

Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test™ (FACT)

Candidate Orientation Guide



****VERSION A****

***Reading Ability, Mathematical Reasoning, Map Reading,
Writing Ability, and Human Relations***

Provided by Fire & Police Selection, Inc. (FPSI)—2026

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Working in the Fire Service Industry

Nature of the Job

Every year, fires and other emergencies are responsible for the loss of lives and cause billions of dollars in property damage. Firefighters are essential to public safety, responding rapidly to a wide range of emergencies, including fires, medical incidents, natural disasters, and hazardous-material spills. They are often among the first responders to traffic accidents, providing medical care and ensuring public safety.

Modern firefighting is complex and requires teamwork and organization. Firefighters respond to emergencies with specific assignments directed by superior officers. At fire scenes, they may connect hoses to hydrants, operate pumps to deliver high-pressure water, position ladders for access or water delivery, and ventilate smoke-filled buildings. Rescue operations are a critical component, as firefighters extract victims and administer emergency medical attention when needed. In large-scale disasters, they remain on site for extended periods, assisting with rescue, recovery, and mitigation efforts.

The role of firefighters has expanded significantly. Medical and rescue emergencies now constitute the majority of calls; in recent years approximately 65% of fire department incident runs are for EMS/rescue services. True fire incidents make up a much smaller share. Many fire departments require their personnel to be certified emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and in many jurisdictions firefighters are cross-trained for medical response. Some departments also provide ambulance services or partner closely with EMS.

Firefighters operate in diverse environments, including urban and suburban settings, industrial facilities, rural areas, airports, and forests. Special units are trained to handle hazardous materials, such as chemical spills. Forest firefighting crews continue to combat wildfires using specialized techniques like fire line construction, prescribed burns, and smoke-jumpers or hotshot crews in remote terrain.

During non-emergency hours, firefighters maintain and test equipment, participate in drills and training, conduct fire prevention inspections, and stay physically fit. They also complete reports, follow developments in fire science and safety standards, and adapt to evolving administrative and regulatory policies.

Working Conditions

Firefighters typically work in fire stations equipped with residential features like dormitories and kitchens. Alarms require an immediate response, regardless of time or weather conditions. The job involves significant risks, including exposure to flames, smoke, collapsing structures, hazardous materials, and physical injuries. Protective gear, which can be heavy and hot, is essential for mitigating these dangers.

Work schedules vary by department. Common rotations include 24-hour shifts followed by 48 hours off, or alternating day and night shifts. Firefighters often work more than 50 hours a week, with additional hours required during emergencies and holidays. Supervisory roles, such as lieutenants and captains, often follow the same schedules as the teams they lead.

Employment

As of early 2024, the U.S. fire service employs over 1.2 million people (career, volunteer, and paid-per-call), including support staff. Of active firefighting personnel, about 35% are career firefighters,

about 53% are volunteers, and around 13% are paid-per-call. Paid firefighters are most common in urban and suburban areas, though federal, state, airport, wildland, and industrial firefighting employ specialized staff in other contexts.

Fire departments increasingly take on broader public safety responsibilities. Many are deeply involved in EMS response, disaster response, hazardous materials operations, and public education. Some jurisdictions have integrated fire, EMS, and public safety services. Consolidation of departments—regionalization or combining services across jurisdictions—has continued as one approach to standardize training, reduce costs, and improve resource efficiency.

Training, Qualification, and Advancement

Applicants must pass medical, written, and physical tests; must be at least 18 (or older, depending on state); many require a high school diploma or equivalent. EMT certification is common; paramedic certification is required in some locations. Physical agility, coordination, and endurance are tested. Background checks, drug screening, and ongoing medical evaluations are still standard in many departments. Postsecondary education—fire science, emergency medical services, etc.—continues to help candidates stand out.

Entry-level recruits often train at academies or fire department training centers for several weeks (or months), including classroom instruction and hands-on skills: firefighting technique, rescue, EMS, hazardous materials, building construction, and use of firefighting tools. They then serve a probationary period on a fire company. Apprenticeship or combination models (mixing formal instruction with on-the-job experience) are used in some places; some departments offer incentives like tuition reimbursement for advanced training.

Personal traits remain important: mental alertness, good judgment, strength, endurance, self-discipline, ability to work under stress, and teamwork. Leadership, communication, and public service mindset are also valued.

Opportunities for promotion depend on performance, experience, seniority, examinations, interviews, and sometimes assessment centers (simulations). In larger departments, higher ranks (Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief, etc.) may require advanced education (e.g., associate or bachelor's in fire science, public administration, or related fields) or specialized credentials. Certifications from national or state fire academies may be required.

