

# Reach For the Top Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What is the primary factor that contributed to Target's decision to purchase Zellers?**
  - A. Expansion of product lines**
  - B. Instant presence in Canada**
  - C. Partnership with Hudson's Bay Company**
  - D. Increase in Canadian sales revenue**
- 2. Which province in Canada is referred to as the "Gateway to the North"?**
  - A. Ontario**
  - B. Alberta**
  - C. Manitoba**
  - D. Saskatchewan**
- 3. What is the most abundant element in the universe?**
  - A. Oxygen**
  - B. Carbon**
  - C. Hydrogen**
  - D. Helium**
- 4. What is the name of the famous moustached Italian plumber residing in the Mushroom Kingdom?**
  - A. Luigi**
  - B. Mario**
  - C. Peach**
  - D. Wario**
- 5. What is the main purpose of Parks Canada?**
  - A. To promote cultural events across the country**
  - B. To manage national parks and historical sites**
  - C. To provide recreational activities for the public**
  - D. To maintain wildlife conservation programs**

- 6. How many Great Lakes have a larger area within Canadian borders compared to American borders?**
- A. One**
  - B. Two**
  - C. Three**
  - D. Four**
- 7. What genre does Philip K Dick's novel belong to?**
- A. Historical Fiction**
  - B. Science Fiction**
  - C. Fantasy**
  - D. Mystery**
- 8. What ancient civilization was located in the Andes Mountains of South America?**
- A. The Inca**
  - B. The Maya**
  - C. The Olmecs**
  - D. The Aztecs**
- 9. Who wrote "The Hockey Sweater," a short story about a boy in Quebec forced to wear a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey?**
- A. Roch Carrier**
  - B. Jared R. N. B. Campbell**
  - C. Aldous Huxley**
  - D. Fredric Brown**
- 10. Which iconic film features elements originated from Philip K Dick's science fiction work?**
- A. Blade Runner**
  - B. Inception**
  - C. The Matrix**
  - D. Minority Report**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the primary factor that contributed to Target's decision to purchase Zellers?**

- A. Expansion of product lines**
- B. Instant presence in Canada**
- C. Partnership with Hudson's Bay Company**
- D. Increase in Canadian sales revenue**

Target's decision to purchase Zellers was primarily motivated by the desire for an instant presence in Canada. Acquiring Zellers allowed Target to quickly establish itself in a new market without the lengthy process of building stores from the ground up. This strategic move provided Target with a ready-made infrastructure, including locations, staff, and a customer base that had been accustomed to shopping at Zellers. The other options, while potentially relevant to Target's broader strategy, did not drive the decision to purchase Zellers specifically. The focus was on rapidly entering the Canadian marketplace, which was achieved through this acquisition.

**2. Which province in Canada is referred to as the "Gateway to the North"?**

- A. Ontario**
- B. Alberta**
- C. Manitoba**
- D. Saskatchewan**

Manitoba is referred to as the "Gateway to the North" due to its geographical location and historical significance. The province serves as a pivotal access point for transportation and trade routes leading to the northern territories of Canada. Winnipeg, the capital city, is often highlighted as a central hub for travel into the northern regions, making it essential for logistics, business, and tourism in that area. The nickname reflects not only the physical role Manitoba plays in connecting southern Canada to the North but also its cultural and economic ties to the Indigenous communities and resources found in that region. This includes the natural environment, wildlife, and mineral resources that are significant to northern development. In the context of the other provinces listed, while they may have their own unique features and contributions, they do not share the same historical or geographical significance as the entryway to northern Canada that Manitoba represents.

### **3. What is the most abundant element in the universe?**

- A. Oxygen**
- B. Carbon**
- C. Hydrogen**
- D. Helium**

Hydrogen is recognized as the most abundant element in the universe, making up about 75% of its elemental mass. It is the simplest and lightest element, consisting of just one proton and one electron. This elemental dominance arises from the conditions present during the formation of the universe, particularly during the Big Bang, when hydrogen was produced in vast amounts. In addition to its abundance, hydrogen is a crucial building block for the universe's structure and is fundamental in nuclear fusion processes that power stars, including our Sun. Stars primarily fuse hydrogen into helium through nuclear reactions, a process that not only generates energy but also leads to the synthesis of heavier elements over time. This fundamental role in star formation and evolution underscores hydrogen's importance in cosmology and astrophysics. While elements like helium, oxygen, and carbon are certainly significant in various astronomical and biological contexts, none come close to matching hydrogen's dominance in the cosmic landscape. Helium is the second most abundant element but makes up only about 25% of the elemental mass, while carbon and oxygen are much less prevalent in comparison, primarily found in specific contexts such as within stars and planets.

### **4. What is the name of the famous moustached Italian plumber residing in the Mushroom Kingdom?**

- A. Luigi**
- B. Mario**
- C. Peach**
- D. Wario**

The famous moustached Italian plumber residing in the Mushroom Kingdom is named Mario. He is the central character in the iconic Nintendo video game franchise that has been popular since the 1980s. Mario is known for his adventurous journeys through various levels to save Princess Peach and defeat the villain Bowser. His character is often accompanied by his brother Luigi, who is also a plumber but does not share the same remarkable fame as Mario. Princess Peach is the damsel in distress in many of the games, and Wario is introduced as a rival character, known more for his mischievous nature and antagonistic behavior. Mario's significance and long-standing presence in gaming culture make him an iconic figure and the face of the Nintendo brand.

