

National Police Select Test (NPST) Reading Comprehension Practice Test Sample Study Guide



EVERYTHING you need from our exam experts!

**Featuring practice questions, answers, and explanations
for each question.**

**This study guide is a SAMPLE. Visit
<https://npstreadingcomprehension.examzify.com>
to get the full version available exclusively to
Examzify Plus pass holders .**

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What does a BAC of .08% or higher typically indicate?**
 - A. Safe driving ability**
 - B. Probable DUI violation**
 - C. Low alcohol consumption**
 - D. No effects on driving**
- 2. Who is responsible for the content of traffic collision reports?**
 - A. The officer who witnesses the incident**
 - B. The Traffic Bureau**
 - C. The county administration**
 - D. The chief of police**
- 3. What does the term 'beat' refer to in a policing context?**
 - A. A specific crime type**
 - B. An area assigned to police officers for patrol**
 - C. A community event**
 - D. A training session for officers**
- 4. Why is it important to have adequate background knowledge for reading comprehension?**
 - A. It allows for guesswork in understanding**
 - B. It reduces the reader's ability to engage**
 - C. It provides context for new information**
 - D. It complicates the reading process**
- 5. In cases of serious injury or fatality, who may the Traffic Bureau Commander notify for assistance?**
 - A. The local fire department**
 - B. State Highway Patrol**
 - C. The police chief**
 - D. The mayor's office**

- 6. How can identifying logical fallacies in arguments assist comprehension?**
- A. It makes the text easier to read**
 - B. It reveals weaknesses in the arguments being presented**
 - C. It shows the author's background**
 - D. It adds complexity to the interpretation**
- 7. What can influence the deployment of traffic officers?**
- A. Community feedback and public sentiment**
 - B. Traffic volume, time of day, and day of the week**
 - C. Scheduled community service events**
 - D. High profile incidents in the area**
- 8. How can practicing under timed conditions benefit reading comprehension?**
- A. It reduces distractions**
 - B. It increases familiarity with the reading format**
 - C. It makes reading less important**
 - D. It decreases anxiety overall**
- 9. What is an acceptable reason for a suspect to refuse a chemical test?**
- A. The test is too invasive**
 - B. The police department cannot furnish a selected test**
 - C. The suspect is unsure how to proceed**
 - D. The suspect does not wish to comply with police orders**
- 10. What are "text features" and why are they important?**
- A. Text features include images only**
 - B. Text features include elements like headings, subheadings, and bullet points that highlight important information**
 - C. Text features are never important**
 - D. Text features are only relevant in fiction**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What does a BAC of .08% or higher typically indicate?

- A. Safe driving ability**
- B. Probable DUI violation**
- C. Low alcohol consumption**
- D. No effects on driving**

A BAC, or Blood Alcohol Concentration, of .08% or higher typically indicates that an individual has reached a level of intoxication where their ability to drive is compromised. Many states have legally set this threshold as the limit for driving under the influence (DUI). At this level, an individual is considered to have impaired motor skills, reduced judgment, and diminished reaction times, all of which significantly increase the risk of accidents. This connection between BAC and driving ability has led to stringent laws enforcing DUI penalties, making it essential to understand that a BAC at or above this level suggests a probable violation of driving laws related to alcohol consumption. The other options do not align with the implications of a .08% BAC. Safe driving ability, low alcohol consumption, and no effects on driving misrepresent the risk associated with operating a vehicle at this level of intoxication.

2. Who is responsible for the content of traffic collision reports?

- A. The officer who witnesses the incident**
- B. The Traffic Bureau**
- C. The county administration**
- D. The chief of police**

The Traffic Bureau is responsible for the content of traffic collision reports because this specialized unit is tasked with investigating traffic-related incidents, ensuring that reports are accurate, comprehensive, and compliant with legal standards. The bureau typically has personnel trained in traffic laws, accident reconstruction, and report-writing techniques, which enables them to provide a structured and detailed account of the collision. Their expertise is essential in analyzing the circumstances of the accident and in the collection of evidence that may be needed for legal proceedings. In comparison, other entities—like the officer who witnesses the incident or the chief of police—play different roles. While an officer witnesses the collision and may initially gather information, the final report often requires thorough review and standardization that only the Traffic Bureau provides. Similarly, county administration is involved in broader administrative tasks but does not specialize in the intricate aspects of traffic collision reporting.