Job Outlook

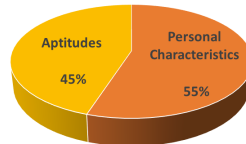
Competition for firefighter positions remains strong, especially in areas with higher cost of living or those offering robust benefits. Demand is driven by ongoing needs for medical/emergency response, population growth, aging infrastructure, climate-driven increase in wildfires and natural disasters. Replacement needs from retirements are a major factor in openings.

Volunteer firefighter numbers are still declining or under pressure in many areas, creating staffing challenges, particularly in rural communities. Departments are adapting by shifting toward combination or paid models, increasing cross-training, and relying more on regional/mutual aid programs.

Overview of the FACT

This *Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test*[™] (FACT[™]) associated with this practice test for the entry-level firefighter recruitment process consists of a variety of sub-tests designed to measure critical constructs required for successful job performance as a firefighter. The components of this test have been developed and validated by firefighters and Fire Captains who have experience performing the essential functions of the firefighter job. Each construct measured by this test has been carefully linked to a national job description and identified as a critical skill or ability necessary for performance of the job.

FACT Test Breakdown



The entry-level firefighter written test consists of two sections: a general aptitude test and a personal characteristics section. The FACT[™] consists of 110 multiple-choice test items. The FACT[™] is weighted: 45% aptitude measures and 55% character measures. This practice test is designed to prepare you for both sections of the test. The constructs measured by the FACT[™] include:

- Reading Ability (15 total test items)
- Mathematical Reasoning (15 total test items)
- Map Reading (10 total test items)
- Writing Ability (10 total test items)
- Personal Characteristics—to include: interpersonal skills, teamwork, commitment, honesty, integrity, emotional stability (60 total test items)

Subject-matter experts in our validation workshops have endorsed every item on the test and have confirmed that the reading level of the passages and the test items are appropriate based upon the materials found on the job and in the academy.

How to Prepare for the Test

All of the constructs measured by the *Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test*[™] are based upon basic skills and abilities that a minimally qualified applicant should possess. There are a variety of preparatory publications available that *may* be helpful to those candidates who could use a refresher in basic reading, math skills, map reading, writing ability, and human relations skills. FPSI **cannot** endorse any particular national publication in terms of preparing for this test that was not created by FPSI.

Helpful Tips for Test Takers

Prepare for Your Test Day

Be aware that on the day of the test administration your movements to certain areas of the building where the test is being held might be restricted. Do not make absolute plans on where you want to sit or which restroom you wish to use. Just familiarize yourself with the location and the facilities. You will be instructed on the test day of any limitations on your movements during the test session.

Carefully read all of the instructions and directions you receive from the agency conducting the test and follow them. Failure to follow the instructions may affect your score or even eliminate you from the testing process.

The Day of the Test

Arrive early on the day of the test. Applicants who are late are often denied permission to take the test. Wear comfortable clothing in layers so you can remove layers if the room becomes too warm or add layers if there is air conditioning or a cold draft. This strategy will help you to be comfortable throughout the exam. You can also use your sweater or jacket to cushion your seat in the test room if it is too hard or uncomfortable. Even though you should dress comfortably, you should also keep in mind that this test is part of the overall selection process.

When you are given the test instructions on the test day, you will be informed how much time you have to answer the questions. Take your watch off and put it on the table in front of you where you can see it. This will help you to keep track of your time and progress. You should be supplied with all materials you need to respond on the test, including test answer forms, scratch paper, and pencils. Leave all of your test preparation materials or notes outside of the testing area.

You may NOT refer to any other study materials during the test.

Once you begin to take the test, make sure you clearly mark your answers to each corresponding question. If you skip any questions during the test, make sure you continue to put your answers next to the correct answer number on the answer sheet. It is easy to put answers next to the wrong question number on the answer sheet if you do not pay close attention. When you have reached the end of the test, make certain to go back and check that you have answered ALL of the questions.

During the test, you will be instructed to choose the “best” or “most correct” alternative from four to five different alternatives. Most applicants find it helpful to read the entire question and all of the alternatives before choosing the best or most correct alternative. It is better to read all of the alternatives as you may find one that is a better answer than the one you first thought was correct.

If you have time after you have answered all of the questions, go back and review your answers. You may have recalled something later that may help you to correctly answer earlier questions.

DO NOT LEAVE ANY ANSWERS BLANK. You are scored on the number of correct answers you give in response to the questions. In other words, you will be penalized for any answers left blank. Even if you are not certain of a correct answer, you **SHOULD GUESS** at what the correct answer might be. Try to eliminate alternatives that you know are wrong and guess from the ones that remain. This will increase your chances of guessing the correct answer. Answers left blank will **NOT** be counted towards the number of correct responses in your final score.