**5. What is the main purpose of Parks Canada?**

- A. To promote cultural events across the country
- B. To manage national parks and historical sites**
- C. To provide recreational activities for the public
- D. To maintain wildlife conservation programs

The main purpose of Parks Canada is to manage national parks and historical sites, which involves the protection and preservation of Canada's natural landscapes and cultural heritage. This responsibility encompasses a variety of tasks, including the establishment and upkeep of national parks, national historic sites, and marine conservation areas, ensuring that both natural ecosystems and historical landmarks are maintained for future generations. Parks Canada plays a crucial role in conserving biodiversity, heritage resources, and providing access to these sites for public enjoyment and education, thus fostering a connection between Canadians and their environment. While providing recreational activities, promoting cultural events, and maintaining wildlife conservation programs are all important aspects of Parks Canada's broader mission, the core purpose remains centered on the management and stewardship of national parks and historical sites. This focus ensures that the rich natural and cultural history of Canada is preserved and accessible.

**6. How many Great Lakes have a larger area within Canadian borders compared to American borders?**

- A. One
- B. Two**
- C. Three
- D. Four

The Great Lakes are made up of five significant bodies of freshwater: Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario. When we assess their respective areas within Canadian and American borders, it becomes evident that Lake Huron and Lake Superior have a larger area within Canada than within the United States. Lake Huron's northern half is primarily located in Canada, whereas Lake Superior's shoreline also on the Canadian side comprises a substantial portion of its total area. Lake Michigan, on the other hand, is entirely within the United States, while Lakes Erie and Ontario have a more balanced distribution of area between the two countries but do not surpass the area in the U.S. in comparison to their Canadian portions. Therefore, when counting only the lakes with larger areas under Canadian jurisdiction, Lake Huron and Lake Superior represent two lakes, confirming that the correct answer is two. This helps illustrate the geographical distribution of the Great Lakes and the significance of international borders in defining the areas attributed to Canada and the U.S.

**7. What genre does Philip K Dick's novel belong to?**

- A. Historical Fiction**
- B. Science Fiction**
- C. Fantasy**
- D. Mystery**

Philip K. Dick's novel is primarily categorized as science fiction due to its exploration of speculative concepts, including advanced technologies, alternate realities, and the nature of consciousness. His works often delve into philosophical questions about identity, perception, and what it means to be human, which are hallmark themes of the science fiction genre. This genre allows for imaginative storytelling set in future societies or alternate universes, often reflecting on contemporary social issues through a futuristic lens. The elements of his writing frequently include artificial intelligence, time travel, and dystopian settings, further solidifying his position as one of the key figures in science fiction literature. Other genres, such as historical fiction or mystery, do not align with the thematic and narrative techniques found in Dick's works.

**8. What ancient civilization was located in the Andes Mountains of South America?**

- A. The Inca**
- B. The Maya**
- C. The Olmecs**
- D. The Aztecs**

The Inca civilization is the correct answer because it was the dominant culture in the Andes Mountains of South America, flourishing from the early 15th century until the Spanish conquest in the 16th century. The Inca Empire was known for its advanced agricultural techniques, impressive architectural achievements such as Machu Picchu, and a highly organized society that included a vast network of roads and administrative centers spread across the mountainous terrain. In contrast, the Maya civilization was primarily located in Mesoamerica, covering parts of present-day Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras. The Olmecs are considered one of the earliest civilizations in Mesoamerica but were also not in the Andes; they thrived around the Gulf Coast of Mexico. Similarly, the Aztecs inhabited central Mexico, far removed from the Andes region where the Inca resided. This geographical distinction highlights why the Inca is the correct choice for this question regarding civilization in the Andes Mountains.

**9. Who wrote "The Hockey Sweater," a short story about a boy in Quebec forced to wear a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey?**

**A. Roch Carrier**

**B. Jared R. N. B. Campbell**

**C. Aldous Huxley**

**D. Fredric Brown**

"The Hockey Sweater" is a quintessential Canadian short story penned by Roch Carrier. This narrative encapsulates the deep cultural ties and passionate rivalry between hockey teams in Canada, particularly highlighting the intense loyalty to local teams. The protagonist faces a personal crisis when he is required to wear a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey, symbolizing the conflict between individual identity and community allegiance in Quebec, where the Montreal Canadiens are revered. Carrier's storytelling vividly captures the essence of childhood experiences, regional pride, and the impact of sports on identity. The other authors listed are known for their contributions to different genres and themes. Jared R. N. B. Campbell, for example, is not noted for this specific story. Aldous Huxley is primarily recognized for his philosophical works, including "Brave New World," and Fredric Brown is famous for his science fiction and mystery tales. Thus, these choices do not relate to the specific narrative and cultural significance found in Carrier's "The Hockey Sweater."

**10. Which iconic film features elements originated from Philip K Dick's science fiction work?**

**A. Blade Runner**

**B. Inception**

**C. The Matrix**

**D. Minority Report**

The correct choice, which is the iconic film that features elements originated from Philip K. Dick's science fiction work, is indeed Blade Runner. This film, directed by Ridley Scott, is loosely based on Dick's novel "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" and explores complex themes such as what it means to be human, the nature of reality, artificial intelligence, and the ethics surrounding technology. The setting of a dystopian future and the characters who grapple with their identities and the implications of their existence are distinctly influenced by Dick's storytelling. The other options, while being significant films in their own right, do not directly originate from Dick's works. Inception and The Matrix draw on various philosophical and sci-fi concepts, but they are not adaptations of Dick's stories. Minority Report is another film based on Dick's work, specifically his short story of the same name, which also explores similar themes of free will and determinism but isn't the film that was referenced in the context of the question in focus. Blade Runner, as an adaptation, remains firmly linked to the essence of Philip K. Dick's influence on science fiction cinema.