Welcome to The Praxis™ Study Companion

Get Ready to Show What You Know

You have gained the knowledge and skills you need for your teaching career. Now you are ready to demonstrate your abilities by taking a Praxis™ test.

Using The Praxis Study Companion is a smart way to prepare for the test so you can do your best on test day. This guide can help you keep on track and make the most efficient use of your study time.

The Study Companion contains practical information and helpful tools, including:

- An overview of the tests
- Specific information on the Praxis test you are taking
- A template study plan
- Practice questions and explanations of correct answers
- Test-taking tips and strategies
- Frequently asked questions
- Links to more detailed information

So where should you start? Begin by reviewing this guide in its entirety and note those sections that you need to revisit. Then you can create your own personalized study plan and schedule based on your individual needs and how much time you have before test day.

Keep in mind that study habits are individual. There are many different ways to successfully prepare for your test. Some people study better on their own, while others prefer a group dynamic. You may have more energy early in the day, but another test taker may concentrate better in the evening. So use this guide to develop the approach that works best for you.

Your teaching career begins with preparation. Good luck!
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1. Know What to Expect

Familiarize yourself with the Praxis tests so you know what to expect

These questions and answers will give you an overview of The Praxis Series™ tests.

Which test should I take?
Each state or agency that uses the Praxis tests sets its own requirements for which test or tests you must take for the teaching area you wish to pursue.

Before you register for a test, confirm your state or agency’s testing requirements at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

How are the Praxis tests given?
Praxis I® and Praxis II® tests are given in both computer and paper formats. Note: Not all Praxis II tests are offered in both formats.

Should I take the computer- or paper-delivered test?
You should take the test in whichever format you are most comfortable. Some test takers prefer taking a paper-and-pencil test, while others are more comfortable on a computer. Please note that not all tests are available in both formats.

If I’m taking more than one Praxis test, do I have to take them all in the same format?
No. You can take each test in the format in which you are most comfortable.

Is there a difference between the subject matter covered on the computer-delivered test and the paper-delivered test?
No. The computer-delivered test and paper-delivered test cover the same content.

Where and when are the Praxis tests offered?
You can select the test center that is most convenient for you. The Praxis tests are administered through an international network of test centers, which includes some universities, high schools, Prometric® Testing Centers, and other locations throughout the world.

Testing schedules depend on whether you are taking computer-delivered tests or paper-delivered tests. See the Praxis website for more detailed test registration information, at www.ets.org/praxis/register.
2. Familiarize Yourself with Test Questions

*Become comfortable with the types of questions you will find on the Praxis tests*

The Praxis tests include two types of questions — **multiple-choice** (for which you select your answers from a list of choices) and **constructed-response** (for which you write a response of your own). You may be familiar with these question formats from taking other standardized tests. If not, familiarize yourself with them so you don't spend time during the test figuring out how to answer them.

**Understanding Multiple-Choice Questions**

Many multiple-choice questions begin with the phrase “which of the following.” Take a look at this example:

Which of the following is a flavor made from beans?
(A) Strawberry
(B) Cherry
(C) Vanilla
(D) Mint

**How would you answer this question?**

All of the answer choices are flavors. Your job is to decide which of the flavors is the one made from beans.

Try following these steps to select the correct answer.

1) **Limit your answer to one of the choices given.** You may know that chocolate and coffee are also flavors made from beans, but they are not listed. Rather than thinking of other possible answers, focus only on the choices given (“which of the following”).

2) **Eliminate incorrect answers.** You may know that strawberry and cherry flavors are made from fruit and that mint flavor is made from a plant. That leaves vanilla as the only possible answer.

3) **Verify your answer.** You can substitute “vanilla” for the phrase “which of the following” and turn the question into this statement: “Vanilla is a flavor made from beans.” This will help you be sure that your answer is correct. If you're still uncertain, try substituting the other choices to see if they make sense.
You may want to use this technique as you answer multiple-choice questions on the practice tests.

**Try a more challenging example**

The vanilla bean question is pretty straightforward, but you’ll find that more challenging questions have a similar structure. For example:

Entries in outlines are generally arranged according to which of the following relationships of ideas?

- (A) Literal and inferential
- (B) Concrete and abstract
- (C) Linear and recursive
- (D) Main and subordinate

You’ll notice that this example also contains the phrase “which of the following.” This phrase helps you determine that your answer will be a “relationship of ideas” from the choices provided. You are supposed to find the choice that describes how entries, or ideas, in outlines are related.

Sometimes it helps to put the question in your own words. Here, you could paraphrase the question in this way: “How are outlines usually organized?” Since the ideas in outlines usually appear as main ideas and subordinate ideas, the answer is (D).

**QUICK TIP:** Don’t be intimidated by words you may not understand. It might be easy to be thrown by words like “recursive” or “inferential.” Read carefully to understand the question and look for an answer that fits. An outline is something you are probably familiar with and expect to teach to your students. So slow down, and use what you know.

**Watch out for multiple-choice questions containing “NOT,” “LEAST,” and “EXCEPT”**

This type of question asks you to select the choice that does not fit. You must be very careful because it is easy to forget that you are selecting the negative. This question type is used in situations in which there are several good solutions or ways to approach something, but also a clearly wrong way.

**How to approach questions about a graph, table, or reading passage**

When answering questions about a graph, table, or reading passage, provide only the information that the question asks for. In the case of a map or graph, you might want to read the questions first, and then look at the map or graph. In the case of a long reading passage, you might want to go ahead and read the passage first, marking places you think are important, and then answer the questions. Again, the important thing is to be sure you answer the question as it refers to the material presented. So read the question carefully.
How to approach unfamiliar formats

New multiple-choice formats are developed from time to time to find new ways of assessing knowledge. If you see a format you are not familiar with, read the directions carefully. Then read and approach the question the way you would any other question, asking yourself what you are supposed to be looking for, and what details are given in the question that will help you find the answer.

Here is an example of a format you might not have encountered before:

Directions: The following question asks you to analyze teacher goals and actions intended to lead to the achievement of the goal. Decide whether the action is likely or unlikely to lead to the achievement of the goal.

**GOAL:** To increase the participation of low-achieving middle school students in whole-class discussions.

**ACTION:** Instead of asking for volunteers, the teacher randomly calls on students to discuss homework assignments.

(A) Likely, because students who feel anxiety about being called on will be more at ease and will pay more attention to class discussion.

(B) Likely, because low-achieving students often hesitate to volunteer and random questioning will increase responses from those students.

(C) Unlikely, because students in the middle school grades prefer to have a choice in responding to discussions.

(D) Unlikely, because students’ positive feelings toward the teacher will decrease.

To answer this question correctly you must read the directions, which explain how the paragraph marked “GOAL,” the paragraph marked “ACTION,” and the answer choices fit together. The answer is (B) because it is the only action that is both “likely” to be successful and “likely” to be the right reason. To answer this question, first decide whether the action was likely to achieve the desired goal. Then select the reason. This two-part selection process brings you to your answer.

**QUICK TIP:** Don’t make the questions more difficult than they are. Don’t read for hidden meanings or tricks. There are no “trick questions” on Praxis tests. They are intended to be serious, straightforward tests of your knowledge.
Understanding Constructed-Response Questions

Constructed-response questions require you to demonstrate your knowledge in a subject area by providing in-depth explanations on particular topics. Essay and problem solving are types of constructed-response questions.