It is important to try to make a good impression throughout the entire testing process since fire command level officers and administrators from the department that are administering this test sometimes visit the test site on the day of the test. Horseplay and loud joking before or after the test may create a poor impression of your ability to properly perform the job of a firefighter. You should also remain quiet during the test unless you have permission to do otherwise from those who are administering the test.

Dealing with Anxiety

The *Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test™* is not a measure of your self-worth or your intelligence. This is a test designed to measure your levels of reading ability, math skills, map reading skills, writing skills, and human relation competencies. If you have performed poorly on other tests in the past, that does not necessarily mean you will perform poorly on this test. Because, unlike many other types of tests, the *Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test™* was designed to measure a variety of critical skills and abilities that are essential to successful firefighter job performance in a way that does not overestimate the importance of cognitive skills and other constructs which, historically, result in lower passing rates.

There are no trick questions on the test. Each and every question on the test can be answered based upon basic skills and abilities you should have developed throughout your life.

*We certainly wish you the best of luck with your endeavors
to become an entry-level firefighter!*

Practice Test Questions

Test Yourself for Success with the *Firefighter Aptitude and Character Test*[™] Practice Test Items. Listed within this orientation guide are sample questions from the five (5) constructs measured on the FACT[™] written test. These sample test items are *very similar* to the types of items found on the actual test. There is an *optional* version B practice test available on our website as well.

<https://www.fpsi.com/firefighter-applicants/>

Reading Section

For this section of the test, you will read a one-page passage containing fire-related material and will then answer five (5) multiple-choice questions for each passage. All of the answers for these questions are found in the corresponding reading passage. You are encouraged to read the fire passage first and then answer the questions. You are allowed to refer back to the passage if needed.

Proceed to the next section when you are finished.

Physical Properties of Substances and Classifications - Questions 1-5

Physical Properties of Substances

Explosive Range

Explosive range is also known as flammable range or flammable limits. This physical property refers to a mixture of the flammable vapors and air. It is the oxygen in the air that helps "burn" substances. With no oxygen or the improper mixture of oxygen with the flammable vapors, the vapors will not ignite or burn. This is true even if a suitable ignition source has been found. We must have a proper ratio of an air/fuel mixture. The definition of explosive range is:

A mixture of flammable vapors and air, expressed as a percent, above or below which no ignition can occur.

For example, gasoline vapors have been found to have an explosive range of 1.4% to 7.6%. This is a range of mixtures from 1.4% gasoline vapors and 98.6% air to 7.6% gasoline vapors and 92.4% air. Gasoline vapors will ignite or explode only when mixed with air in this proportion. The lower limit, 1.4%, is the least amount of vapor possible for gasoline. Any percent mixture less than the lower limit will not ignite. This is referred to as being "too lean." On the other hand, if the percent mixture is above the vapor limit, it is referred to as being "too rich." It will not ignite either. Only the mixtures between the lower limit and upper limit will ignite. All vapors of flammable and combustible materials have an explosive range.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME LIQUIDS

Physical Characteristics of Some Liquids						
	Flash Point*	Fire Point*	Ignition Temperature*	Explosive Range	Vapor Density	Specific Gravity
Gasoline	-45	-43	850	1.4% - 7.6%	3.00	.75
Acetone	0	2	1000	2.6% - 12.8%	2.00	.79
Kerosene	100	102	400	0.7% - 5.0%	2.80	.98
Ethanol	55	57	800	4.3% - 19.0%	1.59	.79
* Expressed in degrees F.						

Fire Classifications

For many years the fire community acknowledged only three fire classifications. In 1960 the classifications were reorganized to show four fire classifications:

CLASS A FIRES - ordinary combustibles

CLASS B FIRES - flammable liquids, gases

CLASS C FIRES - electrical

CLASS D FIRES - combustible metals

Class A Fires

These fires include ordinary combustibles such as wood, paper, fabric, solid plastics, and rubber. Class A fires normally involve fuels of an organic nature. These fires are the most common. Extinguishing agents for Class A type fires include water, some foam types, and dry chemical.

Class B Fires

These fires include all flammable and combustible liquids, greases, oils, and gases. One way to recognize a Class B fuel is by the container. No Class B fuel retains its own shape. Because they are liquids and gases, they must be in a strong rigid container. Extinguishing agents for Class B type fires include carbon dioxide, dry chemical, foam, and Halon types.

