

Practice Test



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Reading (Level I)

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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.

Piedmont glaciers form when two or more valley glaciers meet and merge at their lower ends. The newly-formed glaciers become wide masses of ice that push across the plains below the mountains.

1. In this passage, what is the meaning of **piedmont glaciers**?
 - A Fields of snow
 - B Rivers of ice
 - C Valley glaciers that merge
 - D Sheets of ice

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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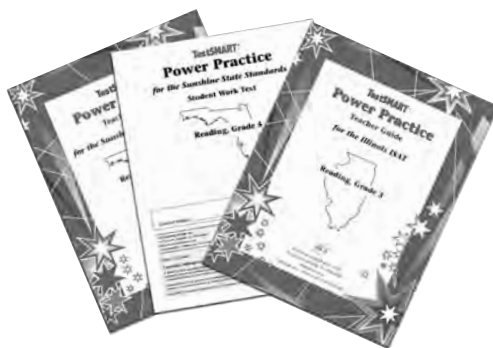
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Famous African Americans—A Hall of Fame

No doubt, you have heard it said that the United States is a melting pot of cultures. People from many nations and ethnic groups have built this country and contributed to its great success as a nation.

Like all the other ethnic and cultural groups of the United States, African Americans have worked to create a strong, free country. Although their many achievements are too numerous to list, looking at the contributions of particular African Americans reveals the wide range of their achievements and gifts to this country. The following brief Hall of Fame highlights some of the most famous African Americans and their accomplishments.

Marian Anderson

After the famous conductor Arturo Toscanini heard Marian Anderson sing, he said that a voice such as hers “comes once in a lifetime.” Anderson was born in Philadelphia, in 1908. By the age of six, she was singing in her church choir. Although her family did not have much money, Marian was able to obtain professional voice training. In 1925, at the age of 17, she won a major voice competition in New York City. This led to a brief singing engagement with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Despite her great talent, Anderson found it difficult to gain acceptance as an African-American singer in the United States. For this reason, she moved to Europe, where she took further voice training. In Europe, Marian Anderson found the acceptance and recognition for her talent that she could not find in her own country. For several years she traveled throughout Europe and gave wonderful performances for the leaders there.

In 1935, Anderson returned to the United States. Her success in Europe led to a greater acceptance in this country. Finally, people in the United States recognized her outstanding vocal talent, and she began to give numerous concerts. Even after this, however, Anderson did not have total acceptance. In 1939, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) would not allow her to perform in their hall in Washington, D.C. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the

president and a member of the DAR, resigned from that organization. Anderson eventually triumphed over the DAR’s **discrimination** when she performed her concert in front of a huge crowd at the Lincoln Memorial.

When she retired in 1965, Marian Anderson was recognized as one of the world’s greatest vocal talents.

Ralph Bunche

Ralph Bunche was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1907. After his father died in 1921, Bunche went to live with his grandmother in Los Angeles. Throughout his high school and college careers, he earned top honors as an athlete and as a student. In fact, Bunche went on to earn both a master’s degree and his Ph.D. in political science.

Bunche taught at Howard University for a period of time, but then joined the Office of Strategic Services during the Second World War. In 1944, he joined the U.S. State Department as the first African American to hold an important position in that government department.

As a member of that department, Bunche served the United States as ambassador to the United Nations and gained recognition as a skilled peacemaker at the same time. In fact, he played a significant role in bringing peace to the Middle East after the state of Israel was established in 1949. His role as peacemaker earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

Not content to stop his work, Bunche continued to work for peace after leaving his position at the U.S. Department of State. He took a position with the United Nations. At the U.N., he served as a peacemaker in several ways and in many different parts of the world.

Charles Richard Drew

Charles Richard Drew was born in 1905 in Washington, D.C. Although he did satisfactory work during his early school years, Drew was best known for his athletic achievements. It was not until he enrolled in medical school that his academic talent began to shine. By the

time he completed medical school, Drew was doing outstanding work and graduated with top honors.

One of Drew’s primary interests was a special project on blood banks. When he began his medical career, the world did not have successful methods for transferring blood from one person to another person. Through Drew’s research and hard work, he was able to develop successful methods for storing and preserving blood for later use. He also proved that blood plasma could be used when whole blood was not available for blood transfusions.

Dr. Drew’s work brought him fame and recognition in the medical field. In fact, he organized the first blood bank for Great Britain and for the American Red Cross. However, during World War II, the military issued an order that said the blood of African Americans could not be used in transfusions for members of the armed services. Based on his study and knowledge, Drew knew this was an **irrational** policy. He resigned from the American Red Cross Blood Bank and returned to teaching and surgery because he could not convince those in power to change the policy. Later research proved that the military’s policy was not medically correct. Unfortunately, Dr. Drew died in 1950 before the policy was changed.

