Nelson Denny Study Guide

Nelson Denny Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Test

This examination is broken down into two sections. The first section covers the vocabulary portion of the examination. The second section covers the Reading Comprehension portion of the examination. The two sections of the test are timed.

In this study guide you will find a word list consisting of 300 words you should be familiar with before taking the examination. The word list is also accompanied by two sample questions similar to what you will be expected to answer during the examination.

You will also find two similar examples of the type of reading comprehension passages and questions you will be expected to answer during the Reading Comprehension section of the examination.

Prior to the beginning of the test, a proctor will give concise instructions regarding the examination. A passing score of 102 is required to proceed in the hiring process.

Vocabulary Sample Questions

- 1. Indispensable means:
 - A. uncomfortable
 - B. costly
 - C. durable
 - D. essential
 - E. timely

- 2. If something atrophies, it:
 - A. saves up
 - B. wastes away
 - C. wins
 - D. develops
 - E. moves

Abruptly	Blatantly	Derision	Entreat
Abstract	Boisterous	Deserve	Estrangement
Admonitions	Brazen	Desist	Ethereal
Adverse	Cacophony	Despotic	Ethos
Advocate	Capricious	Destitute	Evoke
Aesthetic	Caricatures	Devastation	Exaggerate
Affected	Cohort	Devious	Exigent
Affronted	Competent	Diligent	Explain
Aggravated	Complacent	Discernible	Extol
Ail	Conciliatory	Dismal	Fallacious
Ailment	Confidential	Disperse	Fallacious
Aliens	Congregate	Dissect	Famished
Alter	Contaminate	Diverse	Fascinated
Amnesty	Copious	Diversity	Fatigued
Analyze	Cordon	Dogmatic	Fearless
Annotate	Countenance	Dolt	Feckless
Apathetically	Covert	Drudgery	Flippant
Apothecary	Cower	Ebb	Foibles
Apprized	Craven	Ebullient	Foolhardy
Ascribe	Credulity	Eccentric	Foreshadowing
Assess	Credulous	Edifices	Forestalled
Atonement	Cumbersome	Edit	Formidable
Atrophies	Curtailed	Elastic	Fracas
Aural	Degenerate	Emit	Fulcrum
Avidly	Delayed	Emulate	Futile
Avow	Delusion	Enamored	Garish
Belligerent	Demise	Enigma	Glib
Benevolent	Denote	Enliven	Gnome
Bequest	Dependence	Ennui	Granted
Berated	Deplorable	Ensuing	Grasp
Blatant	Deride	Entice	Gratuitous

Insipid	Obscure	Replication	Uncouth
Instill	Onerous	Repose	Underling
Insufficient	Opted	Repudiate	Undertaker
Intangible	Ostentatious	Resistance	Unequivocal
Interrogate	Overtly	Resources	Unscrupulous
Intoxicate	Painstaking	Resplendent	Unworthy
Introspective	Pallid	Retention	Usury
Invaluable	Partial	Reticent	Value
Irate	Peers	Rigidity	Vehemently
Jovial	Perpetual	Robust	Venal
Juncture	Perplexed	Romp	Verbatim
Lapses	Persisted	Ruefully	Vessel
Laud	Pertinent	Sardonic	Vilify
Leniency	Pith	Scant	Virtuosos
Lethal	Placid	Scathing	Virulent
Lethargic	Plausible	Schemes	Vivid
Libel	Pledge	Segments	Void
Linear	Pomposity	Sensory	Vulgar
Lofty	Precocious	Shackles	Waft
Lurk	Presumed	Similarities	Whet
Lurking	Prevaricate	Soporific	Wreak
Lyre	Prodigious	Sparse	Zealous
Mar	Prolific	Spontaneous	
Massive	Prone	Squander	
Mayhem	Provocative	Stress	
Menial	Pseudo	Stultify	
Mesh	Pugnacity	Subtle	
Meticulous	Pungent	Succulent	
Migration	Quaff	Surface	
Militant	Quench	Surfeit	
Mollifying	Querulous	Surplus	
Morose	Quest	Susceptible	
Mundane	Quiescent	Sway	
Mute	Quota	Syndrome	
Myopic	Rampant	Tasteless	
Narcissism	Rarefy	Tawdry	_
Narcissist	Rational	Theoretical	
Novice	Recessive	Torpor	
Nuances	Recipient	Turbulent	_
Obdurate	Regress	Turmoil	
Obscene	Replenishment	Tyro	

Comprehension Sample Question

Passage One

Governments cost money – huge sums of money. Our federal government alone spends close to \$250 billion each year. State and local governments spend many more billions. About 35 cents out of each dollar earned by all American workers and business firms goes as taxes to help pay costs of governments. From these figures you may get some idea of the enormous costs of the services and programs that our governments provide.

What is this money spent for? In the early 1970's the federal government spent from \$75 billion to \$80 billion each year for national defense. Space research and technology took another \$3 billion to \$4 billion. Veteran's benefits cost \$8 to \$12 billion. Interest on the national debt was over \$20 billion per year. In addition, many billions of dollars were required for the federal government to help our states construct highways, housing, and community redevelopment projects. Federal aid to education and manpower training averaged over \$10 billion annually.

The huge costs of governments are of concern to every citizen. Americans have to pay the costs of government. We pay them without taxes. We have a responsibility as concerned citizens to make sure that our governments spend our money wisely and spend it for worthwhile purposes.

- 1. Which of the following federal programs was not mentioned?
 - a. Retirement
 - b. Research
 - c. Redevelopment
 - d. Education
 - e. Housing
- 2. State and local governments were said to spend .
 - a. \$20 billion
 - b. \$3 billion to \$4 billion
 - c. \$250 billion
 - d. \$35 billion
 - e. an amount not given
- 3. The best title for this passage would be
 - a. Runaway Spending
 - b. Government Spending
 - c. Federal Wastefulness
 - d. The National Debt
 - e. Federal Taxes
- 4. The Federal government apparently does not help the states in the area of ____.
 - a. Education
 - b. Manpower training
 - c. Housing
 - d. Public safety
 - e. Redevelopment

Passage Two

Economics is a study of the process by which we make and spend our incomes. It is also defined as a study of how man satisfies his wants and needs for economic goods and services. Even more specifically, economics is a study the process by which man attempts to get the most satisfaction possible when he cannot buy all of the goods and services that he would like. The inability of man to buy all of the goods and services that he would like is often referred to as the economic fact of scarcity. Economics, then, is concerned with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.

Economic activity at a given time includes everything that is being done to satisfy man's wants and needs through production, distribution, and consumption. Management, labor, and government all contribute to economic activity through which man's wants and needs are satisfied. The end results sought through economic activity are: (1) the creating of economic goods and services for man's use; and (2) the providing of opportunities for man to earn a reasonable income so he can acquire and consume the goods and services he wants and needs.

5.	Economics was definitely said to involve			
	a.	Making a living		
	b.	Satisfying our needs		
	c.	Paying taxes		
	d.	Planning a budget		
	e.	Making investments		
6.	The passage mentions			
	a.	Scarcity		
	b.	Surplus		
	c.	Depression		
	d.	Inflation		
	e.	Taxes		
7.	The pu	The purpose of this passage is		
	a.	To arouse interest		
	b.	To entertain		
	c.	To criticize		
	d.	To make clear		
	e.	To warn		
8.	Chief e	mphasis is on the		
	a.	How		
	b.	Where		
	С.	When		
	d.	What		
	ρ.	Why		

Vocabulary Answer: 1. D, 2. B