Class C Fires

A Class C fire is one that involves energized electrical equipment. Very special importance must be given to the electrical nonconductivity of the extinguishing agent. Only when the electrical circuits have been de-energized may Class A and Class B extinguishing agents be used. Extinguishing agents suitable for Class C fires include dry chemical, carbon dioxide, and Halon types.

Class D Fires

When metals burn, they pose some very unique hazards. They burn extremely hot. They may actually react to ordinary extinguishing agents. Class D fires are fires involving such metals as sodium, magnesium, titanium, aluminum, and uranium. The hazards of a metal fire are so unique that ordinary extinguishing agents should generally not be used. Instead, extinguishing agents for a Class D fire are those that have been specifically designed and approved for that type of application.

1. Which of the following liquids has the highest explosive range?
 - A. Gasoline
 - B. Ethanol
 - C. Acetone
 - D. Kerosene

2. Which of the following liquids has the lowest vapor density?
 - A. Gasoline
 - B. Acetone
 - C. Kerosene
 - D. Ethanol

3. Which of the following liquids has the highest specific gravity?
 - A. Gasoline
 - B. Acetone
 - C. Kerosene
 - D. Ethanol

4. Which of the following descriptions is correct?
 - A. Class A Fires—Electrical
 - B. Class B Fires—Flammable liquids, gases
 - C. Class C Fires—Combustible metals
 - D. Class D Fires—Ordinary combustibles

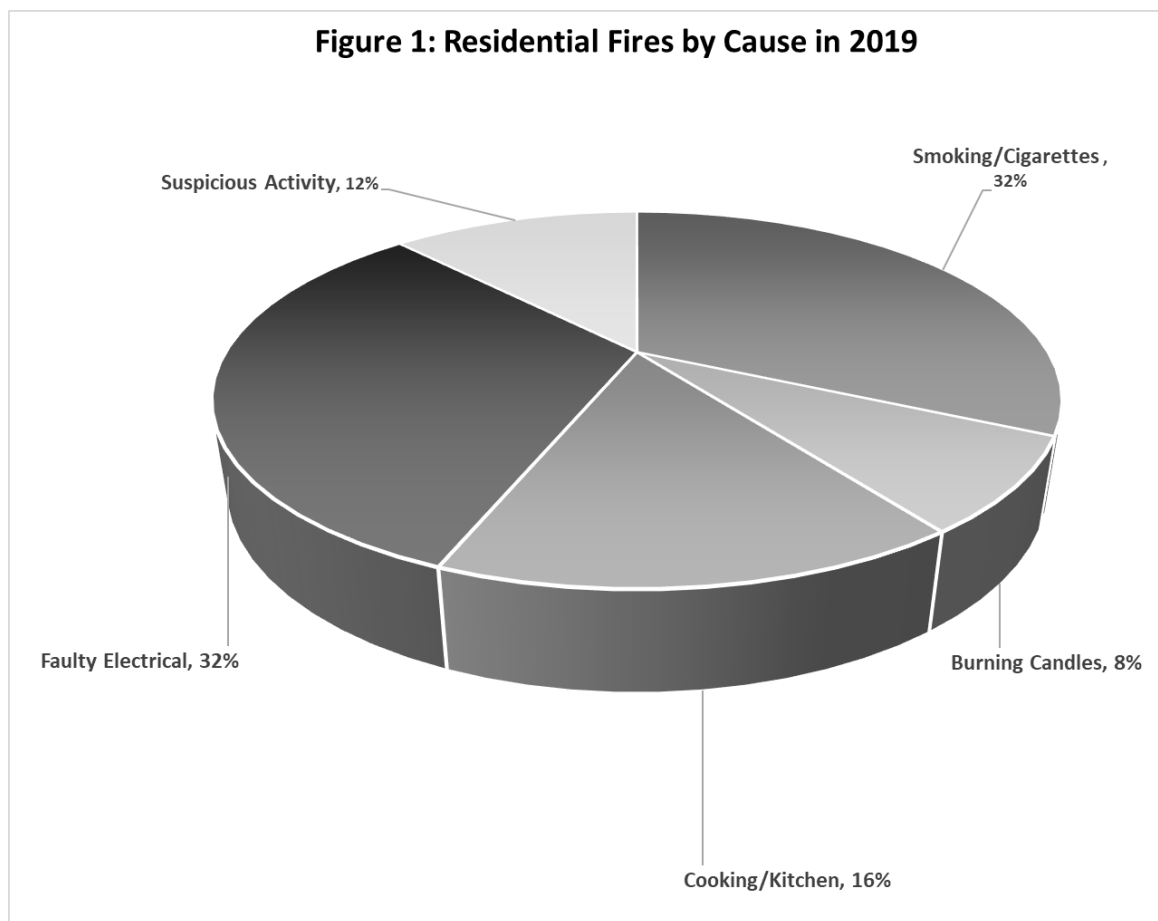
5. Fires which involve such metals as sodium, magnesium, titanium, aluminum, and uranium are classified as _____ fires.
 - A. Class A
 - B. Class B
 - C. Class C
 - D. Class D

