

WRITTEN COMPONENT SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The questions shown below are for illustrative purposes only. They are examples of the different question types and formats that candidates may encounter on the multiple-choice examination. Questions that appear on the actual examination vary in difficulty and may be easier or more difficult than the questions illustrated below.

Knowledge of English Grammar, Usage, Punctuation, and Sentence Structure – These questions assess applicants' ability to apply the rules of English grammar and usage, punctuation, and sentence structure. To answer these questions, you must select the alternative which is **most correct**.

SAMPLE QUESTION:

The teachers were instructed that their _____ plans would be evaluated by the _____.

- A. lesson principle
- B. lessen principal
- C.* lesson principal
- D. lessen principle

The correct answer to the Sample Question is C.

Choice A is not correct. A lesson is a piece of instruction and principle generally means rule or code of conduct. Although lesson would be used correctly to fill in the first blank, principle would not be used correctly for the second blank.

Choice B is not correct. Lessen means to decrease. Principal is a person in a leading position. Lessen would not be used correctly to fill in the first blank although principal would be used correctly for the second blank.

Choice C is the correct answer. This option contains both the words lesson and principal and reflects the correct usage of those words for filling in both blanks and completing the given sentence.

Choice D is not correct. This option contains both the words lessen and principle which reflects the incorrect usage of those words given the context of the given sentence.

Spelling - These questions assess applicants' knowledge of the spelling of words that Court Reporters may encounter in their daily work. These questions should be answered by selecting the word that is spelled **correctly**.

SAMPLE QUESTION:

Which one of the following options is spelled correctly?

- A. millenium
- B. millennium
- C. milennium
- D. milenium

The correct answer to the Sample Question is B. Millennium is a compound word derived from the words mille, which means "thousand" in Latin, and annus, which means "year" in Latin.

Vocabulary – These questions assess applicants' knowledge of the meaning of words and phrases that Court Reporters may encounter in their daily work. These questions should be answered by selecting the alternative which **best expresses** the meaning of the given word.

SAMPLE QUESTION:

Which one of the following options reflects the correct meaning of the word obtuse?

- A. useless
- B. insensitive
- C. honorable
- D. pleasant

The correct answer to the Sample Question is B.

Choice A is not correct. *Useless means being of no use; being inept.*

Choice B is the correct answer. *Obtuse means lacking sharpness or intellect.*

Choice C is not correct. *Honorable means deserving of respect.*

Choice D is not correct. *Pleasant means having qualities that tend to give pleasure.*

Medical, Technical and Legal Terminology – These questions assess applicants’ knowledge of the medical, legal, and technical terminology that Court Reporters may encounter in their daily work. These questions include, but may not be limited to, terms from fields such as law, forensic science, anatomy, physiology and medicine. These questions should be answered by selecting the alternative which **best answers** the given question.

SAMPLE QUESTION:

The word that means “difficulty in breathing” is:

- A. dyspnea
- B. rhinitis
- C. dyspepsia
- D. pharyngitis

The correct answer to the Sample Question is A.

Choice A is the correct answer. *Dyspnea is defined as difficult or labored aspiration.*

Choice B is not correct. *Rhinitis is defined as an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose.*

Choice C is not correct. *Dyspepsia is defined as indigestion.*

Choice D is not correct. *Pharyngitis is defined as an inflammation of the pharynx.*

SAMPLE QUESTION:

A computer hacker is **best** described as someone who:

- A. repairs computer system errors.
- B. teaches computer programming.
- C. develops new computer programs.
- D. exploits weaknesses in computer systems.

The correct answer to the Sample Question is D.

Choice A is not correct. *A person who repairs computer system errors is known as a computer repair technician.*

Choice B is not correct. *A person who teaches computer programming is known as a computer programming educator.*

Choice C is not correct. *A person who develops new computer programs is known as a computer programmer, software developer, or coder.*

Choice D is the correct answer. *A computer hacker is a computer expert who uses their technical knowledge to break into computer systems and access data which would otherwise be unavailable to them.*

SAMPLE QUESTION:

A judicial order commanding performance by a public officer is known as:

- A. certiorari
- B. laches
- *C. mandamus
- D. remittitur

The correct answer to the Sample Question is C.

Choice A is not correct. *Certiorari refers to a writ by which a higher court reviews a decision of a lower court.*

Choice B is not correct. *Laches refers to unreasonable delay in making an assertion or claim, which may result in refusal.*

Choice C is the correct answer. *Mandamus is a judicial writ issued as a command to an inferior court or ordering a person to perform a public or statutory duty.*

Choice D is not correct. *Remittitur is a ruling by a judge, usually upon motion to reduce or throw out a jury verdict, lowering the amount of damages granted by a jury in a civil case.*