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1,001 Practice Questions

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for
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- 1,001 questions covering every section of the test
- Detailed, step-by-step answers and explanations for every question

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- Track your progress, see where you need more help, and create customized question sets
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Introduction

Welcome to *1,001 GED Practice Questions For Dummies*. Don't take the book title personally. In fact, I would like to congratulate you on making two very smart decisions. First, you've decided to pursue your high-school equivalency, which is one of the smartest decisions you'll ever make. Second, by purchasing this book, you've decided to put in the time and dedication to practice answering the types of questions that will appear on the GED exam, which will maximize your chances of achieving your goal.

Getting your GED will show that you have the skills and knowledge necessary to handle the rigors of college or professional employment. Many students who have successfully moved on to college, graduate school, or career-level employment consider passing the GED exam the first step in a life-changing process that placed them on the road to success. With that in mind, don't waste any time. Get practicing already!

What You'll Find

One of the best ways to maximize your exam performance is to continually expose yourself to questions that mimic the ones you'll encounter on the GED. The practice problems in this book are divided into four chapters that correspond to the four sections on the test: Reasoning Through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Science. I've constructed the questions to closely resemble the actual test in both format and level of difficulty so you know exactly what to expect on the big day.

If you miss a question or guess an answer, be sure to examine the answer explanations for tips on how to improve your approach next time. It's even worth checking out the explanations for those questions you answer correctly. Often, I reveal not only how to answer the problem but also how to answer it most efficiently, which can make all the difference on test day. Be proactive. This book contains hundreds of questions, so after you've taken a bunch of tests and evaluated your performance, review the questions you missed and form your own explanations for why the credited answer is better than yours. Then check my explanations for confirmation. Apply your discoveries to more practice problems. You can benefit from this book all by itself, but it's even better when you pair it with the in-depth reviews and strategies available in latest edition of *The GED For Dummies* (Wiley). Either way, this book helps you solidify your approach and confidence in all subject areas. So keep calm, carry on, and score big on the GED!

About This Book

The first half of this book contains the practice questions for the four sections of the GED exam: Reasoning Through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Science. You find the answers and explanations in the second half of the book.

The four sections of the GED exam are detailed for you in the following sections.

Social Studies

The social studies section lasts 70 minutes and is made up of 50 questions from the following content areas:

- » History (U.S. or Canada, 25%; World, 15%)

- » Geography (15%)
- » Civics and government (25%)
- » Economics (20%)

Science

The science section lasts 90 minutes and contains 50 questions from the following content areas:

- » Physical science (physics and chemistry, 35%)
- » Life science (45%)
- » Earth and space science (20%)

Mathematics

The mathematics section lasts 115 minutes and contains 50 questions divided into two parts, and it focuses on the following content areas:

- » Number operations and number sense (20–30%)
- » Measurement and geometry (20–30%)
- » Data analysis, statistics, and probability (20–30%)
- » Algebra, functions, and patterns (20–30%)

Note that you are not allowed to use a calculator on the first five questions of the GED's mathematics section. Calculators are permitted for the remaining questions.

Reasoning Through Language Arts

The language arts section lasts 150 minutes and is split into two parts: reading and writing.

The reading section consists of 40 questions and contains passages from the following content areas:

- » Fictional literature (75%)
- » Nonfiction (25%)

The writing section is divided into two parts. The scores are combined and reported as a single score.

The first part contains 50 questions from the following content areas:

- » Organization (15%)
- » Sentence structure (30%)
- » Usage (30%)
- » Mechanics (25%)

The second part consists of writing an essay about a familiar subject. You have 45 minutes to plan, write, and revise your essay. The essay topic will require you to present your opinion or explain your views about the assigned topic. Two trained readers will score your essay based on the following criteria:

- » Focused main points

- » Clear organization
- » Specific development of ideas
- » Sentence structure control, punctuation, grammar, word choice, and spelling

Each reader will score your essay on a four-point scale, and the scores will be averaged to find your final score. If you earn a final score of less than 2 on the essay, you must retake language arts, writing.