3. What does the term 'beat' refer to in a policing context?

- A. A specific crime type
- B. An area assigned to police officers for patrol**
- C. A community event
- D. A training session for officers

In a policing context, the term 'beat' specifically refers to an area that is assigned to police officers for patrol. This area is typically designated for officers to engage with the community, monitor for suspicious activities, and respond to incidents within that particular locale. The concept of a beat is fundamental to community policing strategies, as it encourages officers to develop familiarity with the neighborhoods they serve, fostering relationships and trust with residents. The importance of the beat can be seen in how officers are expected to know the geography, demographics, and local issues of their assigned area, ultimately leading to more effective law enforcement and community engagement. Having a clearly defined beat allows for systematic coverage, ensuring that police presence is consistent and proactive in preventing crime and assisting the public. In contrast, other options describe different aspects of policing that do not match the definition of a beat. A specific crime type pertains to the categorization of offenses, a community event refers to gatherings or functions within the community that may involve police presence but are not defined as a beat, and a training session for officers relates to their professional development rather than an assigned patrol area.

4. Why is it important to have adequate background knowledge for reading comprehension?

- A. It allows for guesswork in understanding
- B. It reduces the reader's ability to engage
- C. It provides context for new information**
- D. It complicates the reading process

Having adequate background knowledge is vital for reading comprehension because it provides context for new information. When readers encounter a text, their existing knowledge helps them make connections with the content, facilitating a deeper understanding. This context allows readers to anticipate what might come next in the narrative or argument, fill in gaps in information, and make inferences. Without this foundational knowledge, readers may struggle to grasp the meaning of the material, resulting in a fragmented understanding. For instance, if someone is reading about a specific legal concept without prior knowledge of legal terminology or frameworks, they may find it challenging to follow the discussion or argument being presented. Thus, background knowledge enhances cognitive engagement with the text and promotes retention of new ideas, making it a critical component of effective reading comprehension.

5. In cases of serious injury or fatality, who may the Traffic Bureau Commander notify for assistance?

A. The local fire department

B. State Highway Patrol

C. The police chief

D. The mayor's office

The selection of the State Highway Patrol as the appropriate notification in cases of serious injury or fatality is based on their specialized role and expertise in traffic-related incidents. The State Highway Patrol is trained to handle significant road accidents, ensuring safety and providing support in investigations that often arise from such events. Their presence is critical in managing these incidents, as they have authority and resources specifically dedicated to dealing with serious traffic matters. In contrast, while other entities like the local fire department, police chief, or mayor's office may have roles in emergency response or administrative oversight, their involvement may not be as directly relevant or effective when it comes to traffic incident investigations than that of the State Highway Patrol. The primary function of the Traffic Bureau Commander is to ensure that proper protocols are followed, and notifying the State Highway Patrol aligns with best practices in law enforcement response to serious accidents.

6. How can identifying logical fallacies in arguments assist comprehension?

A. It makes the text easier to read

B. It reveals weaknesses in the arguments being presented

C. It shows the author's background

D. It adds complexity to the interpretation

Identifying logical fallacies in arguments significantly enhances comprehension by revealing weaknesses in the arguments being presented. When a fallacy is identified, it signals that the reasoning is flawed or the conclusion is not adequately supported by the evidence provided. This understanding allows a reader to critically evaluate the validity of the argument and consider alternative viewpoints or stronger evidence. Recognizing these fallacies helps in distinguishing between sound reasoning and manipulative rhetoric, ultimately enabling a more informed understanding of the topic being discussed. This skill is particularly important in contexts like debates, academic discussions, or even everyday conversations, where arguments may be presented with the intent to persuade regardless of their merit. By identifying and analyzing these weaknesses, readers can engage more thoughtfully and critically with the material.

