

ARE YOU PREPARED TO ASSESS?

A review of your math skills is **HIGHLY** recommended. Try:

- math.com
- mathpower.com
- coolmath.com
- purplemath.com
- sparknotes.com/math
- khanacademy.com
- hippocampus.org
- homeworkknow.org
- cramster.com

Need to check your GRAMMAR? Try:

- dailygrammar.com
- grammarbook.com
- englishplus.com/grammar/gsdeluxe.htm

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

The LCCC ALGEBRA REVIEW VIDEOS (featuring Professor Jeff Koleno) ARE AVAILABLE **FREE AND ONLINE.**

- Go to www.lorainccc.edu
- Click on Public Podcast (under Resources)
- Click on iTunes button to go to LCCC podcast site in iTunesU
- Scroll down to ACADEMIC RESOURCES BOX and click on Algebra Review to find videos lessons on specific topics.

LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT GUIDE WITH COMPASS SAMPLE ITEMS

To assist you in reaching your goals, LCCC offers an assessment program that will help identify your strengths and areas of needed enhancement before beginning your college level coursework. Our state-of-the-art Compass Lab provides the opportunity to complete the assessment in a way that is most convenient for you.

The Compass Lab is located in the College Center Building (CC) Room 233. The hours of operation are listed on the cover page. With a picture I.D. you can take the assessment on a walk-in basis at anytime during those hours. The assessment takes approximately two hours. If it is difficult for you to schedule a 2-hour block of time, you can take the assessment in portions over several days.

TO ENROLL AT LCCC FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 1) Complete an application to the College in the Enrollment Services Center, located on the first floor of the Library/Community Resource Center.**
- 2) Review the Compass Sample items contained in this packet to prepare for the assessment.**
- 3) Take the Compass Placement Assessment.** The first part will consist of a Writing Sample. You will be given 30 minutes to complete a brief essay, 1-2 pages in length. The remainder of the assessment is not timed. You will work at your own pace and your results will be available immediately after completion of the assessment.
- 4) Participate in the Advising Process.** Sign in at the Enrollment Services front desk and notify them you have just finished Compass. A Counselor or Advisor will review your results; assist you with selecting courses and completing your registration form. The Counselor or Advisor will also answer any questions that you might have. During peak registration periods an Advisor may be available right in the Testing & Assessment Center to interpret your results.
- 5) Register for Classes.** Once your scores have been entered into PeopleSoft you may complete your registration online by going to www.lorainccc.edu. Click on Student Login to create your new student Login. You will need your student number, date of birth, social security number, and zip code to answer prompts. Under my campus click Student Service Center to register. If you meet with an Advisor or Counselor an Enrollment Services support staff will process the registration form. You will receive a printed schedule showing the times and days of your classes, the total credits for which you have registered and the total cost of your tuition.
- 6) Pay your Tuition.** Your payment options are financial aid in the form of grants, loans, and scholarships, the Installment Payment Plan, and Transitional Payment Plan or personal funds.
- 7) Purchase Textbooks.** The College Bookstore is located in the College Center Building (CC) Room 138. The bookstore staff will assist you in locating your textbooks. You should have a copy of your schedule and a photo ID in order to purchase books. If you have financial aid, you may be able to use it to purchase books and supplies.
- 8) Attend Classes.**

Common Questions

What is the Compass Placement Assessment? Why is it important?

Compass is a computerized placement assessment in writing, reading, and math that helps Counselors and Advisors place you in the proper courses as you begin your studies at Lorain County Community College. The Compass assessment is designed to improve your chances of success here at LCCC. If you are placed in a course that is too easy for you, you may get bored and lose interest. On the other hand, if you are placed in a course that is too difficult, you may become overwhelmed and lose confidence in your abilities.

Should I review first?

Yes. Reviewing may help you to bypass some courses and place into a higher starting level. This is especially true in Math. This guide contains sample items which preview the assessment. Reviewing the sample items will help you to have a more successful assessment experience.

When am I required to complete the Compass assessment?

The Compass Placement Assessment must be completed prior to enrolling in:

- 1.) Any math course
- 2.) First course in English sequence
- 3.) More than six credit hours per academic term or
- 4.) Any courses that would result in the accumulation of 13 or more credit hours

Are there any exceptions?

