



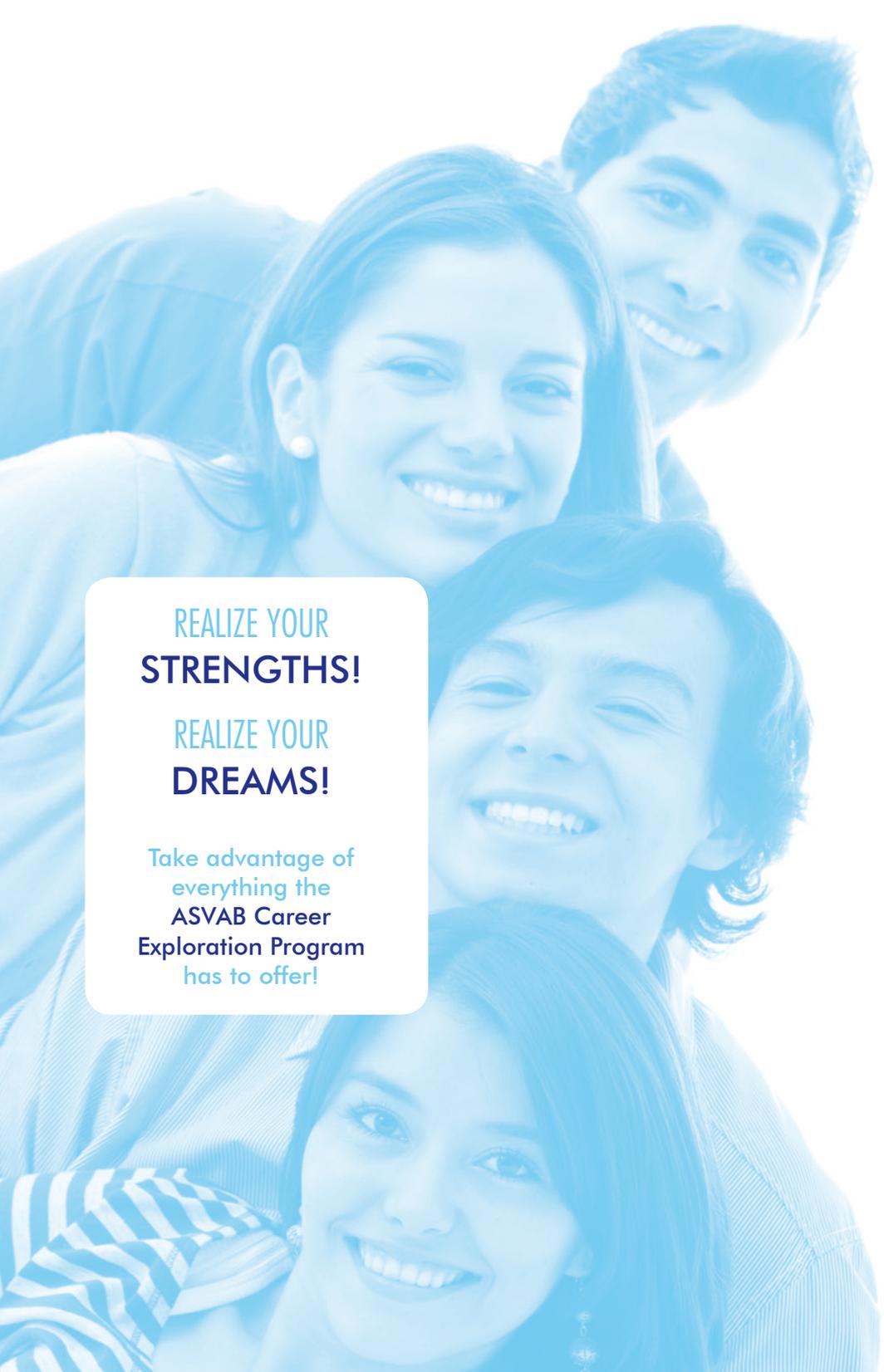
OVERVIEW GUIDE



ASVAB Career Exploration Program
www.asvabprogram.com

DD Form 1304-5OV
January 2010

For more information contact
USMEPCOM at 1-800-323-0513



REALIZE YOUR
STRENGTHS!

REALIZE YOUR
DREAMS!

Take advantage of
everything the
**ASVAB Career
Exploration Program**
has to offer!

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**INTRODUCTION:
CAREER EXPLORATION
PAYS OFF**



The ASVAB Career Exploration Program provides high quality, career exploration and planning materials at no cost to high schools throughout the country. The ASVAB Program helps students learn about themselves and potential occupations in line with their skills and interests. Most importantly, the ASVAB Program encourages students to explore a wide variety of careers, rather than limiting their exploration by telling them what they can or should do.



