

Practice Test



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Reading
(Level H)

Vocabulary • Comprehension • Study Skills

An ECS Diagnostic Tool for Reading

Name _____ Date _____

Directions

There are many multiple-choice questions in this practice test. Read each passage carefully. For each multiple-choice question, choose the best answer about each passage. Do not spend too much time on one question. You may mark an answer even if you are not sure it is correct.

Mark all your answers in the test booklet (or on the separate answer sheet). Use a number 2 pencil. Make sure to fill in the entire answer space. Mark only one answer for each question. If you make a mistake or want to change an answer, erase your first answer completely. Look at the sample question below.

The people of the United States came from many different countries. The country is a nation of immigrants. For this reason we often call the United States a **melting pot** since many different people came together and created one country.

1. In this passage the term **melting pot** means—
- A visitors in the United States
 - B a country with many nationalities of people
 - C a utensil for cooking
 - D a nation's history

There are also several questions for which you must write your own answer. Read the directions for these questions carefully. The directions will be different for each one. Then write your answer in the space provided in your test booklet. Write a complete answer for every question.

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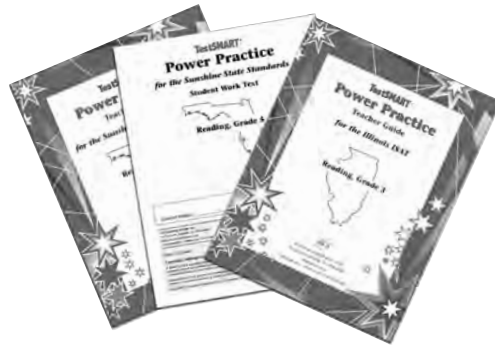
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The Wind-Chill Factor

Have you ever noticed how hard it is to stay warm on a cold and windy winter day? The wind seems to cut right through your heavy coat. Even if the temperature is not the coldest of the season, a wind can make it seem like the coldest. Why does this happen? How does the wind make people feel colder than the actual temperature?

To answer these questions you have to consider how your body works to maintain your temperature. Unless you are ill, your body works to maintain an average temperature of 98.6 degrees. If you become too hot, your body tells you that you need to cool down. In fact, your body will help you cool down by producing beads of perspiration on your skin. As the perspiration evaporates, the evaporation has a cooling effect on your body. On the other hand, if you become too cold, your body tries to warm you. One way your body warms you is through shivering. When you shiver, sudden muscle “shakes” help your body produce more heat. This helps raise your temperature even though it is cold around you.

What does all this have to do with feeling cold on a windy winter day? Wind carries heat away from your skin. On a hot and humid summer day this feels wonderful, but on a winter day it has the opposite effect. In the cold your body is working “overtime” to keep you

warm. If there is no wind, then most of the warmth will stay and you will remain warm. However, if the winter wind blows across your skin, it carries away the warmth. As a result, you feel colder than you would in the same outdoor temperature without a wind. The temperature you feel in a cold wind will be lower than the temperature that the thermometer shows. The lower temperature that you feel is called the wind-chill factor.

The wind-chill factor does more than make you feel uncomfortable. It also can be dangerous. If the wind-chill factor drops to five degrees Fahrenheit or lower, there is danger of frostbite. Frostbite causes damage to a person’s skin. This is an **affliction** that no one would want.

Scientists have developed a wind-chill chart. The wind-chill chart shows the temperature your body feels when the outside temperature drops below freezing and the wind speed is 5 to 45 miles per hour. Wind speed above 45 miles per hour has little additional cooling effect, so most charts do not go beyond this wind speed.

The wind-chill chart shows the impact that wind can have on the temperature you feel on a cold winter day. If you have to be outside on such a winter day, you should keep the wind-chill factor in mind.

Wind-Chill Chart

Degrees Fahrenheit		30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20
Miles per Hour	5	27	21	16	12	7	1	-6	-11	-15	-21	-26
	10	16	8	2	-2	-9	-15	-22	-27	-34	-40	-45
	15	9	1	-6	-11	-18	-25	-31	-38	-45	-51	-58
	20	3	-4	-9	-17	-24	-32	-40	-46	-52	-60	-68
	25	0	-7	-15	-22	-29	-37	-45	-52	-58	-67	-75
	30	-2	-11	-18	-26	-33	-41	-49	-56	-63	-70	-78

Main Idea (III.A)

1. What is this passage mostly about?
 - A How your body maintains a constant temperature
 - B How scientists developed the wind-chill chart
 - C How people can avoid the danger of frostbite
 - D How the wind can make a person feel colder than the actual temperature

Graphic Sources (VIII.A)

2. According to the wind-chill chart, how cold would it feel if the wind speed was 20 miles per hour and the temperature was 10 degrees Fahrenheit?
 - A 2°
 - B 9°
 - C -15°
 - D -24°

Inferences (V.A)

3. According to this passage, people should be aware of the wind speed on a cold day because—
 - A a very low wind-chill factor could endanger them
 - B their bodies will need to adjust to the wind speed
 - C then they will know what the temperature is
 - D a high wind speed will have little cooling effect

Identify Genre (VII.A)

4. This passage would best be described as—
 - A an article
 - B an editorial
 - C a short story
 - D a biographical sketch

Interpretations/Conclusions (V.B)

5. This passage gives enough information for you to conclude that—
 - A a high wind is more dangerous to people than a cold temperature
 - B the wind-chill chart is a useful tool for predicting weather
 - C people should check the wind speed before spending long periods of time in the cold
 - D frostbite is the greatest danger for people who spend too much time outside during cold weather

Facts/Details (II.A)

6. To determine the wind-chill factor, scientists must know—
 - A only the actual temperature
 - B the actual temperature and the wind speed
 - C only the wind speed
 - D your body temperature and the wind speed

Structural Cues (I.A)

7. In this passage, the word **affliction** means—
 - A a physical problem
 - B the wind-chill factor
 - C a very low temperature
 - D a person's skin