Exceptions to the assessment might include:

- 1.) A student who has completed an Associates Degree or higher at an accredited institution
- 2.) A transient student in good standing
- 3.) A student with an ACT (with documentation):
 - A student with an ACT English score of 18 or SAT English score of 430
 - A student with an ACT Mathematics score of 22 or SAT Mathematics score of 510
 - A student with an ACT Reading Score of 21 or SAT Reading score of 490 OR
 - A student with all ACT subtotal scores of 22 or higher earned prior to August 1995 or
 - All ACT subtotal scores of 24 or higher earned September 1995 or later
- 4.) A senior citizen
- 5.) A student registering for audit
- 6.) A Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education cross-registration student

If I have a learning disability or if English is my second language, are special arrangements available?

Yes. If you have a disability, call Theo Scott in the Office of Special Needs at ext. 4124 and request special assessment arrangements.

If English is not the language in which you learned to read and write, you will need to complete the English as a Second Language Placement Assessment. Please call Dr. Annouska Remmert at ext. 7042 or Sharon Van Houte at ext. 7092.

Do I need computer skills?

No. You do not need computer skills. You will find that the Compass system is very user-friendly. If you need assistance, the Testing and Assessment staff is here to help.

LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TESTING & ASSESSMENT CENTER

STUDENT GUIDELINES

- Students **MUST** present a photo picture I.D., such as an LCCC Student I.D. or Driver's License. To protect your privacy, an LCCC Student I.D. is suggested. This form of I.D. can be obtained at the LCCC Library.
- Students may call in advance to verify if their tests have been received in the Testing & Assessment Center. Call 1-800-995-5222, ext. 7654 or ext. 7773.
- **No children are allowed in the Testing & Assessment Center.**
- **No food and/or drinks are permitted in the Testing & Assessment Center.**
- Students will not be permitted to converse in the Testing & Assessment Center. **Cell phones & pagers must be turned off or placed in the 'Ringer Off' mode and kept in your backpack or purse while taking tests.**
- Students should come prepared with #2 pencils, pens, erasers, calculators, or other material permitted by an instructor to take tests. All other belongings, **(Coats, Hats, Books, Backpacks)**, will be kept in designated areas during the entire time tests are being taken.
- The Testing & Assessment Center Proctors have the authority to assign seating for students taking tests.
- **For Academic Testing students will not be allowed to leave the Testing & Assessment Center until the test is completed. If you must leave the testing area, you subsequently must turn in your test. Therefore, it is suggested that you take care of phone calls, restroom and water breaks, etc. before you start your test.**
- **For Compass testing students may take a 10 minute break as they like.**
- The LCCC Code of Student Conduct will be enforced. If you violate the guidelines set forth by the Code of Student Conduct or by your Instructor, the Testing & Assessment Center Proctor has the right to collect the test early. For example, if your instructor had indicated that no calculator may be used during a test, and you are found using a calculator, the Proctor may collect/stop your test immediately. If this occurs, you must turn in your test and leave the Center immediately. Your instructor will be informed, and the instructor will handle any discussions regarding your situation.
- **Students will only be permitted to have materials that are authorized by the instructor for the exam.**

- **Students must keep track of their own time while taking a test to prevent exceeding the allotted time limit set by the instructor. Proctors are not responsible for informing students that their allotted time has expired or that the students only have a certain amount of time left to complete their test.**
- After completing the test, students are required to return the test to the Testing & Assessment Center Proctor and retrieve their belongings.
- Students must complete their tests before the scheduled closing time. Please plan your time according to the time limit you are allowed to complete the test. For example, if open hours are between 8:30 A.M. and 8:30 P.M., and you are taking a two-hour test, **it is your responsibility** to start your test by 6:30 P.M. to ensure that your test will be completed by 8:30 P.M. **All tests will be collected at the scheduled closing time. No exceptions will be made.**
- **Students are responsible for taking tests within the time frame set by their instructors. An EXPIRED test *cannot* be administered without the instructor's approval for an extension.**
- **The Testing & Assessment Center Proctor *cannot* accept** homework, reports, assignments, data disks, etc. These items must be delivered by the students to their instructors and/or the appropriate academic division office.
- Instructors grade all tests. You may verify your grade by contacting your instructor.

WRITING SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Sample Essay: Writing Skills Placement

Examinees are presented with an essay similar to the one below and are asked to look for errors in grammar, punctuation, usage, and style. When examinees find what they believe to be errors, they move the mouse pointer to the appropriate part of the text and click the mouse. On the right side of the screen five options appear for revising that area of text. Note that the first option is always identical to the original wording in the text, and thus represents a NO CHANGE option. Examinees can choose to revise any section of the essay. After revising the essay, examinees are routed to two items focusing on rhetorical strategies.