For example, an essay question might present you with a topic and ask you to discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the opinion stated. You must support your position with specific reasons and examples from your own experience, observations, or reading.

Take a look at a few sample essay topics:

- “Celebrities have a tremendous influence on the young, and for that reason, they have a responsibility to act as role models.”
- “We are constantly bombarded by advertisements—on television and radio, in newspapers and magazines, on highway signs, and the sides of buses. They have become too pervasive. It’s time to put limits on advertising.”
- “Advances in computer technology have made the classroom unnecessary, since students and teachers are able to communicate with one another from computer terminals at home or at work.”

A problem-solving question might ask you to solve a mathematics problem such as the one below and show how you arrived at your solution:

a) In how many different ways can 700 be expressed as the product of two positive integers? Show how you arrived at your answer.

b) Among all pairs of positive integers whose product is 700, which pair has the maximum greatest common divisor? Explain how you arrived at your answer.

Keep these things in mind when you respond to a constructed-response question

1) **Answer the question accurately.** Analyze what each part of the question is asking you to do. If the question asks you to describe or discuss, you should provide more than just a list.

2) **Answer the question completely.** If a question asks you to do three distinct things in your response, you should cover all three things for the best score. Otherwise, no matter how well you write, you will not be awarded full credit.

3) **Answer the question that is asked.** Do not change the question or challenge the basis of the question. You will receive no credit or a low score if you answer another question or if you state, for example, that there is no possible answer.

4) **Give a thorough and detailed response.** You must demonstrate that you have a thorough understanding of the subject matter. However, your response should be straightforward and not filled with unnecessary information.

5) **Reread your response.** Check that you have written what you thought you wrote. Be sure not to leave sentences unfinished or omit clarifying information.

**QUICK TIP:** You may find that it helps to circle each of the details of the question in your test book or take notes on scratch paper so that you don't miss any of them. Then you'll be sure to have all the information you need to answer the question.
3. Understand Your Scores

Understand how tests are scored and how to interpret your test scores

Of course, passing the Praxis test is important to you so you need to understand what the scores mean and what your state requirements are.

What are the score requirements for my state?

States, institutions, and associations that require the tests set their own passing scores. Visit www.ets.org/praxis/states for the most up-to-date information.

If I move to another state, will my new state accept my scores?

The Praxis Series tests are part of a national testing program, meaning that they are required in more than one state for licensure. The advantage of a national program is that if you move to another state that also requires Praxis tests, you can transfer your scores. Each state has specific test requirements and passing scores, which you can find at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

How do I know whether I passed the test?

You will receive passing score information on your score report for the score recipients that you listed when you registered. If you test in a state with automatic score reporting, you will receive passing score information for that state.

A list of states and their passing scores for each test is available online at www.ets.org/praxis/states.

What your Praxis scores mean

You received your score report. Now what does it mean? It’s important to interpret your score report correctly and to know what to do if you have questions about your scores.

Visit http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/sample_score_report.pdf to see a sample score report. To access Understanding Your Praxis Scores, a document that provides additional information on how to read your score report, visit www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand.

Put your scores in perspective

Your score report indicates:

- Your score and whether you passed
- The range of possible scores
- The raw points available in each content category
- The range of the middle 50 percent of scores on the test
- Your Recognition of Excellence (ROE) Award status, if applicable (found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand/roe)

If you have taken the same test or other tests in The Praxis Series over the last 10 years, your score report also lists the highest score you earned on each test taken.
Content category scores and score interpretation

On many of the Praxis tests, questions are grouped into content categories. To help you in future study or in preparing to retake the test, your score report shows how many "raw points" you earned in each content category. Compare your "raw points earned" with the maximum points you could have earned ("raw points available"). The greater the difference, the greater the opportunity to improve your score by further study.

Score scale changes

ETS updates Praxis tests on a regular basis to ensure they accurately measure the knowledge and skills that are required for licensure. Updated tests cover the same content as the previous tests. However, scores might be reported on a different scale, so requirements may vary between the new and previous versions. All scores for previous, discontinued tests are valid and reportable for 10 years.

These resources may also help you interpret your scores:

- Understanding Your Praxis Scores (PDF), found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand
- The Praxis Series Passing Scores (PDF), found at www.ets.org/praxis/scores/understand
- State requirements, found at www.ets.org/praxis/states
4. Learn About Your Test

Learn about the specific test you will be taking

Psychology (0391)

Test at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Name</th>
<th>Psychology</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test Code</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Questions</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>Format</td>
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<td>Test Delivery</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Content Categories</th>
<th>Approximate Number of Questions</th>
<th>Approximate Percentage of Examination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Methods, Approaches, Ethics, and Assessment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Biopsychology, Sensation and Perception, and States of Consciousness</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Life Span Development and Individual Differences</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Learning, Memory, and Cognition</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Personality, Social Psychology, Motivation and Emotion, and Stress</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Psychological Disorders and Treatment</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About This Test

The Psychology test measures whether entry-level psychology educators have the standards-relevant knowledge, skills, and abilities believed necessary for competent professional practice.

This test may contain some questions that will not count toward your score.
Topics Covered

Representative descriptions of topics covered in each category are provided below.

I. Methods, Approaches, Ethics, and Assessment

A. History and Approaches

• Understands that psychology is an empirical science
  – Explains the scientific method
  – Demonstrates an understanding of research-based problem solving, intervention, and decision making

• Understands contemporary approaches to the study of psychology
  – Describes major characteristics of, and recognizes similarities and differences between, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic, biological, psychodynamic, and evolutionary approaches
  – Applies contemporary approaches to real-world situations

• Is familiar with the major psychological subfields and careers
  – Identifies major characteristics of the subfields of biopsychology, clinical, cognitive, developmental, industrial/organizational, learning, personality, sensation and perception, and social

• Is familiar with key historical figures in the study of psychology
  – Identifies the major contributions of historical figures in psychology, such as Bandura, Erikson, Freud, James, Jung, Maslow, Pavlov, Piaget, Skinner, Watson, and Wundt

B. Research Methods

• Is familiar with basic psychological research principles:
  – Differentiates independent and dependent variables
  – Recognizes appropriate sampling techniques
  – Understands the importance of operational definitions

• Knows appropriate research methods to study psychological issues
  – Knows the major characteristics and appropriate use of observation, experimentation, surveys, and case studies; knows correlational, cross-sectional, and longitudinal designs

• Knows basic statistical concepts
  – Calculates mean, median, mode
  – Describes the use of correlation and standard deviation

• Understands the ethical issues in research with humans and animals
  – Understands the importance of informed consent, confidentiality, protection from harm, and ethics review boards in research
  – Knows about major historical research studies and their influence on the development of ethical principles

C. Assessment

• Understands basic principles of assessment
  – Explains and applies the principles of reliability, validity, standardization, and norms to assessment situations
  – Understands the limits of assessment outcomes based on assessment characteristics

• Understands the ethical issues relevant to psychological assessment
  – Describes the appropriate use of assessments
  – Understands the importance of the confidentiality of score reports
  – Recognizes the implications of test bias for interpreting test scores
II. Biopsychology, Sensation and Perception, and States of Consciousness

A. Biopsychology

• Knows basic neuronal structures and their functions
  – Describes the parts of the neuron
  – Explains the process of an action potential
  – Recognizes major neurotransmitters and neuromodulators (e.g., acetylcholine, serotonin, dopamine) and their functions