Career Exploration in Three Easy Steps



**Take the
ASVAB Test**
to identify skills
and abilities



**Identify your
interests** with
the FYI



**Explore more
than 400
occupations**
organized into 16
Career Clusters using
the OCCU-Find

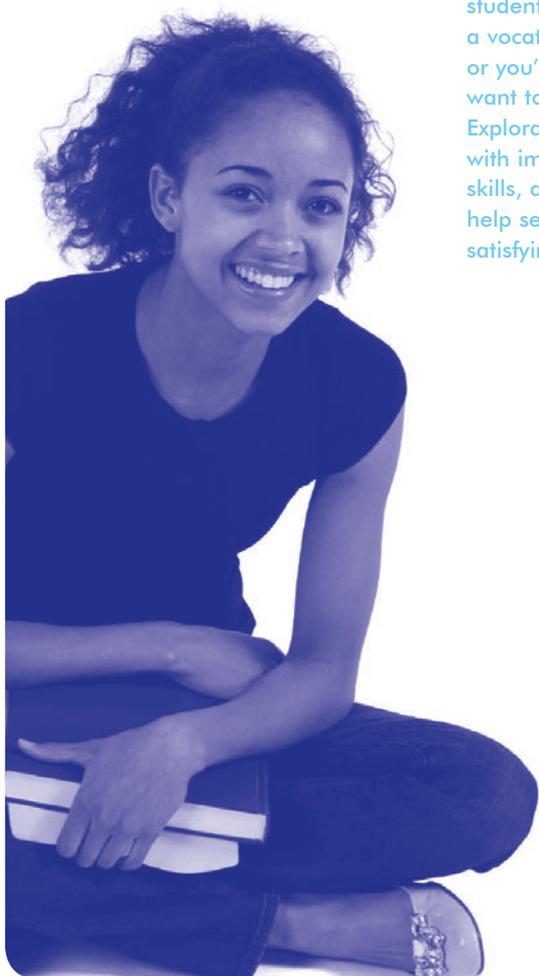
Turn the page to find out more about the key features and tools in the ASVAB Career Exploration Program.

Visit www.asvabprogram.com to view an overview video and program tutorials!

STUDENTS



Before choosing or exploring a career, you need to spend some time finding out about you. Whether you're a student planning to go to college, a vocational school, or the military, or you're just not sure what you want to do yet, the ASVAB Career Exploration Program can provide you with important information about your skills, abilities, and interests—and help set you on the right course for a satisfying career.



What is the ASVAB Program?

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is a comprehensive career planning program that includes a multiple-aptitude test battery, an interest inventory, and various career planning tools designed to help you explore the opportunities awaiting you.

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program helps you to:

- Identify, understand, and organize information about your skills, interests, and work-related values;
- Identify suitable occupations to investigate and pursue based on your own skills, interests, and values; and
- Use career information resources to further explore these occupations.



Key ASVAB Resources



ASVAB Website (www.asvabprogram.com)



ASVAB Test



Find Your Interests (FYI)



OCCU-Find



Exploring Careers: The ASVAB Career Exploration Guide



Taking the ASVAB Test

The ASVAB is the most widely used multiple-aptitude test battery in the world.

How does the ASVAB test help me identify my skills and abilities?

The ASVAB Program administers a series of eight short tests that help you identify your skills in a variety of areas. Taking the ASVAB Test – or ASVAB for short - can help you regardless of your plans after high school because it measures aptitudes that are related to success in different jobs as well as training and education programs. After taking the ASVAB, you will receive three Career Exploration Scores on your ASVAB Summary Results Sheet. These scores tell you your current strengths in verbal, math, and science and technical

The ASVAB test provides you with career exploration scores which can help you determine your readiness for further education and training in different career areas.

skills as compared to other students in the same grade. No one “passes” or “fails” the ASVAB, and your scores will not affect your school grades. These results, however, represent how well you have developed your academic and occupational skills in addition to your capacity to learn a particular type of work or your potential for general training. Knowing your academic strengths and weaknesses now gives you time to work to improve upon them before you start a job, begin college or vocational school, or enter the military.

After testing, you can use your access code to explore over 400 occupations on www.asvabprogram.com. Plus, you'll learn how your skills relate to the occupations that interest you the most.