Math Section

For this section of the test, you will answer twelve (12) fire-related math questions. These math questions require basic mathematic calculations and you will not need a calculator. Calculators are not allowed for this test. **YOU ARE FREE TO WRITE IN THIS TEST BOOKLET TO MAKE YOUR CALCULATIONS.**

Proceed to the next section after you are finished.

Use Figure 1 below to respond to questions 6-7 on the following page:



6. Based upon Figure 1, which combination causes below accounted for the MOST residential fires in 2019?
- A. Smoking/Cigarettes and Burning Candles
 - B. Faulty Electrical and Suspicious Activity
 - C. A combined total of every type of fire cause with the exception of Smoking/Cigarettes and Faulty Electrical
 - D. A and B each resulted in the same amount of injuries

7. Based upon Figure 1, which of the following statements is NOT true?
- A. There were four times as many residential fires resulting from Smoking/Cigarettes as there were residential fires resulting from Burning Candles.
 - B. There were 1 ½ times as many residential fires resulting from Suspicious Activity as there were residential fires resulting from Burning Candles.
 - C. More residential fires resulted from a combination of Suspicious Activity and Cooking/Kitchen than from Faulty Electrical.
 - D. There were twice as many residential fires resulting from Smoking/Cigarettes as there were residential fires resulting from Cooking/Kitchen.
8. You are using a full SCBA bottle containing 140 cubic feet of air. Your supervisor has informed you that a bell will sound when the tank is ¼ full. When you hear the bell sound, you can assume that your tank has _____ cubic feet of air remaining.
- A. 25.0
 - B. 28.5
 - C. 35.0
 - D. 45.5
9. A group of four firefighters purchase groceries at the store. The cost for the items is as follows: \$9.65, \$3.25, \$11.60, \$5.85, and \$7.50. In order for the bill to be equally split, approximately how much does each firefighter owe (not including tax, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar)?
- A. \$8
 - B. \$9
 - C. \$10
 - D. \$11
10. You are in an elevator with a weight capacity of 1,650 pounds. There are five other people in the elevator with you. One person weighs 184 pounds, one person weighs 192, one person weighs 116, and the other two each weigh 156 pounds. Assuming that you weigh 173 pounds, how much additional weight could the elevator hold before exceeding capacity?
- A. 423 pounds
 - B. 517 pounds
 - C. 673 pounds
 - D. 829 pounds
11. If a fire engine is traveling 45 mph for 18 minutes, how far will it travel? (Distance = Rate x Time)
- A. 8.10 miles
 - B. 13.50 miles
 - C. 19.33 miles
 - D. 27.00 miles

12. What is the minimum number of rope sections a firefighter would need to rope off a danger zone that is 28 feet long by 40 feet wide assuming that each rope section comes in 50-foot sections?
- A. 2 sections
 - B. 3 sections
 - C. 4 sections
 - D. 5 sections
13. In 2017, there were about 13,500 deadly automobile accidents. About 4,018 were a result of drunk driving accidents. Approximately what percent of the deadly automobile accidents were a result of drunk driving accidents?
- A. 20%
 - B. 25%
 - C. 30%
 - D. 35%
14. An adult victim has one-third ($1/3$) of his back burned, half ($1/2$) of his right leg burned, and half ($1/2$) of his head burned. Using the burn chart below, determine what percent (total) of the victim is burned.
- | | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Entire Back: | 15% |
| Entire Front: | 15% |
| Entire Head: | 5% |
| Each Arm: | 12.5% |
| Each Leg: | 15% |
| Feet and Hands: | 10% |
- What percent of the victim is burned?
- A. 10.50%
 - B. 11.25%
 - C. 13.00%
 - D. 15.00%
15. A patient has been instructed by a doctor that the maximum dosage of medication is $3\frac{1}{2}$ tablets for every 50 pounds of weight. If the patient weighs 200 pounds, what is the maximum number of tablets he/she should take per dose?
- A. 12 tablets
 - B. 12 and $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets
 - C. 14 tablets
 - D. 15 and $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets
16. Which one of the following hose diameters is the largest?
- A. $17/20$ inches
 - B. $3/4$ inches
 - C. $3/5$ inches
 - D. $8/10$ inches

