



Post-Admissions Assessment Information

Welcome to Northern College – "When you succeed, we succeed!"

CONGRATULATIONS on your acceptance to Northern College!

This fall, most first-year students at Northern College will be completing post-admissions assessments, using a computer-adaptive testing system called Accuplacer™, during the first few weeks of class. The results of your assessment will not affect your admission status or your standing in the program. The purpose of the assessment is solely to determine whether you need any support services related to reading, grammar, arithmetic and/or technical math or to recommend that you consider tutoring in a subject in which you excel. The results will allow us to help you succeed as a college student.

You may be completing up to five modules. The instructions are easy to understand and there will always be an invigilator present if you have any questions or problems.

The following items should be brought to the assessment:

- Your assigned student ID or Social Insurance Number
- Blank paper
- Pencil/pen

Please note that other test aides such as a dictionary, thesaurus, etc. are not permitted. In some modules, an online calculator will be made available to you. For more information on the Accuplacer™ program, please visit <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer>.

Module Name	Description
<u>Sentence Skills:</u>	This computer-based module will ask you to correct sentences by choosing a word or phrase to substitute for an underlined portion of a sentence and rewrite sentences in a specific way without changing the meaning. (20 questions)
<u>Reading Comprehension:</u>	This computer-based module measures how well you understand what you read. You will be asked to decide how two sentences are related and to interpret and draw conclusions from reading passages of various lengths. (20 questions)
<u>Arithmetic:</u>	This computer-based module measures your skills in three primary categories: whole numbers and fractions; decimals and percents; and applications and problem solving. (17 questions)
<u>Elementary Algebra:</u>	This computer-based module measures your skills in three primary areas: signed numbers and rationales; algebraic expressions; and equations, inequalities, and word problems. (12 questions)
<u>College Level Math:</u>	This computer-based module measures your skill proficiency from intermediate algebra through pre calculus. This includes: algebraic operations; solutions of equations and inequalities; coordinate geometry; functions; trigonometry; applications and other algebra topics. (20 questions)

Frequently Asked Questions:

- ✓ **Do I have to complete all the modules?** *Not necessarily, each coordinator will decide which modules their students will take. Most programs take only the first two (2) or three (3) modules.*
- ✓ **Is Northern College the ONLY College that does post-admissions assessments?** *No, more than 1,000 institutions world-wide use post-admissions assessments. Some colleges may refer to the computer-based assessment as "Computer Adaptive Testing" or "Computer Aided Testing".*
- ✓ **How long will it take?** *The assessments are not timed. A period of two (2) or three (3) hours will be scheduled in the first few weeks of classes to complete the modules. Each module takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. The Elementary Algebra and College Level Math modules may also be scheduled separately and is not timed.*
- ✓ **I have a disability or a diagnosed disorder, what do I do?** *Various accommodations may be available to you. If you have not already done so, please contact the Learning and disAbilities Services Centre at your campus to discuss the services that may be available.*
- ✓ **Can I retake a module?** *Yes, retakes may be possible. Please contact the coordinator of your program to*

discuss this option.

Sample Questions

Sentence Skills

Question 1: Select the best version of the underlined sentence. The first choice is the same as the original sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose the first answer.

Ms. Rose planning to teach a course in biology next summer.

- (A) planning (B) are planning
(C) with a plan (D) plans

Question 2: Rewrite the sentence in your head, following the direction given below. Keep in mind that your new sentence should be well written and should have essentially the same meaning as the sentence given you.

Being a female jockey, she was often interviewed. Rewrite the sentence beginning with, "She was often interviewed..."

- The next words will be:
(A) on account of she was (B) by her being
(C) because she was (D) being as she was

Reading Comprehension

Question 3: Read the statement or passage and then choose the best answer to the question. Answer the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in the statement or passage.

There are two types of pottery that I do. There is production pottery mugs, tableware, the kind of things that sell easily. These pay for my time to do the other work, which is more creative and satisfies my needs as an artist.

The author of this passage implies that:

- (A) artists have a tendency to waste valuable time.
(B) creativity and mass-production are incompatible.
(C) most people do not appreciate good art.
(D) pottery is not produced by creative artists.

Question 4: Two underlined sentences are followed by a question or statement about them. Read each pair of sentences and then choose the best answer to the question or the best completion of the statement.

The Midwest is experiencing its worst drought in fifteen years.
Corn and soybean prices are expected to be very high this year.

What does the second sentence do?

- (A) It restates the idea found in the first.
(B) It states an effect.
(C) It gives an example.
(D) It analyzes the statement made in the first sentence.

Mathematics

Arithmetic

Question 5: All of the following are ways to write 20 percent of N except:

- (A) 0.20N (B) 20N/100 (C) 1N/5 (D) 20N

Question 6: Which of the following is closest to 1.5?

- (A) 3 (B) 4 (C) 5 (D) 8

Question 7: Three people who work full time are to work together on a project, but their total time on the project is to be equivalent to that of only one person working full time. If one of the people is budgeted for 1/2 of his time to the project and a second person for 1/3 of her time, what part of the third worker's time should be budgeted for this project?

- (A) 1/3 (B) 1/4 (C) 1/6 (D) 1/8

Elementary Algebra

Question 8: If a number is divided by 4, and then 3 is subtracted, the result is 0. What is the number?

- (A) 12 (B) 4 (C) 1/6 (D) 1/8

Question 9: $16x - 8 =$ _____

- (A) 8x (B) 8(2x-x) (C) 8(2x-1) (D) 8(2x-8)

Question 10: If $x^2 - x - 6 = 0$ then x is _____

- (A) -1 or 3 (B) -1 or 6 (C) 1 or 6 (D) -2 or 3

College Level Math

Question 11: If $f(x) = x^4 - x^2$, then $f(-x) =$ _____

- (A) $x^4 - x^2$ (B) $x^4 + x$ (C) $x^4 - x + 2$ (D) $x^4 + x + 2$

Question 12: If the 1st and 3rd terms of a geometric sequence and 27 respectively, then the 2nd term could be _____

- (A) 6 (B) 9 (C) 12 (D) 15

Answers: 1 - D 2 - C 3 - B 4 - B 5 - D 6 - A 7 - C 8 - A 9 - C 10 - D 11 - A 12 - B

✓ What is the best way to prepare for this assessment?

As you prepare for your assessment, remember that it is more important that you understand the fundamental concepts in sentence skills, reading comprehension, and mathematics than to try to memorize sample questions you think may be in a module. Some excellent ways to practice include: high school textbooks, the internet, and books found in your local library. Here are just a few of the "on-line" sources available, to help get you started.

<http://www.intmath.com/>
<http://www.math.com>
<http://www.mathmax.com/>
<http://www.number2.com/>
<http://www.mymathtest.com>

<http://www.yccd.edu/assessment/sample.html>
http://www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer_practice.htm
<http://www.thea.nesinc.com/practice.htm>

GOOD LUCK!