The eight ASVAB test areas are:

- **General Science**
A 25-item test measuring knowledge of life science, earth and space science, and physical science
 - **Arithmetic Reasoning**
A 30-item test measuring ability to solve basic arithmetic word problems
 - **Word Knowledge**
A 35-item test measuring ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms
 - **Paragraph Comprehension**
A 15-item test measuring ability to obtain information from written material
 - **Mathematics Knowledge**
A 25-item test measuring knowledge of mathematical concepts and applications
 - **Electronics Information**
A 20-item test measuring knowledge of electrical current, circuits, devices, and electronic systems
 - **Auto and Shop Information**
A 25-item test measuring knowledge of automotive maintenance and repair, and wood and metal shop practices
 - **Mechanical Comprehension**
A 25-item test measuring knowledge of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support, and properties of materials
-
- Go to the back of this booklet to take sample ASVAB test questions.

Who will see my ASVAB test results?

Both you and your counselor receive a copy of your test results. If you would like, he or she can explain more about what your test results mean. Before you take the ASVAB, you will be asked to sign a statement authorizing the Department of Defense to score your test and to return your results to your school. Each school determines release of the scores to the Military Services.



ASVAB and the World of Work

Since your ASVAB scores give you a snapshot of your current skills, you can compare these skills with hundreds of careers found on the ASVAB Program website, www.asvabprogram.com, and also learn how to strengthen your skills for specific careers.

Your ASVAB scores can also qualify you for certain jobs and training in the Armed Forces. If you are a

junior, senior, or postsecondary school student, you can use your ASVAB scores for military enlistment, including the Reserves and the National Guard, for up to two years after you take the test. Participation in the ASVAB Program does not obligate you to talk with military recruiters or consider a military career.

How do I prepare for the ASVAB?

You don't have to go through any lengthy preparation to take the ASVAB. Getting a good night's rest and arriving on time to take the test are the two most important steps you can take to prepare. As with other tests, how much you have learned in school through the years and your motivation to do well will probably make the most difference in your results. Taking the sample tests in the last section of this book can help by giving you an idea of the kinds of questions you will encounter.

Where can I take the test and what should I expect?

Schools determine when and where the ASVAB will be given. The ASVAB can be administered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high school, and to postsecondary students. Ask your school counselor when and where you can take the test.

On test day, you will receive an ASVAB test booklet. An ASVAB test administrator will give you instructions and tell you how long you have to complete each test. After the instructions, you will have a chance to try some practice questions before starting the test. Finally, you will have a chance to ask questions of the test administrator to make sure you know exactly how to complete the test.

Learn strategies for career exploration and decision-making. Discover and organize information about yourself and the world of work. See which occupations best fit your interests and skills.

The ASVAB takes about three hours to finish. You may miss class, depending on your school schedule, but it will be with your school's approval.

If you want to take the ASVAB and your school doesn't offer it or if you missed taking it, then see your guidance counselor right away. In some cases, schools offer the ASVAB more than once a year. In certain cases, your counselor may be able to make arrangements for you to take it at another school.



STEP 2

Identifying Your Interests

How does the ASVAB Program help me identify my interests?

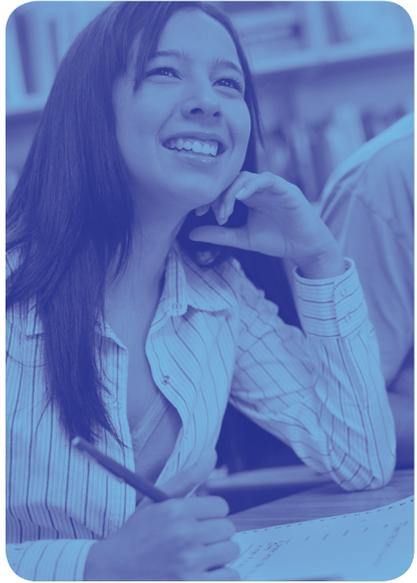
The FYI is an interest inventory that asks you questions about your likes and dislikes. Upon completing the assessment, you will receive results ranking your work-related interests in six categories based on Holland's theory of career choice. These results will help you determine career fields or occupations that are potentially satisfying.



The first step toward finding a career is to spend some time finding out about you.

How do I access the FYI?

Within approximately two weeks of taking the ASVAB, you will receive the ASVAB Summary Results Sheet. At that point, you can attend a career exploration workshop during which time a counselor will explain your scores and give you *Exploring Careers: The ASVAB Career Exploration Guide*. Within this *Guide*, you'll find a paper-and-pencil version of the FYI.



You can also get to the FYI via the ASVAB Program website. Along with your test results, you'll get a 10-digit code to access a variety of career exploration tools available on www.asvabprogram.com. Once you take the FYI, you can save your results in the My ASVAB area of the website.

What's Your Interest?

Realistic

You like practical, hands-on activities, such as designing, building, and repairing machinery. You may also enjoy working outside with plants and animals.

Investigative

You prefer analytical or intellectual activities such as reading, studying, investigating, evaluating, and problem solving.