17. A fire station receives a structure fire alarm call on July 18th at 2:22 A.M. An automobile accident alarm call comes in on July 18th at 4:50 A.M. and another structure fire alarm call on July 19th at 3:27 P.M. How much time has elapsed from the first structure fire alarm call and the second structure fire alarm call?
- A. 12 hours and 49 minutes
 - B. 13 hours and 5 minutes
 - C. 24 hours and 55 minutes
 - D. 37 hours and 5 minutes

Writing Ability Section

For this section of the test, you will answer four (4) items that are *similar* to those items found on the FACT™. Pay attention to any instructions preceding the test questions.

Proceed to the next section after you are finished.

For Question 18, select the best choice of words to complete the sentence.

18. Be _____ of your surroundings and try to _____ dangerous situations.
- A. “conscious” and “migrate”
 - B. “cognizant” and “mitigate”
 - C. “cognitive” and “monitor”
 - D. “conscientious” and “modify”
19. Considering grammar, spelling, and punctuation as well as ease of understanding, which of the following sentences is most acceptable?
- A. The firefighter needed to keep a copy of the report for herself, and provide a copy to the other two victims, too.
 - B. The firefighter needed to keep a copy of the report for herself and provide a copy to the other two victims to.
 - C. The firefighter needed to keep a copy of the report for herself and provide a copy to the other two victims to.
 - D. The firefighter needed too keep a copy of the report for herself, and provide a copy to the too other victims, too.
20. Identify the type of error that is found in the following sentence:
- Sometimes the difference between being a good firefighter and an average firefighter comes down to weather or not the firefighter is properly trained.**
- A. Spelling
 - B. Grammar
 - C. Punctuation
 - D. There is no error

For Question 21, choose the word that is synonymous (means the same thing) as the underlined word in the sentence.

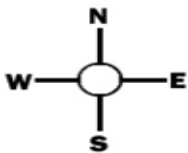
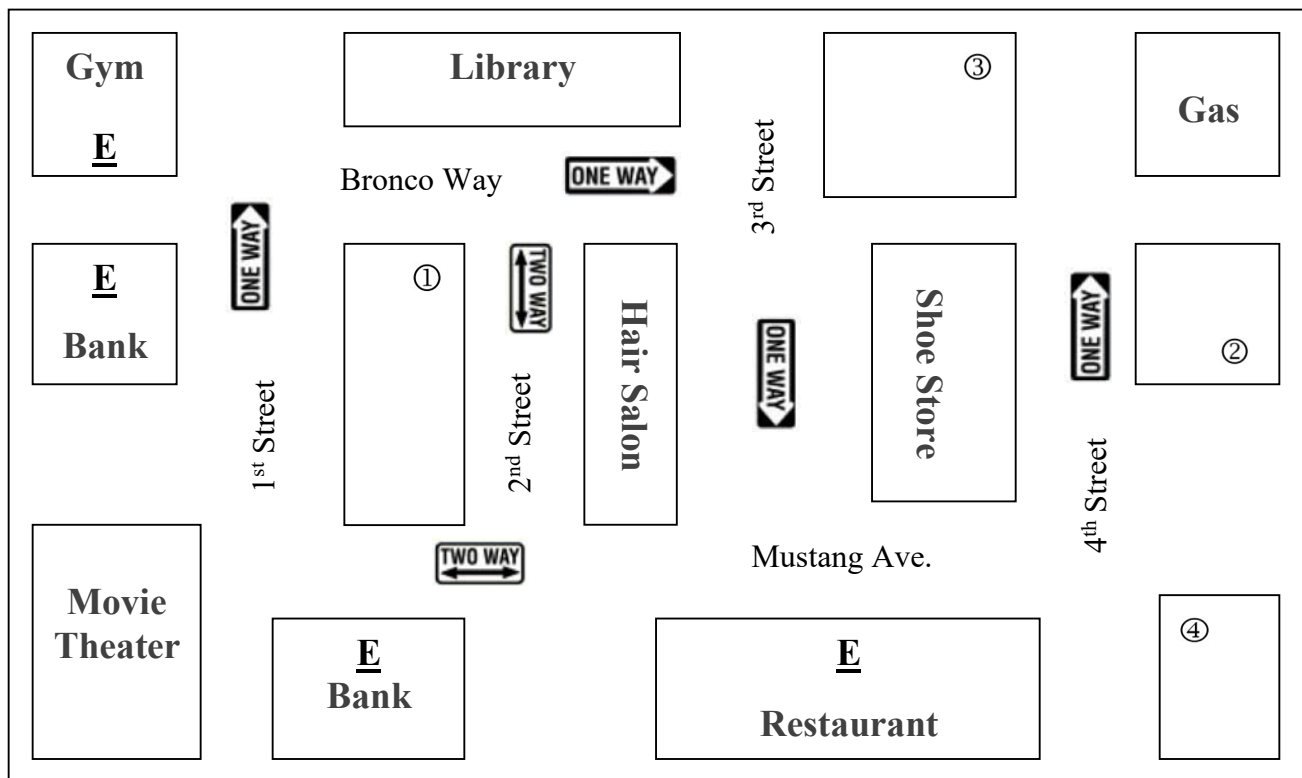
21. The fire chief had a dynamic way of teaching his firefighters new skills.
- A. traditional
 - B. boring
 - C. lively
 - D. thorough

