SAMPLE QUESTIONS FROM PROJECT MERCURY TESTS

Here are samples of questions used to gauge the ability and evaluate the personality of Project Mercury aspirants.

These questions were prepared by the Psychological Corp. of New York, N.Y., which furnished a number of written tests used in the Mercury astronaut selection program.

In the ability test sampling, correct answers are underscored.

The personality questions, however, have no correct answers. The same is true for the sentence-completion questions. The responses help the psychologist in making a personal evaluation.

The first two sets of questions are similar to those in the Miller Analogies Test and the Minnesota Engineering Analogies Test.

Directions: Look at the first analogy item below. You need to think: LIGHT is to DARK as PLEASURE is to ? The correct answer among the four choices is pain, so c has been underlined at the right. In each test item find the word which completes the analogy and underline its letter (a, b, c, or d) at the right.

LIGHT : DARK :: PLEASURE : (a. picnic, b. day, c. pain, d. night) a b c d

Miller Analogies Test

LAUGH : (a. joke, b. cry, c. grin, d. humor) ::

JOY : SORROW a b c d
2. RECOVER : (a. bottle, b. correct, c. rescind, d. renew) :: RECOVER : RECTIFY

3. FICTION : (a. memory, b. fact, c. novel, d. imagination) :: AUTobiography : RECALL

4. Redundant : REPETITIOUS :: (a. non sequitur, b. false promise, c. recurrence, d. precondition) :: FALSE CONCLUSION

Minnesota Engineering Analogies Test

1. TRASS : ALLOY : : IRON : (a. compound, b. element, c. steel, d. rust)

2. CONDUCTANCE : RESISTANCE :: MULTIPLY : (a. integrate, b. magnify, c. divide, d. differentiate)

3. BODY : PHYSIOLOGY :: TRIANGLE : (a. astronomy, b. algebra, c. calculus, d. trigonometry)

4. VACUUM TUBE : THYRATRON :: CONTINUOUS : (a. alternating, b. regular, c. discrete, d. diminishing)

This test items are similar to those in the Doppelt Mathematical Reasoning Test.

Directions: Each problem in this test consists of five mathematical figures or expressions. Four of these have something in common which is not shared by the remaining one. Your task is to choose the one figure or expression which does not belong with the other four and show your choice by underlining it.

1. (A) 25
   (B) 27
   (C) 125
   (D) 11
   (E) 62

2. (A) circle
   (B) ellipse
   (C) parabola
   (D) square
   (E) triangle

3. (A) 7:12
   (B) 6:15
   (C) 5:20
   (D) 4:16
   (E) 3:12

4. (A) $x + y = 12$
   (B) $2y = 2x + 5$
   (C) $3y = 7 - 3x$
   (D) $5y + 5x = 9$
   (E) $4x = 5 - 4y$
Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory

Directions: Read each statement and mark whether it is true or false as applied to you. If a statement does not apply to you, omit it. Try to mark every item.

1. I often worry about my health.       True    False
2. I am often unhappy.                  True    False
3. Sometimes I feel like cursing.       True    False
4. Strangers keep trying to hurt me.    True    False

Incomplete Sentences

Directions: Complete these sentences to express your real feelings. Be sure to make a complete sentence.

1. I am sorry that ________________________
2. I can never __________________________
3. I hope ______________________________
4. At times _____________________________

- END -