Artistic

You like work that involves expressing oneself in original activities such as writing, dancing, singing, sculpting, and painting.

Social

You like personal interaction with people such as helping, teaching, counseling, or otherwise to be of service to others.

Enterprising

You like to persuade, influence, and direct others. You like work that is fast-paced, requires a lot of responsibility and decision making, and requires taking risks for profit.

Conventional

You prefer work that involves establishing or maintaining orderly and accurate records, procedures, and routines.

Holland Interest Codes



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STEP 3

Exploring Careers



How does the ASVAB Program help me explore careers?

The results from the FYI along with your ASVAB test scores will allow you to use another tool to on the ASVAB website called the OCCU-Find. The OCCU-Find contains more than 400 descriptions of occupations and links to resources such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook, O*Net, and www.careersinthemilitary.com. Furthermore, the tool uses the FYI interest codes and skill importance ratings to provide you a comprehensive overview of potential career opportunities. A print version of the OCCU-Find is also part of *Exploring Careers: The ASVAB Career Exploration Program Guide*.

The OCCU-Find allows you to:

- Find out which occupations are likely to satisfy your interests
- Learn about the relative importance of Verbal, Math, and Science and Technical Skills for success in an occupation
- Explore more than 400 occupational descriptions organized into 16 Career Clusters that relate to interest codes and skill importance ratings
- Save information on your favorite Career Clusters and occupations in the My ASVAB area to create a career portfolio

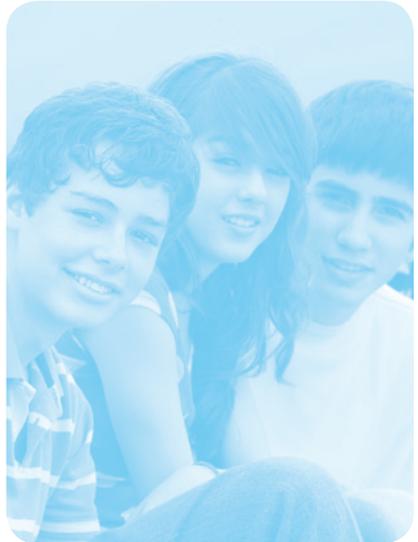




Career Clusters

- Agricultural, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V, Technology & Communication
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Knowing your academic strengths and weaknesses now gives you time to work to improve upon them before you start a job, begin college or vocational school, or enter the military.

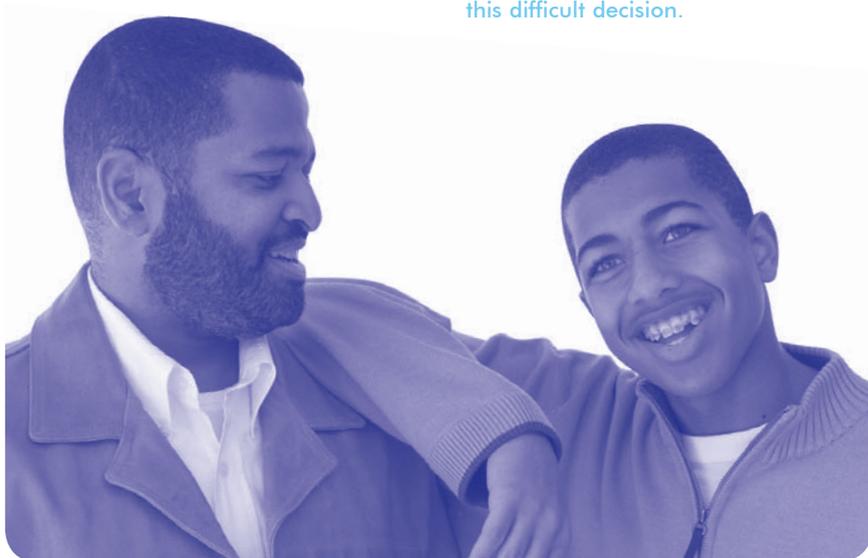


PARENTS

Research has shown that students who participate in the ASVAB Program experience less career indecision, enjoy greater confidence in making career decisions, and consider more thoughtfully their options than do students who do not participate in the ASVAB Program.



Parents observe, reinforce, and take pride in their teen's efforts and accomplishments during their developmental years. As a parent, this familiarity, coupled with your experiences in the world of work, makes you a valuable resource to your sons and daughters as they decide what to do after completing high school. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program can help with this difficult decision.



Your son or daughter’s decision to enter college, technical or vocational school, military service or the civilian world of work after high school is an important one. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program can help. When they participate in the ASVAB Program, students explore occupations in line with their interests and skills, and also develop effective strategies to realize their career goals. The ASVAB Program presents a full-spectrum of career opportunities to students, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, or ability level.