Map Reading Section

For this section of the test, you will answer three (3) job-related map reading ability questions.

Proceed to the next section after you are finished.

DIRECTIONS: Use the following map to answer questions 22-24.



Note: Corners are indicated by circled numbers

22. You are facing South on 2nd Street and turn East on Mustang Ave. The next one way street you will reach is _____.
- A. 1st Street
 - B. 3rd Street
 - C. 4th Street
 - D. Bronco Way
23. Which direction does Corner 1 face?
- A. Southeast
 - B. Southwest
 - C. Northeast
 - D. Northwest
24. Which intersection is Corner 4 located at?
- A. Bronco Way and 2nd Street
 - B. Bronco Way and 4th Street
 - C. Mustang Ave. and 2nd Street
 - D. Mustang Ave. and 4th Street

Human Relations Section

For this section of the test, you will read one short fire-related situation and will then answer two multiple-choice questions relating to that situation. You will be asked to identify both the “most appropriate” response and the “least appropriate” response. There are 16 total questions in this section. For example:

You are transporting an injured and intoxicated male who has a large amount of money protruding from his pocket. While transporting him to the emergency room you notice that the money falls out of his pocket.

- A. Pretend you didn't see the man drop the money.
 - B. Wait until you go back outside and take the money if nobody else has found it.
 - C. Pick up the money and give it to the emergency room staff for safekeeping.
 - D. Pick up the money and place it next to the victim's hand.
1. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE? C
2. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE? B

John is a firefighter at a station having dinner with his crew. He overhears a more senior firefighter saying very negative things about the department's newly hired Fire Chief. John knows the senior firefighter hasn't even met the new Fire Chief yet and is basing his statements on rumors he's heard from his neighbors. John has known the Fire Chief for several years and knows these rumors aren't true. What is the best way for Firefighter John to handle this situation?

- A. John should share whatever accurate information he has about the Fire Chief with the crew members at the dinner table.
- B. John should talk to the senior firefighter privately about the rumors and tell him that they could be damaging to the Fire Chief.
- C. John should tell the other crew members that the rumors aren't true when the senior firefighter isn't around.
- D. John should tell the Fire Chief about the rumors the senior firefighter was spreading.

25. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

26. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

You are on duty with your crew and your engine pulls into a fast food restaurant parking lot to quickly buy lunch. While you walk up to the front door of the restaurant, you are approached by a citizen who complains that there are two young children left in a vehicle without a parent or guardian in sight. You approach the vehicle and see that the children appear to be between 10 and 13 years of age and appear to be fine. It's a cloudy day, and the outside temperature is 65 degrees. How would you handle this situation?

- A. Enter the restaurant and have the workers announce that there are children in a vehicle who need assistance.
- B. Remind the citizen that you and your crew need to quickly purchase your food and get back into service and that you cannot assist.
- C. Have your crew members pick up your food and stay close to the vehicle until a parent or guardian returns.
- D. Remove the children from the vehicle and immediately assess their health.

27. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

28. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

You are off-duty helping a fellow firefighter work on a side job. He works as a part-time construction worker to bring in extra money for his family. You're on the job site with another 10 workers and you accidentally drop your hammer on the tile floor while walking through the newly remodeled bathroom. You discover that your hammer cracked the tile. You look around and discover that nobody else saw the accident. How would you handle this situation?

- A. Try to repair the broken tile, even though you don't have experience in this area.
- B. Find your friend and inform him about what happened and offer to pay for the damage.
- C. Tell your friend that you noticed that the tile was cracked when you walked in the bathroom.
- D. Wait until the remodeling project is finished to say anything as it's likely that there will be more damage in the coming days.

29. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
30. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
-

Firefighter Sam has worked as a firefighter for two years. She feels very confident about her duties as a firefighter in all aspects with the exception of medical assessments. She's worried that her lack of knowledge in this area may one day put the crew in a dangerous situation. She's mentioned to her fellow firefighters that she'd like additional training but has been told that there's not enough time to train in this area and it's best to just acquire this knowledge through on-the-job real life experience with patients. How should Firefighter Sam handle this situation?

- A. Firefighter Sam shouldn't worry about her lack of knowledge in medical assessments and just carry on with her assigned duties.
 - B. Firefighter Sam should keep her concerns to herself, so her crew feels confident in her skills, but read and study medical assessment literature in her spare time.
 - C. Firefighter Sam should inform her captain that she needs additional training in this area and ask if she can train with other crew members who are more knowledgeable in hopes of maximizing her learning potential.
 - D. Firefighter Sam should tell the other crew members that she might have to leave any medical assessment responsibilities to them as she doesn't feel comfortable with her limited skills.
31. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
32. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
-

You are a new firefighter and are determined to demonstrate to your crew that you are capable of performing your duties. You and your crew arrive at a structure fire incident on a very hot, summer day. You exit the engine and begin to perform your fire suppression duties. About ten minutes into the fire extinguishment, you realize that you are starting to feel dizzy and worry that you might pass out. How would you handle this situation?

- A. Do your best to push through the illness because you have a very important job to do but mention how you feel to another firefighter.
 - B. Quickly return to the engine to get a bottle of water and rehydrate and return to the assignment before anyone notices.
 - C. Inform your captain that you feel like you might pass out and may need to exit the fireground.
 - D. Try to limit the amount of physically-demanding activities you do but stay on the fireground with your crew.
33. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
34. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?
-

You and your crew return to the station following a fire incident. While removing your gear from the engine, you see Firefighter Mike take an expensive saw from the bay and place it in his personal truck. One week later, your captain reports the saw as missing and inquires if anyone knows where it might be. How would you handle this situation?

- A. Inform the captain that you saw Firefighter Mike place the saw in his personal truck last week.
- B. Tell the captain you don't know anything about the missing saw.
- C. Inform the captain that you will help keep an eye out for the saw and do your best to help locate it.
- D. Tell Firefighter Mike that you saw him place the saw in his personal truck last week and encourage him to tell the captain that he has the saw, or you will have no choice but to report the incident to your captain.

35. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

36. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

You are a probationary firefighter and have been assigned to your new station for three weeks. While sitting at the dinner table with your crew one evening, two senior firefighters engage in a slanderous conversation about another firefighter assigned to your station who works on a different shift. The comments are inappropriate and sexist. One of the senior firefighters looks at you and states, "Hey rookie, you better keep your mouth shut and not repeat any of this to anyone outside of this room!" How would you handle this situation?

- A. Remain calm and quiet and don't say anything to anyone, unless this happens again.
- B. Participate in the conversation in hopes of fitting in with the other senior firefighters.
- C. Inform your supervisor, in confidence, about the incident and await her guidance.
- D. Inform the firefighter assigned to the other shift about what was said about her and encourage her to speak with the senior firefighters.

37. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

38. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

It's a Sunday afternoon in the station and you and your crew have no assigned duties for the day other than to respond to emergency calls. You are about to begin your daily exercise routine and start running on the treadmill. Your crew has been told by the chief how important it is to complete the daily workouts. You're about five minutes into your workout and a probationary firefighter walks into the exercise room with tears in his eyes. He confides in you that he just learned that his mother is terminally ill. How would you handle this situation?

- A. Tell the probationary firefighter not to worry too much and that you'll keep his mother in your prayers and continue on with your workout.
- B. Remind the probationary firefighter that you need to complete your daily workout but that you'll be happy to listen to him while you exercise.
- C. Remind the probationary firefighter that you have a mandatory workout to complete and suggest he talk to another firefighter about his situation.
- D. Stop your workout and talk to the probationary firefighter and immediately return to your workout once you are confident the probationary firefighter feels better.

39. WHAT IS THE **MOST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

40. WHAT IS THE **LEAST** APPROPRIATE RESPONSE?

Answer Key

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. D
6. B
7. C
8. C
9. C
10. C
11. B
12. B
13. C
14. D
15. C
16. A
17. D
18. B
19. A
20. A
21. C
22. B
23. C
24. D
25. B
26. D
27. C
28. B
29. B
30. C
31. C
32. A
33. C
34. B
35. D
36. B
37. C
38. B
39. D
40. C