• Understands the organization of the nervous system
  – Recognizes the structure and function of the central and peripheral, somatic and autonomic, and sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems

• Understands the organization and basic functions of brain structures
  – Recognizes the structure and function of the frontal, parietal, temporal, and occipital lobes
  – Knows about the hemispheres of the brain, corpus callosum, and lateralization
  – Recognizes the structure and function of the limbic system
  – Recognizes the importance of the cerebellum, hypothalamus, and thalamus

• Is familiar with clinical and technological methods for studying the brain (e.g., MRI, CT scan)

• Knows the structure and function of the endocrine system
  – Recognizes the functions of the major glands of the endocrine system (e.g., pituitary, adrenal)
  – Identifies major hormones (e.g., adrenaline, estrogen, testosterone) and their functions

• Is familiar with the concept that heredity, evolution, and environment influence behavior
  – Recognizes the importance of genetic and environmental influences (e.g., nature and nurture) on behavior
  – Knows the perspective of evolutionary psychology

B. Sensation and Perception

• Understands basic sensory concepts and processes (e.g., thresholds, transduction, sensory receptors)
  – Differentiates absolute and difference thresholds
  – Describes the structure and function of the visual, auditory, somatosensory, olfactory, gustatory, and vestibular systems

• Is familiar with perceptual concepts and processes and how the interaction of the person and environment determine perception
  – Recognizes the Gestalt principles and concepts such as perceptual set, figure-ground, depth perception, and constancy

• Understands the function of selective attention

C. States of Consciousness

• Understands basic concepts of consciousness (e.g., unconscious, preconscious, altered states)

• Knows the basic characteristics and theories of sleep and dreaming
  – Describes the stages of sleep
  – Knows the major theories of sleep and dreaming (e.g., activation-synthesis, repair and restoration, psychoanalytic)

• Is familiar with the major categories of psychoactive drugs and their effects
  – Recognizes common drugs, such as narcotics, depressants, stimulants, and hallucinogens, and their effects
  – Explains aspects of drug use, such as tolerance, dependency, addiction, and withdrawal
III. Life Span Development and Individual Differences

A. Development

- Knows major themes in development
  - Describes continuity versus stages, stability versus change, and critical periods
- Understands that development (e.g., social, cognitive, physical) occurs at every stage of life, including prenatal, childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood
- Knows the basic principles and theories of physical, sensory, and perceptual development
- Understands the principles and theories of cognitive and linguistic development
  - Describes and applies concepts associated with major theories of cognitive development (e.g., Piaget, Vygotsky)
  - Describes the major stages and theories of language development
- Understands the principles and theories of emotional, social, and moral development
  - Describes attachment theory and the strange situation
  - Lists the order of development of emotions
  - Describes and applies Kohlberg and Gilligan’s theories of moral development
  - Describes and applies Erikson’s psychosocial stages
- Knows heritable and environmental factors that interact in the process of development

B. Individual Differences

- Is familiar with historical and contemporary theories of intelligence (e.g., Binet, Gardner, Spearman, Sternberg)
- Is familiar with common intelligence tests (e.g., WISC, WAIS, Stanford-Binet)
- Knows the limitations of intelligence testing
  - Explains how cultural bias affects test scores
  - Recognizes that common intelligence tests focus on verbal skills

IV. Learning, Memory, and Cognition

A. Learning

- Understands basic principles of learning
  - Describes the concepts of contingency and timing
  - Describes and applies the principles of stimulus generalization and stimulus discrimination
  - Describes acquisition processes and influences
  - Describes and applies the principles of extinction
- Understands the principles of classical conditioning
  - Explains and applies the concepts of unconditioned stimulus, unconditioned response, conditioned stimulus, and conditioned response
- Understands the principles of operant conditioning
  - Knows the characteristics of reinforcement and punishment and can apply them
  - Describes and applies the various schedules of reinforcement
  - Explains the process of shaping
- Is familiar with the roles of cognition and culture in learning
  - Describes the process of social learning
  - Identifies basic environmental and cultural influences that affect learning

B. Memory

- Understands the basic processes of memory
  - Describes the processes of encoding, storage, and retrieval
- Understands the characteristics of memory
  - Describes sensory memory (e.g., iconic, echoic)
  - Explains working or short-term memory
  - Recognizes long-term memory systems (e.g., declarative, procedural)
  - Describes the process of consolidation from short-term to long-term memory
- Is familiar with the biological bases of memory (e.g., hippocampus, cortex)
- Is familiar with methods for improving memory
  - Identifies various mnemonic devices and describes their use
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C. Cognition

- Describes elaborative rehearsal and levels of processing
- Recognizes the effect of context-dependency on memory
- Is familiar with the concept of constructive memory

V. Personality, Social Psychology, Motivation and Emotion, and Stress

A. Personality

- Understands personality approaches and theories
  - Explains the major similarities and differences between trait, psychoanalytic, humanistic, and social-cognitive approaches
  - Describes the major theories of personality (e.g., Freud, Eysenck, Maslow, Rogers, Bandura, Adler, Horney)
- Is familiar with common personality assessment tools and their purposes (e.g., MMPI, TAT, Rorschach)

B. Social Psychology and Culture

- Understands the basis of attributions and attitudes
  - Explains the process of attribution and theories of attitude development (e.g., fundamental attribution error, cognitive dissonance, just-world hypothesis)
  - Describes the relationships among stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination
- Understands group and interpersonal influences on thought and behavior
  - Explains and applies the concepts of group dynamics (e.g., groupthink, conformity, deindividuation, diffusion of responsibility)

C. Motivation and Emotion

- Understands factors that influence the development and maintenance of interpersonal relationships (e.g., proximity, similarity, attraction)
- Knows major social categories (e.g., gender, ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation)
- Is familiar with the major components of culture (e.g., language, norms, technology)

D. Stress and Coping

- Is familiar with sources of stress
  - Identifies health problems that cause stress
  - Recognizes how environmental factors can
affect stress levels (e.g., role conflict, socioeconomic status, caregiver burden)

- Understands physiological reactions to stress
  - Describes the fight-or-flight response
  - Discusses Selye’s general adaptation syndrome
  - Recognizes the effect of stress on the immune system and cardiovascular health

- Understands psychological reactions to stress
  - Recognizes the relation of stress to psychological disorders (e.g., anxiety disorders, depression)
  - Recognizes the relationship between stress and performance (e.g., cognitive, behavioral)

- Is familiar with appropriate cognitive and behavioral strategies for dealing with stress and promoting health
  - Recognizes the benefit of perceived control
  - Identifies multiple coping skills

VI. Psychological Disorders and Treatment

A. Psychological Disorders

- Is familiar with the characteristics of psychological disorders and the factors that contribute to their development
  - Recognizes common symptoms and the diagnoses associated with them
  - Recognizes how genetic, biological, and environmental factors affect mental health

- Knows major categories of psychological disorders
  - Defines and recognizes the differences between various disorders, including anxiety, dissociative, developmental, mood, personality, schizophrenic, and somatoform
  - Recognizes the appropriate uses of the current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)

B. Treatment of Psychological Disorders

- Understands common methods used to treat individuals with disorders
  - Explains the basic principles of the behavioral, cognitive, psychodynamic, humanistic, and biological approaches to treatment and applies them to case examples
  - Recognizes common therapeutic drugs, such as antidepressants, antipsychotics, and antianxiety medication, and their effects

- Is familiar with the types of practitioners who implement treatment
  - Recognizes the defining characteristics of various mental health professions (e.g., counselors, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers)

- Is familiar with legal and ethical issues associated with the treatment of psychological disorders
  - Describes the concepts of confidentiality and duty to warn
5. Determine Your Strategy for Success

Set clear goals and deadlines so your test preparation is focused and efficient

Effective Praxis test preparation doesn't just happen. You'll want to set clear goals and deadlines for yourself along the way. Otherwise, you may not feel ready and confident on test day.