Althea Gibson

Althea Gibson was born in South Carolina, in 1927, but moved to Harlem in New York City when she was only one year old. Throughout her childhood, Althea’s family was extremely poor, and she had little opportunity for athletic or academic accomplishment. In fact, as a youngster, she became a runaway and a “street kid.” There was little about her young life that suggested the success of her future.

When Gibson was a teenager, however, an alert youth worker noticed her talent in table tennis. As a result, the youth worker interested Althea in tennis and bought her first tennis racket for her. Her first important play came in the tennis tournaments for African Americans. There she was noticed by two African-American doctors who supported her and helped her return to school.

Although many tournaments refused to allow African-American players to participate in competitions, Gibson overcame many of these barriers and worked her way into some important championships. She faced many disappointments. There were times when she quit playing tennis altogether. However, she always returned to the sport as a stronger, more confident player. At the age of 30—an age when most tennis players are slowing down—Gibson won the most important tennis championship in the world, Wimbledon.

Date of Birth	African-American Hall of Fame
1731.....	Benjamin Banneker , one planner of Washington, D. C.
1733.....	Crispus Attucks , first colonist to die during American Revolution
1750.....	Jean Baptist Point DuSable , first permanent settler of Chicago
1754.....	Phillis Wheatley , famous African-American poet
1807.....	Ira Frederick Aldridge , great Shakespearean actor
1822.....	Alvin A. Coffey , prospector for gold in California in 1849
1830.....	James Augustine Healey , first African-American Catholic bishop in U. S.
1856.....	Booker T. Washington , founder of Tuskegee Institute
1860.....	George Washington Carver , famous chemist and botanist at Tuskegee Institute
1866.....	Matthew Alexander Hensen , co-discoverer of the North Pole
1877.....	Benjamin O. Davis , Sr., first African-American general in U. S. history
1905.....	Charles Richard Drew , doctor who helped develop first blood banks
1907.....	Ralph J. Bunche , United Nations advisor
1908.....	Marian Anderson , great singer
1908.....	Thurgood Marshall , first African American on U. S. Supreme Court
1913.....	Jesse Owens , U. S. Olympic athlete who won four gold medals
1919.....	Jackie Robinson , first African American to play major league baseball
1924.....	Sidney Poitier , first African American to win an Academy Award for best actor
1927.....	Althea Gibson , tennis champion at Wimbledon
1927.....	Martin Luther King , Jr., leader of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement

Structural Cues (I.B)

1. In this passage, what does the word **discrimination** mean?
- A Unhappiness
 - B Difficulty
 - C Unfair treatment
 - D Total acceptance

Structural Cues (I.B)

2. What does the word **irrational** mean in this passage?
- A Fair
 - B Illogical
 - C Useful
 - D Scientific

Graphic Sources (VIII.A)

3. According to the information presented on the time line, when was the founder of the Tuskegee Institute born?
- A 1830
 - B 1856
 - C 1860
 - D 1905

Conclusions/Generalizations (V.A)

4. Which of the following statements best describes Althea Gibson?
- A Althea Gibson overcame a difficult childhood, showed great determination, and finally achieved success.
 - B Althea Gibson was the greatest American tennis player of all time.
 - C Althea Gibson was a great athlete, but she never achieved success.
 - D Althea Gibson never allowed her problems to interfere with her success.

Identify Genres (VII.A)

5. This passage would be best described as—
- A an editorial
 - B a short story
 - C a narrative
 - D a collection of biographical sketches

Conclusions/Multiple Sources (V.E)

6. Information in both the passage and the time line reveals—
- A more African-American women than men were named to the Hall of Fame
 - B that Althea Gibson was named to the Hall of Fame in 1924
 - C the variety of achievements represented by African Americans
 - D that Marian Anderson was not named to the Hall of Fame

Figurative Language (VII.D)

7. When Arturo Toscanini said that a voice like Marian Anderson's "comes once in a lifetime," he was trying to say that—
- A she probably would lose her beautiful singing voice later in life
 - B people were accustomed to hearing voices like hers
 - C her singing talent was unusually good
 - D he had never heard anyone sing as well as Marian Anderson

Supporting Details (II.B)

8. Ralph Bunche earned the Nobel Prize for his work as a peacemaker in—
- A Europe
 - B Africa
 - C the United Nations
 - D the Middle East