The essay below contains the same number and types of errors that an actual Writing Skills Test unit would contain; however, for demonstration purposes, only a handful of the segments below have been selected for revision. These segments are indicated by bold type, and the items associated with them are shown below. (Note: There are additional errors in the essay that are not in bold that a student in an actual testing situation would need to respond to.)

An increasing number of lakes and rivers in the northern United States invaded are being by a mussel no larger than a fingernail.

The zebra mussel probably steamed aboard a transatlantic ship sometime in the mid-1980s from the Caspian Sea into U.S. waters. Despite its growth was explosive, partly because the species **was preyed upon by very few native predators in its new environment**. As a consequence, the zebra mussels did find a plentiful food supply. They eat huge amounts of phytoplankton, which tiny free-floating sea organisms that dwell in water. **Scientists are concerned when the mussels** may compete aggressively with other species that depend on the same food supply.

Others concerned by the invading species are industry, public utilities, and boat owners. Zebra mussels cluster in huge colonies, being anchored themselves to any hard surface. These colonies can clog your water intake pipes of electric and water treatment plants. Fishery specialists are currently casting about and baiting their hooks to gun down control methods that will cause the lowest amount of damage to water supplies and other aquatic species. Two of the alternatives exploring are interrupting the species reproductive cycle and finding a bacterium harmful only to zebra mussels.

(Basic Grammar and Usage: Ensuring Grammatical Agreement)

Segment 1

- A. An increasing number of lakes and rivers
- B. An increasingly number of lakes and rivers
- C. A number increasing of lakes and rivers
- D. A number increasingly of lakes and rivers
- E. An increasing of lakes and rivers

(Style: Avoiding Redundancy)

Segment 2

- A. was preyed upon by very few native predators in its new environment.
- B. found very few predators in its new environment.
- C. found very few native predators and was seldom eaten in its new environment.
- D. was preyed on by very few native predator species in its new environment.
- E. was seldom eaten or preyed on by native predator species in its new environment.

(Sentence Structure: Relating Clauses)

Segment 3

- A. Scientists are concerned when the mussels
- B. Scientists are concerned that if the mussels
- C. Scientists are concerned wherein the mussels
- D. Scientists are concerned that the mussels
- E. Scientists are concerned as if the mussels

(Strategy: Making Decisions about Cohesive Devices)

Item 4 (end-of-passage)

The writer wishes to add a sentence at the end of Paragraph 1 that will serve as a transition between Paragraphs 1 and 2 and will establish the main focus of the essay. Which of the following sentences most effectively fulfills that purpose?

- A. The zebra mussel will provide a difficult challenge for public utility managers.
- B. The zebra mussel is only the latest in a series of newly introduced species to thrive in the U.S.
- C. No one knows how far south and west the zebra mussel is likely to spread, but scientists think they may be on the trail of important clues.
- D. Although small in size, the zebra mussel may become a huge problem for pleasure boat owners in North American waterways.
- E. Despite its size, however, the zebra mussel may have a dramatic effect on North American waterways.

Answers:

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. E

These items are not actual items from COMPASS® but are similar in content and format. These items are presented for illustrative purposes and do not constitute a full representation of item content

READING SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Sample Humanities Passage: Reading Placement

When I'm in New York but feeling lonely for Wyoming I look for the Western movie ads in the subway. But the men I see in those posters with their stern, humorless looks remind me of no one I know in the West. In our earnestness to romanticize the cowboy we've ironically disesteemed his true character. If he's "strong and silent" it's because there's probably no one to talk to. If he "rides away into the sunset" it's because he's been on horseback since four in the morning moving cattle and he's trying, fifteen hours later, to get home to his family. If he's "a rugged individualist" he's also part of a team: ranch work is teamwork and even the glorified open-range cowboys of the 1880s rode up and down the Chisholm Trail in the company of twenty or thirty other riders. It's not toughness but "toughing it out" that counts. In other words, this macho, cultural artifact the cowboy has become is simply a man who possesses resilience, patience, and an instinct for survival. "Cowboys are just like a pile of rocks—everything happens to them. They get climbed on, kicked, rained and snowed on, scuffed up by the wind. Their job is 'just to take it,'" one old-timer told me.

Adapted from Gretel Ehrlich, *The Solace of Open Spaces*. ©1985 by Gretel Ehrlich.

(Referring)

1. According to the passage, cowboys are probably "strong and silent" because:
- A. their work leaves them no time for conversation.
 - B. they have been cautioned not to complain.
 - C. they are stern and humorless.
 - D. there is no one nearby to listen to them.
 - E. their work makes them too tired to talk.