The ASVAB Program is offered at no cost and no obligation to high school students. Students can use their scores from the ASVAB test to enlist in the Military after graduation. The scores are good for two years. However, no one is under any obligation to the Military as a result of taking the ASVAB. Over 90% of participating students take the ASVAB test for career exploration and have no interest in military occupations.

Visit the Parents section of the ASVAB Program website (www.asvabprogram.com) for more information.

What can you do to help your teen?

- Encourage your teen to take the ASVAB and use the tools the program provides such as the FYI and OCCU-Find, and then review the results together.
- Share any experiences you’ve had with career planning and listen to what your teen has to say about his or her interests, skills, and values.
- Encourage your teen to explore several occupations.
- Either explore potential occupations on the Internet together or review the results of the search together.
- Encourage your teen to explore all kinds of post-secondary educational opportunities and discuss the pros and cons of the different options.
- Encourage experiential learning opportunities to further explore a given occupation.
- Suggest a meeting and interview with someone employed in the selected occupation.

SAMPLE ASVAB TEST QUESTIONS

The ASVAB tests may look a lot like other tests you have taken. All test responses are multiple-choice and are recorded on a separate answer sheet. In this section you will have a chance to become familiar with the various ASVAB tests by answering some sample questions.

Remember that you are not expected to know everything on these tests. There are no passing or failing grades. You will score more strongly in some areas than in others.

Before you begin, locate the **Test Answer Sheet (page 27)** and tear it from the book. This answer sheet is where you will record your answers, by circling the appropriate letter. Now you are ready to begin the sample tests.

First, read the Example question provided for each test category (the Example is answered for you). Make sure you understand the Example. Then move on to the sample test questions. Select the best answers. Record them on the Test Answer Sheet by circling the appropriate letter. When you have completed all the sample test questions, check your answers against those in the **Answer Key on page 28** (behind the answer sheet).





General Science

General Science tests the ability to answer questions on a variety of science topics drawn from courses taught in most high schools. The life science items cover botany, zoology, anatomy and physiology, and ecology. The earth and space science items are based on astronomy, geology, meteorology, and oceanography. The physical science items measure force and motion mechanics, energy, fluids, atomic structure, and chemistry.

Example

Q: A magnet will attract

- A. water.
- B. a flower.
- C. a cloth rag.
- D. a nail.

D is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

1. An eclipse of the sun throws the shadow of the
 - A. moon on the sun.
 - B. moon on the earth.
 - C. earth on the sun.
 - D. earth on the moon.

2. Substances that hasten chemical reaction time without themselves undergoing change are called
 - A. buffers.
 - B. colloids.
 - C. reducers.
 - D. catalysts.

3. Air is less dense than water because
 - A. it is lighter.
 - B. its molecules are further apart.
 - C. its molecules are closer together.
 - D. it moves more quickly and easily.

4. Salt helps to melt ice because it
 - A. dissolves in water to form an acid.
 - B. chemically destroys the water molecules.
 - C. lowers the temperature at which water freezes.
 - D. is attracted to concrete sidewalks below the ice.

Arithmetic Reasoning

Arithmetic Reasoning tests the ability to solve basic arithmetic problems encountered in everyday life. One-step and multi-step word problems require addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and choosing the correct order of operations when more than one step is necessary. The items include operations with whole numbers, operations with rational numbers, ratio and proportion, interest and percentage, and measurement. Arithmetic reasoning is one factor that helps characterize mathematics comprehension.

Example

Q: If 12 workers are needed to run 4 machines, how many workers are needed to run 20 machines?

- A.** 20
- B.** 48
- C.** 60
- D.** 80

C is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

- 5.** How many 36-passenger buses will it take to carry 144 people?
 - A.** 3
 - B.** 4
 - C.** 5
 - D.** 6

- 6.** It costs \$0.50 per square yard to waterproof canvas. What will it cost to waterproof a canvas truck cover that is 15' x 24'?
 - A.** \$ 6.67
 - B.** \$ 18.00
 - C.** \$ 20.00
 - D.** \$180.00

- 7.** If the tire of a car rotates at a constant speed of 552 times in one minute, how many times will the tire rotate in half-an-hour?
 - A.** 276
 - B.** 5,520
 - C.** 8,280
 - D.** 16,560

8. A motorcycle cost \$7,250. If it depreciates by 12% per year, how much will it be worth after one year?
- A. \$ 870
 - B. \$1,250
 - C. \$5,920
 - D. \$6,380

Mathematics Knowledge

Mathematics Knowledge tests the ability to solve problems by applying knowledge of mathematical concepts and applications. The problems focus on concepts and algorithms and involve number theory, numeration, algebraic operations and equations, geometry and measurement, and probability. Mathematics knowledge is one factor that characterizes mathematics comprehension.

