D. Alignment

For the following question, use the Accident Report Key to decode the Accident Report Form

14. What was the weather at the accident coded: C B E A A F D
- A. Rain
 - B. Cloudy
 - C. Fog
 - D. Ice

Use the Boating Fee Schedule below to answer the next two questions.

Boating Fee Schedule			
Length	Fee	Length	Fee
14' or less	\$32.00	23' 1" - 24' 0"	\$54.00
14' 1" - 17' 11"	\$37.00	24' 1" - 25' 0"	\$56.00
18' 0"	\$42.00	25' 1" - 26' 0"	\$58.00
18' 1" - 19' 0"	\$44.00	26' 1" - 27' 0"	\$60.00
19' 1" - 20' 0"	\$46.00	27' 1" - 28' 0"	\$62.00
20' 1" - 21' 0"	\$48.00	28' 1" - 29' 0"	\$64.00
21' 1" - 22' 0"	\$50.00	29' 1" - 30' 0"	\$66.00
22' 1" - 23' 0"	\$52.00		

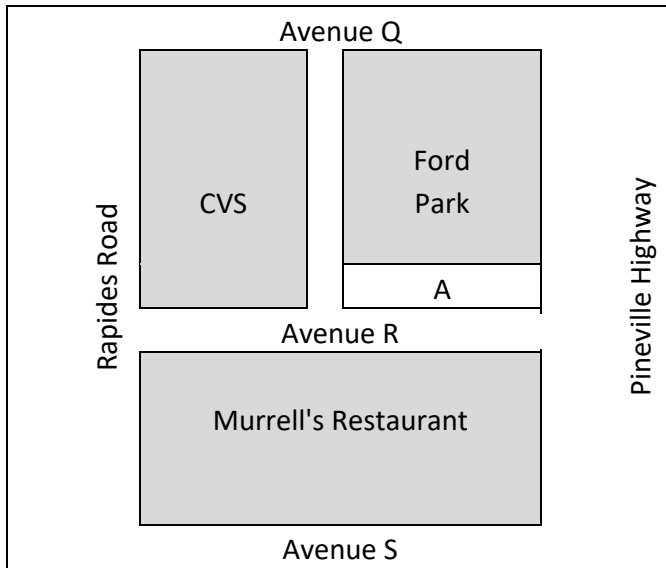
For each foot thereafter, add \$2.00 per foot
All motorized vessels/watercraft, including sailboats 12 feet or greater in length,
are required to be registered.

15. Mr. Wise brings a boat to be registered. The boat measures 24 feet and 5 inches. What is the fee?
- A. \$52.00
 - B. \$56.00
 - C. \$62.00
 - D. This boat is not required to be registered.
16. Mrs. Hardwick has a motorized boat that is 11 feet and 9 inches in length. What is the fee to register this vessel?
- A. \$32.00
 - B. \$44.00
 - C. \$50.00
 - D. This boat is not required to be registered.

INTERPRETING MAPS

Use the map below to answer the next two items.

North



17. Officer Arnold starts at location A, facing Murrell's Restaurant and proceeds as follows: Right onto Avenue R heading west, then she turns south on Rapides Road, then left on Avenue S. What building is on her left?
- A. CVS
 - B. Ford Park
 - C. Murrell's Restaurant
 - D. No building is that far south.
18. Agent Stephens is standing on Avenue R facing CVS. Which direction is she facing?
- A. North
 - B. South
 - C. East
 - D. West.

Answer Key

1. B
2. D
3. B
4. D
5. B
6. C
7. A
8. A
9. C
10. D
11. A
12. C
13. B
14. A
15. B
16. A
17. C
18. A