7. What can influence the deployment of traffic officers?

- A. Community feedback and public sentiment
- B. Traffic volume, time of day, and day of the week**
- C. Scheduled community service events
- D. High profile incidents in the area

The deployment of traffic officers is most significantly influenced by practical factors directly related to road use and safety, such as traffic volume, the time of day, and the day of the week. For instance, during peak commuting hours, when traffic volume tends to increase, more officers may be allocated to manage congestion and ensure safety. Similarly, certain days of the week may see heavier traffic due to events such as weekend outings or shopping sprees, prompting adjustments in officer deployment to address these patterns. This approach ensures that resources are utilized efficiently, targeting times and conditions where they are most needed to maintain safe roadways and manage potential traffic issues effectively. In contrast, while community feedback, scheduled community events, and high-profile incidents can have some influence on traffic management strategies, the core factors directly tied to traffic patterns are the most critical when determining how and when to assign traffic officers.

8. How can practicing under timed conditions benefit reading comprehension?

- A. It reduces distractions
- B. It increases familiarity with the reading format**
- C. It makes reading less important
- D. It decreases anxiety overall

Practicing under timed conditions is particularly beneficial for reading comprehension because it helps familiarise individuals with the structure and pacing of reading materials they may encounter in a testing environment. This practice develops a person's ability to locate key information quickly, enhances their understanding of how to effectively manage their time during a reading section, and builds their stamina for longer texts. When individuals practice with a time constraint, they become adept at summarizing content and identifying main ideas and supporting details without dwelling too long on any one part of the text. This prepares them to navigate the pressures of actual testing situations, making the experience more manageable and boosting overall performance. Being familiar with the reading format and the pressure of time creates a more intuitive and instinctive reading practice, sharpening comprehension skills that are critical for success in assessments and real-world applications.

9. What is an acceptable reason for a suspect to refuse a chemical test?

- A. The test is too invasive**
- B. The police department cannot furnish a selected test**
- C. The suspect is unsure how to proceed**
- D. The suspect does not wish to comply with police orders**

An acceptable reason for a suspect to refuse a chemical test would involve situations where procedural issues arise, such as the police department's inability to provide a specific and standard test. If the police cannot furnish a selected test, it raises questions about the validity of the process. This implies a lack of due diligence on the part of law enforcement, and thus, the suspect may have grounds to refuse because the legal requirements for administering such tests have not been met. In contrast, reasons citing invasiveness or uncertainty do not hold up in a legal context regarding the refusal of chemical tests. The legal framework typically prioritizes the need for compliance with standardized testing procedures. Refusing based on personal preferences or feelings about compliance with police orders does not provide a legitimate basis for refusal under most legal circumstances.

10. What are "text features" and why are they important?

- A. Text features include images only**
- B. Text features include elements like headings, subheadings, and bullet points that highlight important information**
- C. Text features are never important**
- D. Text features are only relevant in fiction**

Text features encompass a range of elements within written materials that aid in enhancing understanding and navigation through the text. These elements include headings, subheadings, bullet points, captions, and other formatting styles that draw the reader's attention to key points and organize information effectively. Understanding text features is crucial because they serve as signposts that guide readers through the content, helping them to locate specific information quickly and comprehend the main ideas within a text. For example, headings and subheadings break down complex material into manageable sections, while bullet points simplify lists of information, making them easier to absorb and refer back to. The other options misrepresent the nature and importance of text features. For instance, saying text features only include images neglects the comprehensive role of other elements in enhancing text readability and organization. Claiming they are never important dismisses their critical function in facilitating understanding. Finally, suggesting text features are only relevant in fiction overlooks the value they bring in nonfiction and informational texts, where organization and clarity are paramount.