Foolish Assumptions

In writing this book, I assumed several things about you, the reader, including the following:

- » You've already made getting your GED a priority in your life because you want to advance in the workplace or move on to college.
- » You've already studied the subject matter in depth for each of the four sections of the GED (Reasoning Through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Sciences, and Science) and feel relatively confident with the content of each section.
- » You want access to the best GED practice questions available to help sharpen your test-taking skills.
- » You have sufficient English language skills to handle the test (**Note:** The GED is also available in Spanish).

- » You've already checked that the state you live in currently offers the GED as a high-school equivalency test.

- » You've already checked to make sure that you meet your state's requirements regarding age, residency, and the length of time since leaving school that make you eligible to take the GED exam. (Double-check with your local GED test administrator to find out your state's requirements.)

Beyond the Book

Your purchase of this book gives you so much more than a thousand (and one) problems to work on to improve your GED performance. It also comes with a free, one-year subscription to hundreds of practice questions online. Not only can you access this digital content anytime you want, on whichever device is available to you, but you can also track your progress and view personalized reports that show you which concepts you need to study the most.

The online practice that comes with this book offers you the same questions and answers that are available here. Of course, the real beauty of the online problems is your ability to customize your practice. In other words, you get to choose the types of problems and the number of problems you want to tackle. The online program tracks how many questions you answer correctly versus incorrectly so you get an immediate sense of which topics need more of your attention.

To gain access to practice online, all you have to do is register. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Find your PIN access code:

Print-book users: If you purchased a print copy of this book, turn to the inside front cover of the book to find your access code.

E-book users: If you purchased this book as an e-book, you can get your access code by registering your e-book at www.dummies.com/go/getaccess. Go to this website, find your book and click it, and answer the security questions to verify your purchase. You'll receive an email with your access code.

2. Go to Dummies.com and click *Activate Now*.
3. Find your product (*1,001 GED Practice Questions For Dummies*) and then follow the on-screen prompts to activate your PIN.

Now you're ready to go! You can come back to the program as often as you want — simply log in with the username and password you created during your initial login. No need to enter the access code a second time.

This product also comes with an online Cheat Sheet that helps you increase your odds of performing well on the GED. To get the Cheat Sheet, go to www.dummies.com and type “1,001 GED Practice Questions For Dummies cheat sheet” in the search box. (No access code required. You can benefit from this info before you even register.)



TIP For Technical Support, please visit <http://wiley.custhelp.com> or call Wiley at 1-800-762- 2974 (U.S.) or +1-317-572-3994 (international).

Where to Go for Additional Help

The solutions to the practice problems in this book are meant to walk you through how to get the right answers; they're not meant to teach the material. If certain concepts are unfamiliar to you, you can find help at www.dummies.com. Just type "GED" into the search box to turn up a wealth of GED-related information.

Part 1

The Questions

IN THIS PART ...

Practice math questions: number operations, geometry, data analysis, and algebra.

Answer questions on history, geography, government, and economics.

Analyze scientific data to answer questions covering biology, chemistry, and physics.

Tackle reading comprehension questions.

Test your knowledge of sentence structure, organization, usage, and mechanics.

Answer essay questions.

Chapter 1

Mathematical Reasoning

The GED's mathematics section lasts 115 minutes and contains 50 questions divided into two parts: a calculator-allowed part and a no-calculator-allowed part. The no-calculator-allowed questions tend to be less math-heavy and more concept-based, whereas the calculator-allowed questions tend to be more challenging and require more calculations. In this chapter, you get 285 questions to practice your math skills.

The Problems You'll Work On

The mathematics section focuses on the following content areas for both the calculator and no-calculator parts:

- » Number operations and number sense
- » Measurement and geometry
- » Data analysis, statistics, and probability
- » Algebra, functions, and patterns

What to Watch Out For

To increase your accuracy and improve time management, avoid these snags:

- » Making mistakes in simple math, such as improperly subtracting negative numbers
- » Spending more than a couple of minutes on any one problem instead of marking time-consuming questions and returning to them later
- » Failing to review key formulas and concepts from all math areas
- » Engaging in complex calculations when you can instead apply time-saving strategies such as trying answer choices and plugging in values for variables