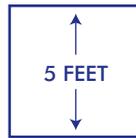
Example

- Q:** If 50 percent of $X = 66$, then $X =$
- A. 33
 - B. 66
 - C. 99
 - D. 132

D is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

9. If $X + 6 = 7$, then X is equal to
- A. -1
 - B. 0
 - C. 1
 - D. $\frac{7}{6}$
10. What is the area of this square?



- A. 1 square foot
- B. 5 square feet
- C. 10 square feet
- D. 25 square feet

11. $\sqrt{\frac{27}{3}} =$

- A. $\sqrt{3}$
- B. 3
- C. 9
- D. 12

12. $\frac{x^2 - y^2}{x - y} =$

- A. $x + y$
- B. $x - y$
- C. $x + 2y$
- D. $2x - y$

Word Knowledge

Word Knowledge tests the ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms - words having the same or nearly the same meaning as other words. The test is a measure of one component of reading comprehension since vocabulary is one of many factors that characterize reading comprehension.

Example

Q: **Small** most nearly means

- A. sturdy.
- B. round.
- C. cheap.
- D. little.

D is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

13. The wind is **variable** today.

- A. mild
- B. steady
- C. shifting
- D. chilling

14. **Rudiments** most nearly means

- A. politics.
- B. minute details.
- C. promotion opportunities.
- D. basic methods and procedures.

15. **Antagonize** most nearly means

- A. embarrass.
- B. struggle.
- C. provoke.
- D. worship.

16. His record provides no reason for **apprehension**

- A. anxiety
- B. change
- C. enjoyment
- D. endorsement

Paragraph Comprehension

Paragraph Comprehension tests the ability to obtain information from written material. Students read different types of passages of varying lengths and respond to questions based on information presented in each passage. Concepts include identifying stated and reworded facts, determining a sequence of events, drawing conclusions, identifying main ideas, determining the author's purpose and tone, and identifying style and technique.

Example

Q: From a building designer's stand point, three things that make a home livable are the client, the building site, and the amount of money the client has to spend.

According to this statement, to make a home livable

- A.** the prospective piece of land makes little difference.
- B.** it can be built on any piece of land.
- C.** the design must fit the owner's income and site.
- D.** the design must fit the designer's income.

C is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

- 17.** Twenty-five percent of all household burglaries can be attributed to unlocked windows or doors. Crime is the result of opportunity plus desire.

To prevent crime, it is each individual's responsibility to

- A.** provide the desire.
- B.** provide the opportunity.
- C.** prevent the desire.
- D.** prevent the opportunity.

- 18.** In certain areas, water is so scarce that every attempt is made to conserve it. For instance, on one oasis in the Sahara Desert the amount of water necessary for each date palm tree has been carefully determined.

How much water should each tree be given

- A.** no water at all
- B.** exactly the amount required
- C.** water on alternate days
- D.** water only if it is healthy

19. A thin transparent layer of oxide protects the metal titanium against corrosion. The same thin layer attracts artists interested in making their art with the help of technology. By using heat or electricity, an artist can thicken the oxide layer and thereby turn the metal a range of vivid colors.

According to the passage, some artists work with titanium because it

- A. is transparent.
 - B. does not corrode.
 - C. generates its own heat.
 - D. can assume a variety of colors.
20. They returned to the beach, where blankets spotted the slope to the water. An advancing wall of clouds, black and gray, darkening the expanse of ground beneath, approached from the west. To the east and above them, the sky remained clear, the sun warm, as if collaborating in the deception.

The “deception” referred to in the passage is that

- A. there is no storm approaching.
- B. the sky is clear in the east.
- C. it is too cold to swim.
- D. the sun is warm.

Electronics Information

Electronics Information tests understanding of electrical current, circuits, devices, and systems. Electronics information topics include electrical tools, symbols, devices, and materials; electrical circuits; electrical and electronic systems; and electrical currents.

Example

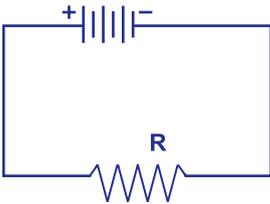
- Q:** What does the abbreviation AC stand for?
- A. additional charge
 - B. alternating coil
 - C. alternating current
 - D. ampere current

C is the correct answer.