1) Learn what the test covers.

You may have heard that there are several different versions of the same test. It's true. You may take one version of the test and your friend may take a different version a few months later. Each test has different questions covering the same subject area, but both versions of the test measure the same skills and content knowledge.

You'll find specific information on the test you're taking in the Learn About Your Test section, which outlines the content categories that the test measures and what percentage of the test covers each topic. Visit www.ets.org/praxis/testprep for information on other Praxis tests.

2) Assess how well you know the content.

Research shows that test takers tend to overestimate their preparedness—this is why some test takers assume they did well and then find out they did not pass.

The Praxis tests are demanding enough to require serious review of likely content, and the longer you've been away from the content, the more preparation you will most likely need. If it has been longer than a few months since you've studied your content area, make a concerted effort to prepare.

3) Collect study materials.

Gathering and organizing your materials for review are critical steps in preparing for the Praxis tests. Consider the following reference sources as you plan your study:

- Did you take a course in which the content area was covered? If yes, do you still have your books and your notes?
- Does your college library have a good introductory college-level textbook in this area?
- Does your local library have a high school-level textbook?

Study guides are available for purchase for many Praxis tests at www.ets.org/praxis/testprep. Each guide provides a combination of test preparation and practice, including sample questions and answers with explanations.

4) Plan and organize your time.

You can begin to plan and organize your time while you are still collecting materials. Allow yourself plenty of review time to avoid cramming new material at the end. Here are a few tips:

- Choose a test date far enough in the future to leave you plenty of preparation time at www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates.
- Work backward from that date to figure out how much time you will need for review.
- Set a realistic schedule—and stick to it.
5) Practice explaining the key concepts.

*Praxis* tests with constructed-response questions assess your ability to explain material effectively. As a teacher, you’ll need to be able to explain concepts and processes to students in a clear, understandable way. What are the major concepts you will be required to teach? Can you explain them in your own words accurately, completely, and clearly? Practice explaining these concepts to test your ability to effectively explain what you know.

6) Understand how questions will be scored.

Scoring information can be found in Understand Your Scores on page 9.

7) Develop a study plan.

A study plan provides a road map to prepare for the *Praxis* tests. It can help you understand what skills and knowledge are covered on the test and where to focus your attention. Use the study plan template on page 22 to organize your efforts.

And most important—get started!

**Would a Study Group Work for You?**

**Using this guide as part of a study group**

People who have a lot of studying to do sometimes find it helpful to form a study group with others who are working toward the same goal. Study groups give members opportunities to ask questions and get detailed answers. In a group, some members usually have a better understanding of certain topics, while others in the group may be better at other topics. As members take turns explaining concepts to one another, everyone builds self-confidence.

If the group encounters a question that none of the members can answer well, the group can go to a teacher or other expert and get answers efficiently. Because study groups schedule regular meetings, members study in a more disciplined fashion. They also gain emotional support. The group should be large enough so that multiple people can contribute different kinds of knowledge, but small enough so that it stays focused. Often, three to six members is a good size.

Here are some ways to use this guide as part of a study group:

- **Plan the group’s study program.** Parts of the study plan template on page 22 can help to structure your group’s study program. By filling out the first five columns and sharing the worksheets, everyone will learn more about your group’s mix of abilities and about the resources, such as textbooks, that members can share with the group. In the sixth column (“Dates planned for study of content”), you can create an overall schedule for your group’s study program.

- **Plan individual group sessions.** At the end of each session, the group should decide what specific topics will be covered at the next meeting and who will present each topic. Use the topic headings and subheadings in the Test at a Glance table on page 11 to select topics, and then select practice questions, beginning on page 26.

- **Prepare your presentation for the group.** When it’s your to turn present, prepare something that is more than a lecture. Write two or three original questions to pose to the group. Practicing writing actual questions can help you better understand the topics covered on the test as well as the types of questions you will encounter on the test. It will also give other members of the group extra practice at answering questions.
Step 5: Determine Your Strategy for Success

- **Take the practice test together.** The idea of the practice test is to simulate an actual administration of the test, so scheduling a test session with the group will add to the realism and may also help boost everyone’s confidence. Remember, complete the practice test using only the time that will be allotted for the test on your administration day.

- **Learn from the results of the practice test.** Score one another’s answer sheets. For constructed-response questions (if any), look at the Sample Test Questions section, which also contains sample responses to those questions and shows how they were scored. Then try to follow the same guidelines that the test scorers use.

- **Be as critical as you can.** You’re not doing your study partners any favors by letting them get away with an answer that does not cover all parts of the question adequately.

- **Be specific.** Write comments that are as detailed as the comments about the sample responses. Indicate where and how your study partners are doing an inadequate job of answering the question. Writing notes in the margins of the answer sheet may also help.

- **Be supportive.** Include comments that point out what your study partner(s) got right.

Then plan one or more study sessions based on aspects of the questions on which group members performed poorly. For example, each group member might be responsible for rewriting one paragraph of a response in which someone else did an inadequate job.

Whether you decide to study alone or with a group, remember that the best way to prepare is to have an organized plan. The plan should set goals based on specific topics and skills that you need to learn, and it should commit you to a realistic set of deadlines for meeting those goals. Then you need to discipline yourself to stick with your plan and accomplish your goals on schedule.
6. Develop Your Study Plan

Develop a personalized study plan and schedule

Planning your study time is important because it will help ensure that you review all content areas covered on the test. Use the sample study plan below as a guide. It shows a plan for the *Praxis I® Pre-Professional Skills Test: Reading* test. Following that is a study plan template that you can fill out to create your own plan. Use the Learn About Your Test and Topics Covered information beginning on page 11 to help complete it.

**Use this worksheet to:**
1. **Define Content Areas:** List the most important content areas for your test as defined in the Learn About Your Test and Topics Covered sections.
2. **Determine Strengths and Weaknesses:** Identify your strengths and weaknesses in each content area.
3. **Identify Resources:** Identify the books, courses, and other resources you plan to use for each content area.
4. **Study:** Create and commit to a schedule that provides for regular study periods.