1. If $f(x) = 2x - 3$, what is the value of $f(x)$ when x is -5 ?

(A) -13

(B) -7

(C) 7

(D) 11

2. What is the correct way of writing “ x is less than 5 but greater than or equal to -3 ”?

(A) $x - 5 \geq -3$

(B) $5 - x \geq -3$

(C) $-3 \leq x < 5$

(D) $-3 \geq x > 5$

3. If $x^2 + 3x = 10$, which of the following is a possible value of x ?

(A) -2

(B) 5

(C) 7

(D) -5

4. Jim rented a lawnmower from 9:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. He paid a total of \$53.04. What was the hourly rental fee? (**Note:** You may *not* use a calculator for this problem.)

(A) \$5.58

(B) \$6.24

(C) \$6.63

(D) \$7.07

5. What is the value of $6x - 3y^2$ when $x = 12$ and $y = -5$?

(A) -153

(B) 297

(C) -3

(D) 147

6. Alex earns a weekly base salary of \$650 as a car salesman. He also earns a 9% commission on his monthly sales after the first \$10,000. What was his total salary this month if he sold 7 cars whose average price was \$4,500 each?

(A) \$1,935

(B) \$2,585

(C) \$2,835

(D) \$3,485

7. Simplify the expression completely.

$$\sqrt{20} \cdot \sqrt{10}$$

(A) $5\sqrt{2}$

(B) $\sqrt{200}$

(C) $2\sqrt{10}$

(D) $10\sqrt{2}$

8. A human hair has an average diameter of 2.5×10^{-5} meters. What is the maximum number of human hairs that could fit side by side (without overlapping) on a microscope slide that is 50 millimeters wide? Write your answer in scientific notation.

(A) 2.0×10^3

(B) 2.0×10^5

(C) 2×10^6

(D) 10^{-3}

9. Bob is planning a birthday party for his son and has a maximum budget of \$475 to spend. He intends to rent a party room that costs \$125 for the day. He expects a total of 35 people to attend the party and plans to provide them all with lunch. Which of the following inequalities shows how to calculate the amount x that Bob can spend on lunch for each person?

(A) $125x + 35 \geq 475$

(B) $125x + 35 \leq 475$

(C) $125 + 35x \geq 475$

(D) $125 + 35x \leq 475$

10. Four years ago, Jenny's annual salary was \$22,625. This year, her salary was \$32,433. What will her new salary be in 5 years if it continues to rise at the same linear rate?

(A) \$34,885

(B) \$42,241

(C) \$44,693

(D) \$55,058

11. Mr. White's math class has n students. Mrs. Black's math class has 22 students fewer than triple the number of students in Mr. White's class. Which expression shows the number of students in Mrs. Black's class in terms of n ?

(A) $22 < 3n$

(B) $3(n - 22)$

(C) $22 - 3n$

(D) $3n - 22$

Questions 12 through 14 are based on the following information.

Denise measures the height of a sunflower every other week over a three-month period and records the results in the following table.

Weeks Height (in cm)

1 3.00

Weeks Height (in cm)

3 4.70

5 6.40

7 8.10

9 9.80

11 11.50

Weeks ***Height (in cm)***

13 13.20

12. Denise plots the data on a coordinate grid. She begins by plotting the data for Week 3 and Week 11.

What are the coordinates of the two points that Denise plots?

- (A) (11,3) and (11.5, 4.7)
- (B) (3, 11) and (4.7, 11.5)
- (C) (3, 4.7) and (11, 11.5)
- (D) (4.7, 3) and (11.5, 11)

13. Denise creates an equation that will allow her to predict the height of the sunflower in the future, where x is the week and y is the height. Which of the following gives the correct equation?

- (A) $y = 0.85x + 2.15$
- (B) $y = 1.7x + 2.15$

(C) $y = 0.85x + 1.3$

(D) $y = 1.7x + 1.3$

14. If the sunflower continues to grow at the same rate, at what week will it reach a height of 16.6 cm?

(A) Week 15

(B) Week 17

(C) Week 19

(D) Week 21

15. A doctor measured the blood sugar levels of one of her patients shortly after giving the patient a candy bar to eat. The graph below shows the patient's blood sugar level (y) x hours after she ate the candy bar.