(Reasoning)

2. For which of the following statements does the passage give apparently contradictory evidence?
- A. The cowboy's work takes endurance.
 - B. Cowboys work alone.
 - C. Cowboys are adequately paid.
 - D. The cowboy's image has become romanticized in American culture.
 - E. Cowboys think of themselves as humorless.

Answers:

1. D

2. B

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Sample Practical Reading Passage: Reading Placement

Regular tune-ups of your heating system will cut heating costs and will most likely increase the lifetime and safety of the system. When a service technician performs a tune-up, he or she should test the efficiency of your heating system.

The technician should measure the efficiency of your system both before and after servicing it and provide you with a copy of the results. Combustion efficiency is determined indirectly, based on some of the following tests: 1) temperature of the flue (or chimney); 2) percent carbon dioxide or percent oxygen in the atmosphere; 3) presence of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere; and 4) draft. Incomplete combustion of fuel is the main contributor to low efficiency. If the technician cannot raise the combustion efficiency up to at least 75% after tuning your heating system, you should consider installing a new system or at least modifying your present system to increase its efficiency.

Adapted from Alex Wilson and John Morrill, *Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings*. ©1993 by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

(Reasoning)

1. The passage suggests that the presence of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere:
 - A. can provide information regarding combustion efficiency.
 - B. is found in 75% of heating systems tested.
 - C. can be reduced by decreasing heating system draft.
 - D. is the main cause of low efficiency in heating systems.
 - E. is more reliable than flue temperature as an indicator of combustion efficiency.

(Referring)

2. According to the passage, when performing a tune-up of a heating system, the service technician should:
 - A. ensure that the combustion efficiency is at least 25%.
 - B. modify the heating system before initially measuring efficiency.
 - C. measure combustion efficiency both before and after servicing the system.
 - D. provide his or her supervisor with a written report of the system's efficiency.
 - E. ignore the age of the heating system.

Answers:

1. A

2. C

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MATH SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Numerical Skills/Pre-Algebra Placement

(Averages: Means, Medians, and Modes)

1. What is the average (arithmetic mean) of 8, 7, 7, 5, 3, 2, and 2?
- A. $3\frac{4}{7}$
 - B. $4\frac{5}{6}$
 - C. $4\frac{6}{7}$
 - D. $5\frac{4}{5}$
 - E. $6\frac{4}{5}$

(Basic Operations with Decimals)

2. Ben is making wooden toys for the next arts and crafts sale. Each toy costs Ben \$1.80 to make. If he sells the toys for \$3.00 each, how many will he have to sell to make a profit of exactly \$36.00 ?
- A. 12
 - B. 20
 - C. 30
 - D. 60
 - E. 108

(Basic Operations with Fractions)

3. How many yards of material from a 24-yard length of cloth remain after 3 pieces, each $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards long, and 5 pieces, each $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards long, are removed?
- A. $2\frac{1}{4}$
 - B. $4\frac{1}{4}$
 - C. $4\frac{5}{6}$
 - D. $10\frac{1}{4}$
 - E. $10\frac{5}{6}$

(Percentages)

4. Phillip charged \$400 worth of goods on his credit card. On his first bill, he was not charged any interest, and he made a payment of \$20. He then charged another \$18 worth of goods. On his second bill a month later, he was charged 2% interest on his entire unpaid balance. How much interest was Phillip charged on his second bill?
- A. \$8.76
 - B. \$7.96
 - C. \$7.60
 - D. \$7.24
 - E. \$6.63

Answers:

1. C

2. C

3A

4.B

Algebra Placement

(Elementary Algebra: Linear Equations in One Variable)

1. A student has earned scores of 87, 81, and 88 on the first 3 of 4 tests. If the student wants an average (arithmetic mean) of exactly 87, what score must she earn on the fourth test?
- A. 85
 - B. 86
 - C. 87
 - D. 92
 - E. 93

(Elementary Algebra: Basic Operations with Polynomials)

2. Which of the following expressions represents the product of 3 less than twice x and 2 more than the quantity 3 times x ?
- A. $-6x^2 + 25x + 6$
 - B. $6x^2 + 5x + 6$
 - C. $6x^2 - 5x + 6$
 - D. $6x^2 - 5x - 6$
 - E. $6x^2 - 13x - 6$

(Elementary Algebra: Substituting Values into Algebraic Expressions)

3. If $x = -1$ and $y = 2$, what is the value of the expression $2x^3 - 3xy$?
- A. 8
 - B. 4
 - C. -1
 - D. -4
 - E. -8

(Intermediate Algebra: Rational Expressions)