### Praxis Test Name:
*Praxis I®: Pre-Professional Skills Test: Reading*

### Praxis Test Code:
0710

### I am taking the test on:
11/15/12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content covered</th>
<th>Description of content</th>
<th>How well do I know the content? (scale 1-5)</th>
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<th>Dates I will study the content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literal Comprehension</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Ideas</td>
<td>Identify summaries or paraphrases of main idea or primary purpose of reading selection</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Middle school English text book</td>
<td>College library, middle school teacher</td>
<td>9/15/12</td>
<td>9/15/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Ideas</td>
<td>Identify summaries or paraphrases of supporting ideas and specific details in reading selection</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Middle school English text book</td>
<td>College library, middle school teacher</td>
<td>9/17/12</td>
<td>9/17/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Identify how reading selection is organized in terms of cause/effect and compare/contrast</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middle and high school English text book</td>
<td>College library, middle and high school teachers</td>
<td>9/20/12</td>
<td>9/21/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Identify key transition words/phrases in reading selection and how used</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Middle and high school English text book</td>
<td>College library, middle and high school teachers</td>
<td>9/25/12</td>
<td>9/26/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocabulary in Context</td>
<td>Identify meanings of words as used in context of reading selection</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middle and high school English text book, dictionary</td>
<td>College library, middle and high school teachers</td>
<td>9/25/12</td>
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## Step 6: Develop Your Study Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content covered</th>
<th>Description of content</th>
<th>How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)</th>
<th>What resources do I have/need for the content?</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Critical and Inferential Comprehension</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Determine whether evidence strengthens, weakens, or is relevant to arguments in reading selection</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Determine role that an idea, reference, or piece of information plays in author’s discussion/argument</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Determine if information presented is fact or opinion</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Identify relationship among ideas presented in reading selection</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/1/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inferential Reasoning</td>
<td>Draw inferences/implications from directly stated content of reading selection</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/8/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inferential Reasoning</td>
<td>Determine logical assumptions on which argument or conclusion is based</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/8/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inferential Reasoning</td>
<td>Determine author’s attitude toward materials discussed in reading selection</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/15/12</td>
<td>10/17/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generalization</td>
<td>Recognize or predict ideas/situations that are extensions of, or similar to, what has been presented in reading selection</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
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<td>10/24/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generalization</td>
<td>Draw conclusions from materials presented in reading selection</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generalization</td>
<td>Apply ideas presented in a reading selection to other situations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High school text book, college course notes</td>
<td>College library, course notes, high school teacher, college professor</td>
<td>10/27/12</td>
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# My Study Plan

**Use this worksheet to:**

1. **Define Content Areas:** List the most important content areas for your test as defined in the Learn About Your Test and Topics Covered sections.
2. **Determine Strengths and Weaknesses:** Identify your strengths and weaknesses in each content area.
3. **Identify Resources:** Identify the books, courses, and other resources you plan to use for each content area.
4. **Study:** Create and commit to a schedule that provides for regular study periods.

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<th>Praxis Test Name: ____________________________________________________________</th>
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<td>Test Date: _____________</td>
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7. Review Smart Tips for Success

Follow test-taking tips developed by experts

Learn from the experts. Take advantage of the following answers to questions you may have and practical tips to help you navigate the Praxis test and make the best use of your time.

Should I Guess?

Yes. Your score is based on the number of questions you answer correctly, with no penalty or subtraction for an incorrect answer. When you don’t know the answer to a question, try to eliminate any obviously wrong answers and then guess at the correct one. Try to pace yourself so that you have enough time to carefully consider every question.

Can I answer the questions in any order?

Yes. You can go through the questions from beginning to end, as many test takers do, or you can create your own path. Perhaps you will want to answer questions in your strongest area of knowledge first and then move from your strengths to your weaker areas. On computer-delivered tests, you can use the “Skip” function to skip a question and come back to it later. There is no right or wrong way. Use the approach that works best for you.

Are there trick questions on the test?

No. There are no hidden meanings or trick wording. All of the questions on the test ask about subject matter knowledge in a straightforward manner.

Are there answer patterns on the test?

No. You might have heard this myth: the answers on multiple-choice tests follow patterns. Another myth is that there will never be more than two questions with the same lettered answer following each other. Neither myth is true. Select the answer you think is correct based on your knowledge of the subject.

Can I write in the test booklet or, for a computer-delivered test, on the scratch paper I am given?

Yes. You can work out problems right on the pages of the booklet or scratch paper, make notes to yourself, mark questions you want to review later or write anything at all. Your test booklet or scratch paper will be destroyed after you are finished with it, so use it in any way that is helpful to you. But make sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet or enter them on the computer.

Smart Tips for Taking the Test

1. For a paper-delivered test, put your answers in the right bubbles. It seems obvious, but be sure that you fill in the answer bubble that corresponds to the question you are answering. A significant number of test takers fill in a bubble without checking to see that the number matches the question they are answering.

2. Skip the questions you find extremely difficult. Rather than trying to answer these on your first pass through the test, leave them blank and mark them in your test booklet. Pay attention to the time as you answer the rest of the questions on the test, and try to finish with 10 or 15 minutes remaining so that you
can go back over the questions you left blank. Even if you don't know the answer the second time you read the questions, see if you can narrow down the possible answers, and then guess.

3. **Keep track of the time.** Bring a watch to the test, just in case the clock in the test room is difficult for you to see. Keep the watch as simple as possible—alarms and other functions may distract others or may violate test security. If the test center supervisor suspects there is an issue with your watch, he/she may ask you to remove it, so simpler is better. You will probably have plenty of time to answer all of the questions, but if you find yourself becoming bogged down in one section, you might decide to move on and come back to that section later.

4. **Read all of the possible answers before selecting one.** Then reread the question to be sure the answer you have selected really answers the question. Remember, a question that contains a phrase such as “Which of the following does NOT …” is asking for the one answer that is NOT a correct statement or conclusion.

5. **Check your answers.** If you have extra time left over at the end of the test, look over each question and make sure that you have answered it as you intended. Many test takers make careless mistakes that they could have corrected if they had checked their answers.

6. **Don’t worry about your score when you are taking the test.** No one is expected to answer all of the questions correctly. Your score on this test is not analogous to your score on the GRE® or other similar-looking (but in fact very different) tests. It doesn’t matter on the Praxis tests whether you score very high or barely pass. If you meet the minimum passing scores for your state and you meet the state’s other requirements for obtaining a teaching license, you will receive a license. In other words, what matters is meeting the minimum passing score. You can find passing scores for all states that use The Praxis Series tests at [http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/passing_scores.pdf](http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/passing_scores.pdf) or on the website of the state department of education for which you are seeking certification/licensure.

7. **Use your energy to take the test, not to get angry at it.** Getting angry at the test only increases stress and decreases the likelihood that you will do your best. Highly qualified educators and test development professionals, all with backgrounds in teaching, worked diligently to make the test a fair and valid measure of your knowledge and skills. Your state painstakingly reviewed the test before adopting it as a licensure requirement. The best thing to do is concentrate on answering the questions.
8. Practice with Sample Test Questions

Answer practice questions and find explanations for correct answers

Sample Test Questions

The sample questions that follow illustrate the kinds of questions on the test. They are not, however, representative of the entire scope of the test in either content or difficulty. Answers with explanations follow the questions.

Directions: Each of the questions or statements below is followed by four suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case.

