ASVAB Career Exploration Program

OVERVIEW

WHAT'S YOUR DREAM JOB?
REALIZE YOUR STRENGTHS!
REALIZE YOUR DREAMS!

Take advantage of everything the ASVAB Career Exploration Program has to offer!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAREER EXPLORATION PAYS OFF</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENTS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking the ASVAB Test</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding Your Interests</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring Careers</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARENTS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAMPLE ASVAB TEST QUESTIONS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the ASVAB CEP?</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does ASVAB help me identify my skills and abilities?</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do I prepare for the ASVAB?</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where can I take the test and what should I expect?</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What happens after I take the ASVAB?</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who will see my ASVAB test results?</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What happens after I receive my scores?</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does the ASVAB CEP help me identify my interests?</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do I access the FYI?</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does the ASVAB CEP help me explore careers?</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are Skill Importance Ratings?</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What can you do to help your teen?</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Science</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arithmetic Reasoning</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Knowledge</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Word Knowledge</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paragraph Comprehension</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Information</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto and Shop Information</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Comprehension</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembling Objects</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Answer Sheet</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview Guide
CAREER EXPLORATION PAYS OFF

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) is an exciting opportunity to explore all of your career and post-secondary options and find the one that works for you.

ASVAB CEP’s approach to career exploration helps you identify your skills and interests and encourages you to explore all the pathways you can take to reach your career goals – education, credentialing, licensure and apprenticeship programs, and the Military.
WHAT’S YOUR DREAM JOB?

Take the ASVAB Test
Identify your skills and abilities.

Explore Careers
Find your dream job.

Find Your Interests
Learn about yourself.

Visit www.asvabprogram.com to learn more.
Before choosing a career, you need to spend some time finding out about you. Whether you’re planning to go to college, a vocational school, or the Military, or you’re just not sure what you want to do yet, ASVAB CEP can provide you with important information about your skills and interests—and help get you on the right path toward a satisfying career.

What is the ASVAB CEP?

The ASVAB CEP is the only comprehensive and completely FREE career planning resource that empowers students nationwide to align their strengths and interests with a post-secondary plan that works!
Three components make up ASVAB CEP:

- The **ASVAB** is an aptitude test that estimates your capacity for academic and vocational endeavors.

- The **Find Your Interest (FYI)** is an interest inventory that measures your work-related interests.

- The career exploration tools include:
  - **OCCU-Find**, a catalog of careers with extensive details, all geared toward helping you identify satisfying occupations.
  - **My Portfolio**, a customizable resume-like document designed to help you chart and share your plans and accomplishments.
  - **www.careersinthemilitary.com**, an online resource powered by ASVAB CEP that allows those of you who are interested in military careers to explore military career opportunities across all Services.
How does the ASVAB test help me identify my skills and abilities?

The ASVAB is a series of short subtests designed to help you identify your skills in a variety of areas. Taking the test can help you regardless of your plans after high school because it measures aptitudes that are related to success in different jobs as well as training and education programs.

How do I prepare for the ASVAB?

You don’t have to go through any lengthy preparation to take the ASVAB. Getting a good night’s rest and arriving on time to take the test are the two most important steps you can take to prepare. As with other tests, how much you have learned in school through the years and your motivation to do well will probably make the most difference in your results. Taking the sample tests at the end of this booklet can give you an idea of the kinds of questions you will encounter.

Where can I take the test and what should I expect?

Schools determine when and where the ASVAB will be given. The ASVAB can be administered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high school, and to post-secondary students. Ask your school counselor when and where you can take the test.

On test day, an ASVAB test administrator will give you instructions and tell you how long you have to complete each test. After the instructions, you will have a chance to try some practice questions before starting the test. Finally, you will have a chance to ask questions of the test administrator to make sure you know exactly how to complete the test.

The paper-and-pencil ASVAB takes about three hours to finish. The computer-based test takes about one and a half hours to finish. You may miss class, depending on your school schedule, but it will be with your school’s approval.

If you want to take the ASVAB and your school doesn’t offer it or if you missed taking it, then see your guidance counselor right away. In some cases, schools offer the ASVAB more than once a year. In certain cases, your counselor may be able to make arrangements for you to take it at another school.

Visit the student portal at www.asvabprogram.com to find strategies for taking the ASVAB.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper-and-Pencil</th>
<th>iCAT</th>
<th>Subtests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>General Science</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring knowledge of life science, earth and space science, and physical science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Arithmetic Reasoning</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring ability to solve basic arithmetic word problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Word Knowledge</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-items</td>
<td>11-items</td>
<td><strong>Paragraph Comprehension</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring ability to obtain information from written material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Mathematics Knowledge</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring knowledge of mathematical concepts and applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Electronics Information</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring knowledge of electrical current, circuits, devices, and electronic systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-items</td>
<td>11-items (auto)&lt;br&gt;11-items (shop)</td>
<td><strong>Auto and Shop Information</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring knowledge of automotive maintenance and repair, and wood and metal shop practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-items</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Mechanical Comprehension</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring knowledge of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support, and properties of materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16-items</td>
<td><strong>Assembling Objects</strong>&lt;br&gt;Measuring ability to determine how an object will look when its parts are put together</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can find sample test questions for each of the ASVAB subtests at the back of this booklet.
What happens after I take the ASVAB?

Within about two weeks of taking the ASVAB, you will receive your ASVAB Summary Results sheet containing several scores. You will participate in a post-test or career workshop to understand these scores.

Career Exploration Scores tell you your current strengths in verbal, math, and science/technical skills as compared to other students in the same grade. These three scores were developed specifically for use with the ASVAB CEP. These scores can help you figure out how much you will need to do to get the training and skills you need for a job that interests you.

