

# PUBLIC SERVICE AND LEGAL Civil-Service

## Civil Service Certification Exam

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# Latest Version: 6.0

## Subjects

1. Spelling
2. Vocabulary
3. Analogies
4. History of England
5. Excerpt of a judicial review summary written by Bernard Schwartz
6. Adapted from "Roughing It"
7. Paragraph
8. Mix Questions

### Topic: 1

#### Spelling

Refer to the following for questions 1-20:  
Choose the correct spelling of the missing word.

#### Question: 1

John prefers \_\_\_\_\_ art to the classics.

- A. contemporary
- B. contemperary
- C. contemparary
- D. conteporary

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Contemporary is the correct spelling. It means up-to-date, modern, or new. In the sentence, a contrast is being drawn with "the classics," which are older pieces of art.

#### Question: 2

Allen told Steve that he would give him the \_\_\_\_\_ version of the story when he had time.

- A. unabridgged
- B. unabridddged
- C. unabbridged
- D. unabridged

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Unabridged is the correct spelling. It means not shortened, complete, or full-length. For example, long books are sometimes sold in "abridged" versions, meaning that they are edited and shortened. In the example sentence, Allen says he needs more time to tell the story, suggesting that he means the full version.

### Question: 3

Lisa was known for having \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.

- A. promiscous
- B. promicuous
- C. promiscuous
- D. promicious

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Promiscuous is the correct spelling. This word is used to describe people who have casual romantic relationships with many different people. It has a generally negative connotation.

### Question: 4

The new tax was passed for \_\_\_\_\_ the waterfront district.

- A. revitallizing
- B. revitalizing
- C. revitelizing
- D. revitalizing

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Revitalizing is the correct spelling. It means life-restoring or enlivening. It is apparent from the context of this sentence that the waterfront district has been moribund (depressed and dying) and that the government is attempting to stimulate the economy through taxation.

### Question: 5

The increased \_\_\_\_\_ to the class fund allowed for an end-of-year party.

- A. revenuee
- B. revenue
- C. revanue
- D. revanuee

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Revenue is the correct spelling. It is defined as money earned through economic activity. The revenue earned by the class would make it possible for them to have a party at the end of the year.

### Question: 6

The teenager \_\_\_\_\_ some candy from the grocery store.

- A. pillferred
- B. pilferred
- C. pillfered
- D. pilfered

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Pilfered is the correct spelling. In this sentence it means stole. The teenager in the sentence is performing some petty shoplifting at the local store.

### Question: 7

As he was from a small town, some of Dean's views were \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. parochial
- B. perochoial
- C. porochial
- D. parochiel

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Parochial is the correct spelling. It means locally focused or innocent of the ways of the world. A parochial person is unsophisticated and perhaps naive. Being parochial is not necessarily negative, though the word is often used in a critical fashion. A person like Dean who grew up and continued to live in a small town might not take an interest in the outside world and might therefore be considered parochial.

### Question: 8

All of the students dreaded the quizzes the professor gave because he tested on \_\_\_\_\_ material.

- A. obscere

- B. obscure
- C. obbscure
- D. obscure

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Obscure is the correct spelling. It means hard to find, uncommon. or rare. Many students have experienced the dread of taking tests from a teacher who includes not just the most important information, but also the random bits of knowledge that are easy to forget.

### Question: 9

The judge sued the newspaper for\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. libel
- B. labal
- C. lobel
- D. libbel

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Libel is the correct A libel is a false or misleading statement that injures the reputation of another person or group. It is illegal to make or publish such statements.

### Question: 10

Susan's \_\_\_\_\_ of darkness prevents her from leaving her house at night.

- A. abhorance
- B. abhorence
- C. abhorrence
- D. abhorrence

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Abhorrence is the correct spelling. It means hatred or distaste. This makes sense, as a hatred of darkness would prevent one from leaving the house at night.

### Question: 11

The girl was \_\_\_\_\_ when she found out her puppy was injured.

- A. distraught
- B. distaught
- C. distraught
- D. distrauht

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Distraught is the correct spelling. This word means traumatized, violently emotional, or severely sad and angry. The injury of a pet could make a person distraught.

### Question: 12

The \_\_\_\_\_ crowd mourned the loss of their leader.

- A. sember
- B. somber
- C. sombar
- D. sombor

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Somber is the correct spelling. This word means sad or mournful. A group whose leader has died would certainly be somber.

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