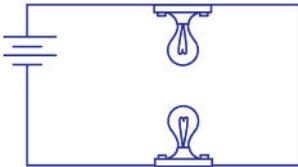
Sample test questions

21. Which of the following has the least resistance?
- A. wood
 - B. iron
 - C. rubber
 - D. silver

22. In this circuit diagram, the resistance is 100 ohms, and the current is 0.1 amperes. The voltage is



- A. 5 volts.
B. 10 volts.
C. 100 volts.
D. 1,000 volts.
23. The circuit shown in the diagram contains a battery and two light bulbs. If one light bulb burns out, the other will



- A. no longer burn.
B. continue to burn.
C. flicker on and off.
D. burn more brightly.

24. Because solid state diodes have no filament, they
- A. don't work.
B. are less efficient than tubes.
C. require less operating power.
D. require more operating power.

Auto and Shop Information

Auto and Shop Information tests aptitude for automotive maintenance and repair and wood and metal shop practices. The test covers several areas commonly included in most high school auto and shop courses such as automotive components, automotive systems, automotive tools, troubleshooting and repair, shop tools, building materials, and building and construction procedures.

Example

- Q:** A chisel is used for
- A. prying.
B. cutting.
C. twisting.
D. grinding.

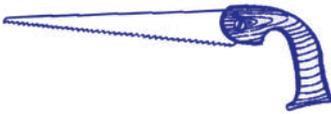
B is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

25. A car uses too much oil when which of the following parts are worn?

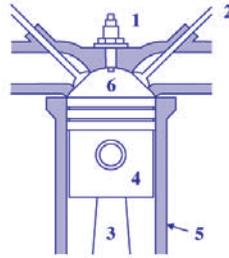
- A. pistons
- B. piston rings
- C. main bearings
- D. connecting rods

26. The saw shown is used mainly to cut



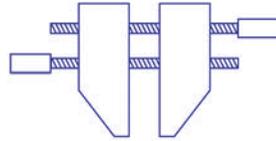
- A. plywood.
- B. odd-shaped holes in wood.
- C. along the grain of the wood.
- D. across the grain of the wood.

27. Where does combustion take place?



- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

28. The clamp shown is called a



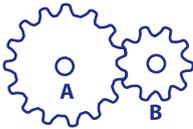
- A. bar clamp.
- B. web clamp.
- C. spring clamp.
- D. parallel clamp.

Mechanical Comprehension

Mechanical Comprehension tests understanding of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support, and properties of materials. Mechanical comprehension topics include simple machines, compound machines, mechanical motion, and fluid dynamics.

Example

Q: If gear A makes 14 revolutions, gear B will make



- A. 21
- B. 17
- C. 14
- D. 9

A is the correct answer.

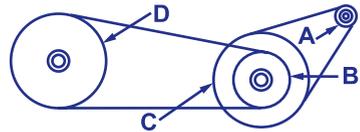
Sample test questions

29. Which post holds up the greater part of the load?



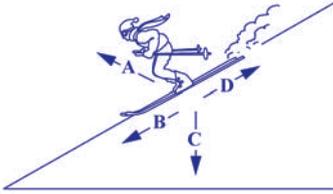
- A. post A
- B. post B
- C. both equal
- D. not clear

30. In this arrangement of pulleys, which pulley turns fastest?



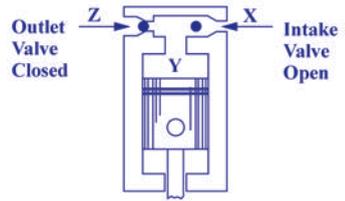
- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

31. In which direction does friction act on this skier?



- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

32. Why does the intake valve open on this pump when the piston goes down?



- A. Air pressure at X is less than air pressure at Y.
- B. Air pressure at Z is less than air pressure at X.
- C. Air pressure at X is greater than air pressure at Y.
- D. Air pressure at Y is greater than air pressure at Z.



Test Answer Sheet

◀ Tear off this part and use it to record your answers.

General Science

1. A B C D

2. A B C D

3. A B C D

4. A B C D

Arithmetic Reasoning

5. A B C D

6. A B C D

7. A B C D

8. A B C D

Mathematics Knowledge

9. A B C D

10. A B C D

11. A B C D

12. A B C D

Word Knowledge

13. A B C D

14. A B C D

15. A B C D

16. A B C D

Paragraph Comprehension

17. A B C D

18. A B C D

19. A B C D

20. A B C D

Electronics Information

21. A B C D

22. A B C D

23. A B C D

24. A B C D

Auto and Shop Information

25. A B C D

26. A B C D

27. A B C D

28. A B C D

Mechanical Comprehension

29. A B C D

30. A B C D

31. A B C D

32. A B C D

◀ Fold to view the answers.



Test Answers

Use the correct answers below to check your answers.