4. For all $r \neq \pm 2$, $\frac{r^2 - 5r + 6}{r^2 - 4} = ?$
- A. $\frac{r-3}{r+2}$
 - B. $\frac{r-2}{r+2}$
 - C. $\frac{r-2}{r+3}$
 - D. $\frac{r+3}{r-2}$
 - E. $\frac{r+3}{r+2}$

(Coordinate Geometry: Linear Equations in Two Variables)

5. What is the equation of the line that contains the points with (x,y) coordinates $(-3,7)$ and $(5,-1)$?
- A. $y = 3x - 2$
 - B. $y = x + 10$
 - C. $y = -\frac{1}{3}x + 8$
 - D. $y = -\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{11}{4}$
 - E. $y = -x + 4$

Answers:

1. D

2. D

3. B

4. A

5. E

College Algebra Placement

(Complex Numbers)

1. For $i = \sqrt{-1}$, if $3i(2 + 5i) = x + 6i$, then $x = ?$
- A. -15
 - B. 5
 - C. $5i$
 - D. $15i$
 - E. $27i$

(Functions)

2. If $f(4) = 0$ and $f(6) = 6$, which of the following could represent $f(x)$?
- A. $\frac{2}{3}x - 4$
 - B. $x + 2$
 - C. $x - 4$
 - D. $\frac{3}{2}x + 6$
 - E. $3x - 12$

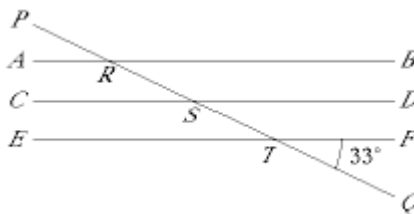
Answers:

1. A 2. E

Geometry Placement

(Angles)

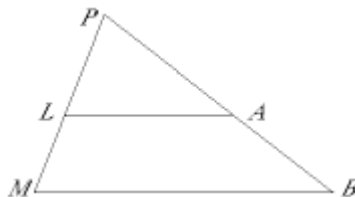
1. In the figure below \overline{AB} , \overline{CD} , and \overline{EF} are parallel, and \overline{PQ} intersects all 3 lines at points R, S, and T, respectively. If the measure of $\angle QTF$ is 33° , what is the measure of $\angle PRB$?
- A. 33°
 - B. 57°
 - C. 66°
 - D. 123°
 - E. 147°



(Triangles)

2. In $\triangle MPB$ below, $\overline{LA} \parallel \overline{MB}$. If $\frac{PL}{LM} = \frac{5}{3}$, then $\frac{PA}{PB} = ?$

- A. $\frac{5}{8}$
- B. $\frac{3}{8}$
- C. $\frac{5}{11}$
- D. $\frac{3}{11}$
- E. $\frac{3}{5}$



Answers:

1. E 2. C

Trigonometry Placement

(Trigonometric Functions and Identities)

1.

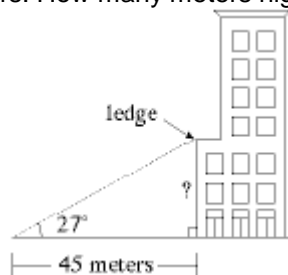
Which of the following is equivalent to $\frac{1 - \cos^2\theta}{\cos^2\theta}$?

- A. $\sec^2\theta$
- B. $(\csc^2\theta) - 1$
- C. $\tan^2\theta$
- D. $\sin^2\theta$
- E. $\frac{1}{\sin^2\theta}$

(Right-Triangle Trigonometry)

2. From a point on the ground the angle of elevation to a ledge on a building is 27° , and the distance to the base of the building is 45 meters. How many meters high is the ledge?

- A. $\frac{45}{\sin 27^\circ}$
- B. $\frac{45}{\tan 27^\circ}$
- C. $45 \sin 27^\circ$
- D. $45 \cos 27^\circ$
- E. $45 \tan 27^\circ$



Answers:

1. C

2. E

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ATTENTION!

COMPASS CONTAINS A BUILT-IN CALCULATOR WHICH YOU MAY USE FOR THE MATHEMATICS PORTION OF THE ASSESSMENT.

YOU MAY ALSO USE YOUR PERSONAL CALCULATOR. HOWEVER, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF EXCEPTIONS.

YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO USE:

- Pocket Organizers
- Hand held or laptop computers
- Electronic Writing Pads or pen-input devices
- Models with QWERTY (typewriter) keypads
- Models with built-in ability to simplify expressions, multiply polynomials, or factor polynomials