1. Which of the following lists Jean Piaget’s stages of cognitive development in the correct sequence?
   (A) Concrete operational, sensorimotor, preoperational, formal operational
   (B) Preoperational, formal operational, concrete operational, sensorimotor
   (C) Preoperational, sensorimotor, formal operational, concrete operational
   (D) Sensorimotor, preoperational, concrete operational, formal operational

2. A psychologist using which of the following psychotherapeutic approaches is most likely to use systematic desensitization techniques?
   (A) Behavioral
   (B) Gestalt
   (C) Psychoanalytic
   (D) Rational-emotive

3. Which of the following theorists proposed that humans are motivated by a hierarchy of needs, the highest of which is a need for self-actualization?
   (A) Abraham Maslow
   (B) Carl Jung
   (C) Sigmund Freud
   (D) Walter Mischel

4. Which of the following schools of psychology has been most interested in explaining why the figure above is perceived as a cube?
   (A) Psychoanalysis
   (B) Behaviorism
   (C) Gestalt
   (D) Functionalism

5. Which of the following terms is a psychologist most likely to use to refer to the categories that people use to classify events, objects, or individuals?
   (A) Images
   (B) Concepts
   (C) Scripts
   (D) Metacognition

6. Electrical stimulation of which of the following parts of the nervous system in rats is most likely to elicit eating, drinking, or attack behavior?
   (A) Spinal cord
   (B) Medulla
   (C) Pons
   (D) Hypothalamus
7. Which of the following is an example of Lawrence Kohlberg's conventional morality in an adolescent female?

(A) She volunteers to work in a soup kitchen on weekends because she believes her teachers would approve of such behavior.

(B) She volunteers to work in a soup kitchen on weekends because she believes all members of society are obliged to help others.

(C) She refuses to accompany her boyfriend to a party where alcohol will be served because she fears parental punishment for consuming alcohol.

(D) She refuses to accompany her boyfriend to a party where alcohol will be served because she disapproves of activities that might harm others.

8. Which of the following scenarios illustrates the just-world phenomenon, which explains our responses to certain behaviors?

(A) A doctor attributes a fellow practitioner's bankruptcy to poor money management.

(B) A figure skater attributes her failure to win a tournament to a loose skate blade.

(C) An executive attributes her promotion to her supervisor's misjudgment.

(D) A mother blames the noise on the city street outside their home for preventing her son from earning good grades.

9. A father wants his child to take out the trash more often. Which of the following behavioral techniques would be most effective in increasing the behavior?

(A) Negative reinforcement

(B) Habituation

(C) Punishment

(D) Extinction

10. Which of the following utterances by a psychotherapist to an anxious client would be most typical of a cognitive therapeutic approach?

(A) “You say you feel you are very nervous.”

(B) “Can you list or identify how you might be benefiting from your anxiety?”

(C) “What are you thinking about when you become anxious?”

(D) “Do you feel your parents met your childhood emotional needs adequately?”

11. Which of the following structures is correctly matched with its location in the brain?

(A) Frontal lobe . . . somatosensory cortex

(B) Parietal lobe . . . primary motor cortex

(C) Temporal lobe . . . Wernicke’s area

(D) Occipital lobe . . . Broca’s area

12. Jake is a chronic liar, seems incapable of forming attachments to others, and does not experience any guilt for breaking laws or violating the rights of other people. According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-IV-TR®), Jake would most likely be diagnosed with

(A) bipolar disorder

(B) antisocial personality disorder

(C) dissociative identity disorder

(D) a schizophrenic disorder

13. Barbara is attending a lecture titled “Conditions of Worth as Impediments to the Development of Self-Regard.” It is most likely that the individual giving the lecture takes which of the following approaches to the study of personality?

(A) Humanistic

(B) Behavioral

(C) Psychodynamic

(D) Sociocultural
14. I label the beating of my heart as fear because I evaluate the situation as dangerous.

Which of the following is the theory of emotion that corresponds best to the statement above?

(A) James-Lange  
(B) Schachter's two-factor  
(C) Opponent-process  
(D) Cannon-Bard

15. Dogs can be trained to stay within a specific area of a yard by placing a collar on them that signals a tone twelve inches from where a shock will be delivered. After a few trials, the dog will not go beyond the area where the tone signals, thus avoiding the shock. What is the unconditioned stimulus in this example?

(A) The tone  
(B) The shock  
(C) Fear of the shock  
(D) Fear of the tone

16. Which of the following deficits is most likely to be present in a person who sustains an injury to the hippocampus?

(A) An inability to learn a doctor's name  
(B) Failure to recognize the faces of family members  
(C) Loss of speech or hearing  
(D) Loss of touch sensation on one side of the body

17. A maximum level of performance on a task of medium difficulty would be obtained with an arousal level that is

(A) zero  
(B) low  
(C) medium  
(D) high

18. The personality theory of which of the following psychologists focuses on unconditional positive regard as the basis for a healthy self-concept?

(A) Abraham Maslow  
(B) Carl Rogers  
(C) Hans Eysenck  
(D) Sigmund Freud

19. A normally distributed test has a mean of 60 and a standard deviation of 10. Which of the following score ranges is expected for 95 percent of the population who took the test?

(A) 20 to 100  
(B) 30 to 90  
(C) 40 to 80  
(D) 50 to 70

20. Which of the following techniques is best to use for determining whether an infant can perceive the difference between two colors?

(A) Habituation  
(B) The strange situation  
(C) Negative reinforcement  
(D) The visual cliff

21. Researchers conducted an experiment to determine whether listening to music while studying can improve performance on spelling tests. Two groups of students studied 30 minutes for a spelling test. One group wore earphones that played music while the students studied. The other group wore earphones that did not play music while the students studied. Which of the following is the dependent variable in the study?

(A) Whether the students listened to music  
(B) Whether students were wearing earphones  
(C) Scores on the spelling test  
(D) Amount of time spent studying
22. Which of the following is a likely explanation for why bystanders might not intervene to help an injured person?
   (A) Foot-in-the-door phenomenon
   (B) Diffusion of responsibility
   (C) Groupthink
   (D) Group polarization

23. Which of the following senses provides the most information about how one’s body, especially one’s head, is oriented in the world with respect to gravity?
   (A) Visual
   (B) Gustatory
   (C) Vestibular
   (D) Olfactory

24. A high school student is attempting to memorize the names of the cranial nerves. The student will likely experience greater success by organizing the information by function rather than by simply repeating the names numerous times. The increased likelihood of success in remembering the names of the nerves is due to
   (A) the tip-of-the-tongue phenomenon
   (B) the Premack principle
   (C) elaborative rehearsal
   (D) procedural memory
Answers to Practice Questions

1. The correct answer is (D). According to Piaget, the sequence of stages is invariant.

2. The correct answer is (A). Systematic desensitization is a behavioral therapy, as opposed to Gestalt, psychoanalytic, and rational-emotive therapies.

3. The correct answer is (A). Maslow was a humanistic theorist who believed that certain basic needs, such as physiological needs, must be fulfilled before higher needs, such as esteem, are fulfilled. Jung and Freud were psychoanalytic theorists, and Mischel believed that the situation is a stronger determinant of behavior than are personality traits.

4. The correct answer is (C). Closure, one of the Gestalt principles, describes the tendency to complete figures that have gaps in them.

5. The correct answer is (B). Concepts is a term used to describe the classes or categories that people use for events, objects, individuals, or the relationships between them. Images, scripts, and metacognition are not terms that refer to classification.

6. The correct answer is (D). Electrical stimulation of the hypothalamus of rats has induced aggressive behavior, as well as eating and drinking behavior. Electrical stimulation of the other structures has not produced the same reactions.

7. The correct answer is (A). The girl’s actions are motivated by approval of others. This is conventional moral judgment (stage 3). In the other choices, the girl’s judgment is motivated by the morality of social contract, fear of punishment, and consideration of higher principles, respectively.

8. The correct answer is (A). The just-world phenomenon is the belief that there is fairness in the world, such that good people are rewarded and bad people are punished. In the situation in (A), someone is assumed to have done something wrong and been punished for it. In the other situations there is neither a wrong act being punished nor a good act being rewarded.