1. **B** 17. **D**

2. **D** 18. **B**

3. **B** 19. **D**

4. **C** 20. **A**

5. **B** 21. **D**

6. **C** 22. **B**

7. **D** 23. **A**

8. **D** 24. **C**

9. **C** 25. **B**

10. **D** 26. **B**

11. **B** 27. **D**

12. **A** 28. **D**

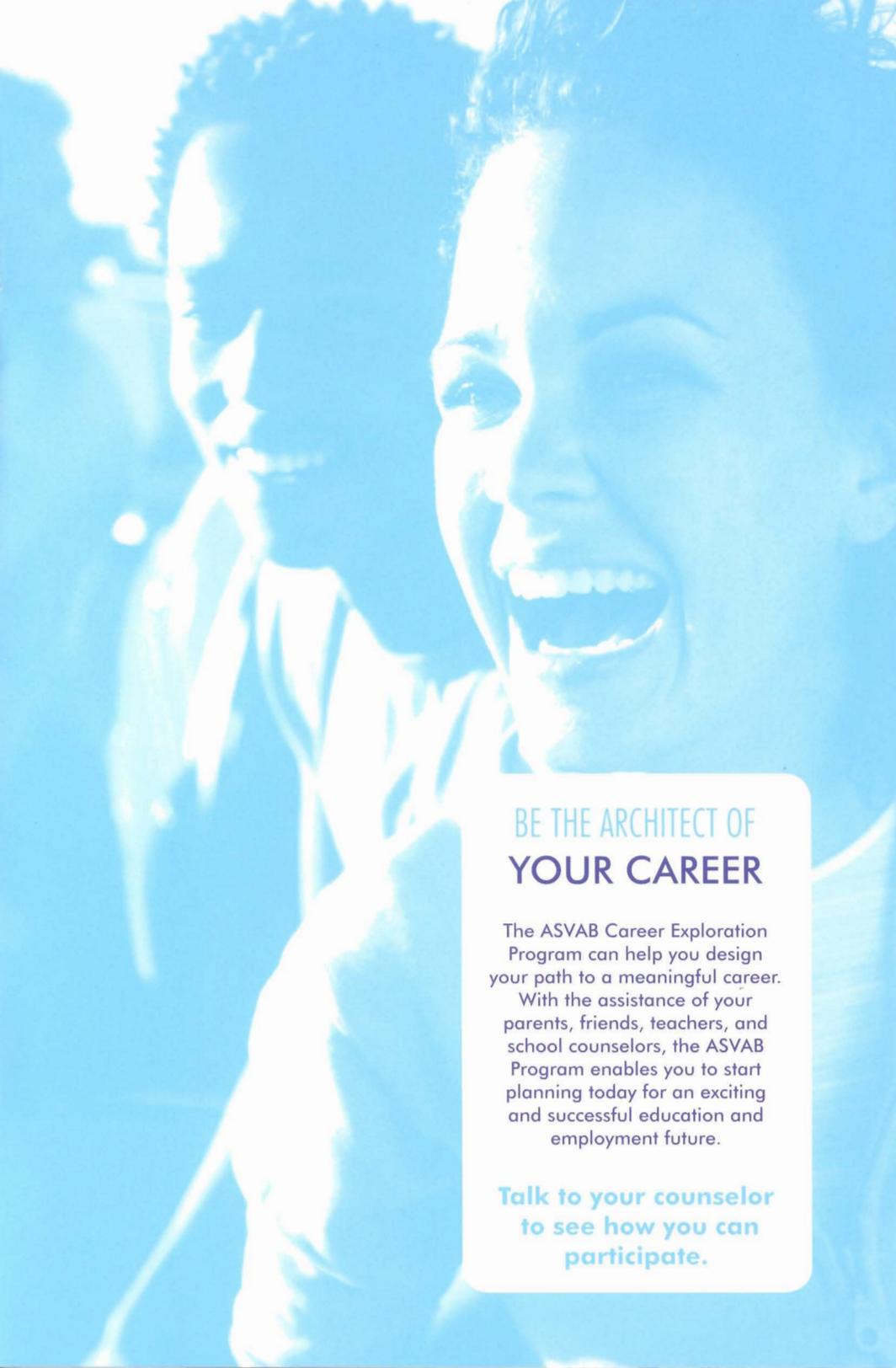
13. **C** 29. **A**

14. **D** 30. **A**

15. **C** 31. **D**

16. **A** 32. **C**

NOTES



BE THE ARCHITECT OF YOUR CAREER

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program can help you design your path to a meaningful career.

With the assistance of your parents, friends, teachers, and school counselors, the ASVAB Program enables you to start planning today for an exciting and successful education and employment future.

**Talk to your counselor
to see how you can
participate.**