9. The correct answer is (A). In negative reinforcement, the removal of an unpleasant stimulus increases the probability of occurrence of a behavior. Habituation does not increase or decrease the frequency of a behavior. Punishment and extinction both decrease the frequency of a behavior.

10. The correct answer is (C). A cognitive therapist helps the client identify and change thoughts that contribute to maladaptive responses. The therapist does not focus on reflection of feelings, reinforcement of responses, or emotional aspects of past relationships.

11. The correct answer is (C). This question requires matching the structures in the cerebral cortex with the correct lobe. All but (C) are incorrectly paired. The somatosensory cortex is in the parietal lobe. The primary motor cortex and Broca’s area are in the frontal lobe.

12. The correct answer is (B). Based on the DSM-IV-TR, the symptoms of lack of guilt and chronic violations of others’ rights are consistent with the diagnosis of antisocial personality disorder.

13. The correct answer is (A). Conditions of worth and self-regard are constructs described by Carl Rogers, a humanistic psychologist. Behavioral psychologists focus on environmental consequences and how they affect behavior. Psychodynamic psychologists focus on how inner conflicts affect behavior, and psychologists with a sociocultural perspective are interested in how society or culture affects the individual.

14. The correct answer is (B). According to Schachter’s two-factor theory, the experience of emotion begins with physiological arousal and then moves to a cognitive appraisal of that arousal. In other words, once one experiences physical arousal, one looks to what is going on in the environment to evaluate the meaning of the arousal. The other theories do not include a cognitive evaluation.

15. The correct answer is (B). The shock is the unconditioned stimulus. Without training, it elicits the unconditioned response (fear of the shock). The tone is the conditioned stimulus. The fear of the tone is the conditioned response.
16. The correct answer is (A). The hippocampus is involved in the storage of new information into memory. Failure to recognize faces might follow damage to the right parietal lobe, loss of speech or hearing might follow damage to the left temporal and frontal lobes, and loss of sensation might follow damage to the somatosensory cortex of either parietal lobe.

17. The correct answer is (C). When performance and arousal for a task of medium difficulty are plotted on a graph, with arousal on the x-axis and performance on the y-axis, the result is an inverted U-shaped curve. Performance is lowest with low and high levels of arousal and highest with medium levels of arousal.

18. The correct answer is (B). Carl Rogers was a humanist who proposed the idea that a healthy self-concept arises from unconditional positive regard, or acceptance and support of a person regardless of the person’s behavior. The other psychologists listed did not include unconditional positive regard in their personality theories.

19. The correct answer is (C). In a normally distributed set of scores, 95 percent of the scores will be within two standard deviations of the mean. With a mean of 60 and a standard deviation of 10, two standard deviations below will be 40, and two standard deviations above will be 80. Thus 95 percent of the scores will fall between 40 and 80.

20. The correct answer is (A). Habituation is the research technique used to determine whether an infant can perceive colors. The infant is shown a colored stimulus and a response (i.e., looking at the stimulus) is measured. As the infant habituates to the stimulus, the response decreases. The color is then changed. If the infant’s response frequency or duration increases, there is evidence that the infant can perceive the change in color. If the response frequency or duration does not increase, there is evidence that the infant cannot perceive the change in color.

21. The correct answer is (C). The dependent variable is the variable being observed and measured as a result of manipulation of the independent variable. The variable being measured in this study is the score on the spelling test. The independent variable is whether the students listened to music. The other two choices were held constant in this study.

22. The correct answer is (B). Diffusion of responsibility can often explain why bystanders do not come to the aid of someone who obviously needs help. It typically occurs when there are a number of people present and each person assumes that one of the others will take, or already has taken, responsibility for the situation. The foot-in-the-door phenomenon is associated with persuasion, and groupthink and group polarization affect attitudes in group settings.

23. The correct answer is (C). The vestibular system provides information about how the head and body are oriented in the world with respect to gravity. The visual system contributes information to the vestibular system but does not process the gravity-related information. The other two systems are not involved at all.

24. The correct answer is (C). Organizing the information to be remembered by function, in comparison to just repeating it, provides an elaborative function and thus deepens the level of processing of the information. Information processed more deeply is more likely to be recalled. The tip-of-the-tongue phenomenon reduces, rather than increases, recall, the Premack principle is a behavioral phenomenon, and procedural memory is not used in this scenario.
9. Check on Testing Accommodations

See if you qualify for accommodations that may make it easier to take the Praxis test

What if English is not my primary language?

Praxis tests are given only in English. If your primary language is not English (PLNE), you may be eligible for extended testing time. For more details, visit www.ets.org/praxis/register/accommodations/plne.

What if I cannot take the paper-based test on Saturday?

Monday is the alternate paper-delivered test day for test takers who can’t test on Saturday due to:

- religious convictions
- duties as a member of the United States armed forces

Online registration is not available for Monday test takers. You must complete a registration form and provide a photocopy of your military orders or a letter from your cleric. You’ll find details at www.ets.org/praxis/register/accommodations/monday_testing.

What if I have a disability or other health-related need?

The following accommodations are available for Praxis test takers who meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Amendments Act disability requirements:

- Extended testing time
- Additional rest breaks
- Separate testing room
- Writer/recorder of answers
- Test reader
- Sign language interpreter for spoken directions only
- Perkins Brailler
- Braille slate and stylus
- Printed copy of spoken directions
- Oral interpreter
- Audio test
- Braille test
- Large print test book (14 pt.)
- Large print answer sheet
- Listening section omitted

For more information on these accommodations, visit www.ets.org/praxis/register/disabilities.

Note: Test takers who have health-related needs requiring them to bring equipment, beverages, or snacks into the testing room or to take extra or extended breaks must request these accommodations by following the procedures described in the Bulletin Supplement for Test Takers with Disabilities or Health-related Needs (PDF), which can be found at http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/disabilities.

You can find additional information on available resources for test takers with disabilities or health-related needs at www.ets.org/disabilities.
10. Do Your Best on Test Day

Get ready for test day so you will be calm and confident

You followed your study plan. You are prepared for the test. Now it’s time to prepare for test day.

Plan to end your review a day or two before the actual test date so you avoid cramming. Take a dry run to the test center so you’re sure of the route, traffic conditions, and parking. Most of all, you want to eliminate any unexpected factors that could distract you from your ultimate goal—passing the Praxis test!

On the day of the test, you should:

- be well rested
- wear comfortable clothes and dress in layers
- eat before you take the test and bring food with you to eat during break to keep your energy level up
- bring an acceptable and valid photo identification with you
- bring a supply of well-sharpened No. 2 pencils (at least 3) and a blue or black pen for the essay or constructed-response tests
- be prepared to stand in line to check in or to wait while other test takers check in
- select a seat away from doors, aisles, and other high-traffic areas

You can't control the testing situation, but you can control yourself. Stay calm. The supervisors are well trained and make every effort to provide uniform testing conditions, but don’t let it bother you if the test doesn’t start exactly on time. You will have the necessary amount of time once it does start.

You can think of preparing for this test as training for an athletic event. Once you’ve trained, prepared, and rested, give it everything you’ve got.

What items am I restricted from bringing into the test center?

You cannot bring into the test center personal items such as:

- handbags, knapsacks, or briefcases
- water bottles or canned or bottled beverages
- study materials, books, or notes
- scrap paper
- any electronic, photographic, recording, or listening device

Note: All cell phones, smart phones (e.g., BlackBerry®, iPhones®, etc.), PDAs, and other electronic, photographic, recording, or listening devices are strictly prohibited from the test center. If you are seen with such a device, you will be dismissed from the test, your test scores will be canceled, and you will forfeit your test fees. If you are seen USING such a device, the device will be confiscated and inspected. For more information on what you can bring to the test center, visit www.ets.org/praxis/test_day/bring.
Are You Ready?

Complete this checklist to determine whether you're ready to take your test.

☐ Do you know the testing requirements for the license or certification you are seeking in the state(s) where you plan to teach?

☐ Have you followed all of the test registration procedures?

☐ Do you know the topics that will be covered in each test you plan to take?

☐ Have you reviewed any textbooks, class notes, and course readings that relate to the topics covered?

☐ Do you know how long the test will take and the number of questions it contains?

☐ Have you considered how you will pace your work?

☐ Are you familiar with the types of questions for your test?

☐ Are you familiar with the recommended test-taking strategies?

☐ Have you practiced by working through the practice questions in this study companion or in a study guide or practice test?

☐ If constructed-response questions are part of your test, do you understand the scoring criteria for these items?

☐ If you are repeating a Praxis test, have you analyzed your previous score report to determine areas where additional study and test preparation could be useful?

If you answered “yes” to the questions above, your preparation has paid off. Now take the Praxis test, do your best, pass it—and begin your teaching career!
Appendix: Other Questions You May Have

Here is some supplemental information that can give you a better understanding of the Praxis tests.

What do the Praxis tests measure?
The Praxis tests measure the specific pedagogical skills and knowledge that beginning teachers need. The tests do not measure an individual’s disposition toward teaching or potential for success. The assessments are designed to be comprehensive and inclusive, but are limited to what can be covered in a finite number of questions and question types.

What are the Praxis I tests?
The Praxis I tests measure basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. All these tests include multiple-choice questions and the Writing test also includes an essay question. Praxis I tests are designed to evaluate whether you have the academic skills needed to prepare for a career in education.

What are the Praxis II tests?
Praxis II Subject Assessments measure knowledge of specific subjects that K–12 educators teach, as well as general and subject-specific teaching skills and knowledge. Ranging from Agriculture to World Languages, there are more than 130 Praxis II tests, which contain multiple-choice or constructed-response questions, or a combination of both.

What is the difference between Praxis multiple-choice and constructed-response tests?
Multiple-choice tests measure a broad range of knowledge across your content area. Constructed-response tests measure your ability to provide in-depth explanations of a few essential topics in a given subject area. Content-specific Praxis II pedagogy tests, most of which are constructed-response, measure your understanding of how to teach certain fundamental concepts in a subject area.

The tests do not measure your actual teaching ability, however. Teaching combines many complex skills that are typically measured in other ways, including classroom observation, videotaped practice, or portfolios not included in the Praxis test.

Who takes the tests and why?
Some colleges and universities use the Praxis I tests to evaluate individuals for entry into teacher education programs. The assessments are generally taken early in your college career. Many states also require Praxis I scores as part of their teacher licensing process.

Individuals entering the teaching profession take the Praxis II tests as part of the teacher licensing and certification process required by many states. In addition, some professional associations and organizations require Praxis II tests for professional licensing.

Do all states require these tests?
The Praxis Series tests are currently required for teacher licensure in approximately 40 states and United States territories. These tests are also used by several professional licensing agencies and by several hundred colleges and universities. Teacher candidates can test in one state and submit their scores in any other state that requires Praxis testing for licensure. You can find details at www.ets.org/praxis/states.
**What is licensure/certification?**

Licensure in any area—medicine, law, architecture, accounting, cosmetology—is an assurance to the public that the person holding the license possesses sufficient knowledge and skills to perform important occupational activities safely and effectively. In the case of teacher licensing, a license tells the public that the individual has met predefined competency standards for beginning teaching practice.

Because a license makes such a serious claim about its holder, licensure tests are usually quite demanding. In some fields, licensure tests have more than one part and last for more than one day. Candidates for licensure in all fields plan intensive study as part of their professional preparation. Some join study groups, others study alone. But preparing to take a licensure test is, in all cases, a professional activity. Because it assesses the entire body of knowledge for the field you are entering, preparing for a licensure exam takes planning, discipline, and sustained effort.

**Why does my state require The Praxis Series tests?**

Your state chose The Praxis Series tests because they assess the breadth and depth of content—called the “domain” — that your state wants its teachers to possess before they begin to teach. The level of content knowledge, reflected in the passing score, is based on recommendations of panels of teachers and teacher educators in each subject area. The state licensing agency and, in some states, the state legislature ratify the passing scores that have been recommended by panels of teachers.

**How were the tests developed?**

ETS consulted with practicing teachers and teacher educators around the country during every step of The Praxis Series test development process. First, ETS asked them which knowledge and skills a beginning teacher needs to be effective. Their responses were then ranked in order of importance and reviewed by hundreds of teachers.

After the results were analyzed and consensus was reached, guidelines, or specifications, for the multiple-choice and constructed-response tests were developed by teachers and teacher educators. Following these guidelines, teachers and professional test developers created test questions that met content requirements and ETS Standards for Quality and Fairness.*

When your state adopted the research-based Praxis tests, local panels of teachers and teacher educators evaluated each question for its relevance to beginning teachers in your state. During this "validity study," the panel also provided a passing-score recommendation based on how many of the test questions a beginning teacher in your state would be able to answer correctly. Your state’s licensing agency determined the final passing-score requirement.

ETS follows well-established industry procedures and standards designed to ensure that the tests measure what they are intended to measure. When you pass the Praxis tests your state requires, you are proving that you have the knowledge and skills you need to begin your teaching career.

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How are the tests updated to ensure the content remains current?

Praxis tests are reviewed regularly. During the first phase of review, ETS conducts an analysis of relevant state and association standards and of the current test content. State licensure titles and the results of relevant job analyses are also considered. Revised test questions are then produced following the standard test development methodology. National advisory committees may also be convened to review existing test specifications and to evaluate test forms for alignment with the specifications.

How long will it take to receive my scores?

Scores for computer-delivered tests are available faster than scores for paper-delivered tests. Scores for most computer-delivered multiple-choice tests are reported on the screen immediately after the test. Scores for tests that contain constructed-response questions or essays aren’t available immediately after the test because of the scoring process involved. Official scores for computer-delivered tests are reported to you and your designated score recipients approximately two to three weeks after the test date. Scores for paper-delivered tests will be available within four weeks after the test date. See the test dates and deadlines calendar at www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates for exact score reporting dates.

Can I access my scores on the Web?

All test takers can access their test scores via their Praxis account free of charge for one year from the posting date. This online access replaces the mailing of a paper score report.

The process is easy—simply log in to your Praxis account at www.ets.org/praxis and click on your score report. If you do not already have a Praxis account, you must create one to view your scores.

Note: You must create a Praxis account to access your scores, even if you registered by mail or phone.
Your teaching career is worth preparing for, so start today!
Let the Praxis™ Study Companion guide you.

To search for the Praxis test prep resources that meet your specific needs, visit:

www.ets.org/praxis/testprep

To purchase official test prep made by the creators of the Praxis tests, visit the ETS Store:

www.ets.org/praxis/store