ASVAB Subtests. You receive a score for each of the subtests that make up the ASVAB. Your standard scores show how well you did in relation to the average scores of others who have taken the ASVAB tests and your percentile scores indicate how well you did in relation to others in your grade.

Military Entrance Score/ Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) is derived from four ASVAB subtests: Arithmetic Reasoning (AR), Mathematics Knowledge (MK), Paragraph Comprehension (PC), and Word Knowledge (WK). An AFQT score is what the Services will use to determine enlistment eligibility. However, each Service, and each military job, has different requirements, so qualifying AFQT scores can fluctuate. Each service branch calculates Service-specific composite scores to determine jobs for which you qualify.

ASVAB CEP and the Military

Your AFQT score can qualify you for certain jobs and training in the Armed Forces. If you are a junior, senior, or post-secondary school student, you can use your ASVAB scores for military enlistment, including the Reserves and the National Guard, for up to two years after you take the test. Participation in the ASVAB CEP does not obligate you to talk with military recruiters or consider a military career. Visit www.careersinthemilitary.com to learn more about military career opportunities across all Services.
Who will see my ASVAB test results?

Both you and your counselor receive a copy of your test results. Each school determines whether scores are released to the Military Services. You can complete the appropriate form and submit it to your counselor to opt in or out of having your individual scores released. You can find these forms and other career exploration resources at www.asvabprogram.com.

What happens after I receive my scores?

Once your results are received, a counselor or ASVAB administrator will conduct a post-test interpretation to explain more about what your test results mean.

No one “passes” or “fails” the ASVAB, and your scores will not affect your school grades. These results, however, represent how well you have developed your academic and occupational skills in addition to your capacity to learn a particular type of work or your potential for general training.
Find Your Interests

The first step toward finding a career is to spend some time finding out about you.

How does the ASVAB CEP help me identify my interests?

The FYI is an interest inventory that asks you questions about the kinds of activities you like or would like to do. Upon completing the assessment, you will receive results ranking your work-related interests in six categories based on Holland’s theory of career choice. These results will help you determine career fields or occupations that are potentially satisfying.

How do I access the FYI?

Two weeks after you take the test, your counselor will receive your ASVAB Summary Results sheet and then distribute your scores to you. Along with your scores you will receive the Exploring Careers: The ASVAB Career Exploration Guide and the Post-Test Handout.

You will find a paper version of the FYI in the Exploring Careers guide. For more robust career exploration, locate the 10-digit access code on your ASVAB Summary Results sheet and use it to log in to www.asvabprogram.com. Then, follow the Post-Test Handout to understand your scores, take the FYI, explore careers, and plan for your future.

Skills + Interests = Success

Knowing your skills and interests in high school gives you time to understand them before you start a job, begin post-secondary education, or enter the Military.
What’s Your Interest?

**Realistic**
You like practical, hands-on activities, such as designing, building, and repairing machinery. You may also enjoy working outside with plants and animals.

**Social**
You like personal interaction with people such as helping, teaching, counseling, or otherwise to be of service to others.

**Investigative**
You prefer analytical or intellectual activities such as reading, studying, investigating, evaluating, and problem solving.

**Enterprising**
You like to persuade, influence, and direct others. You like work that is fast-paced, requires a lot of responsibility and decision making, and requires taking risks for profit.

**Artistic**
You like work that involves expressing oneself in original activities such as writing, dancing, singing, sculpting, and painting.

**Conventional**
You prefer work that involves establishing or maintaining orderly and accurate records, procedures, and routines.
How does the ASVAB CEP help me explore careers?

The ASVAB test identifies your abilities. The FYI identifies your interests. You’ll use the OCCU-Find to identify occupations best suited to your abilities and interests.

The OCCU-Find is a database containing detailed occupational information to help you make informed decisions about your future.

This database compiles reliable data from a variety of sources.* Furthermore, the OCCU-Find allows you to explore occupations in the context of your strengths and interests so you can quickly identify potentially satisfying career opportunities.

Online you’ll find:
- Job description and daily tasks
- Interests
- Relative importance of verbal, math, science/technical skills
- Related careers
- Education requirements and institutions offering that degree
- Military services offering occupations, including hot jobs from each branch
- Credential and licensing opportunities
- Employment outlook (average earnings by state and expected growth)

Exploring Careers: The ASVAB Career Exploration Program Guide includes a print version of the OCCU-Find which contains an abbreviated list of occupations, along with their skill importance ratings, organized by interest code.

Get the most out of your career exploration at www.asvabprogram.com.

An abridged version of the online resources is available in print.

*Data found in the OCCU-Find is supplied by O*NET Online, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center of Education Statistics, CareerOneStop, and Defense Manpower Data Center.
What are Skill Importance Ratings?

Skill Importance Ratings provide information on the importance of verbal, math, and science/technical skills for each occupation. The ratings are represented on a five-star scale. The information presented is general and does not indicate that you need a certain level of skills to qualify for an occupation. Rather, you should consider these ratings a snapshot of how much you would use these skills on-the-job.

There is no direct comparison between your Career Exploration Scores and the Skill Importance Ratings for a job, but you can improve your verbal, math, and/or science/technical skills with additional training and/or education.

The ASVAB CEP has something for everyone!
Even if you’re not interested in military service ASVAB CEP helps you:

- Learn about yourself.
- Explore occupations that match your abilities and interests.
- Find education and training opportunities required for entry into a career.
- Discover the earning and growth potential for a job across the country.
- Chart your achievements.
- Compare your favorite career options side-by-side.
- Map out a post-secondary plan that works for you.

www.asvabprogram.com

www.careersinthemilitary.com
The ASVAB CEP presents a full-spectrum of career opportunities to all students, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, or ability level. If your child is interested in learning more about military careers, visit www.careersinthemilitary.com.

Your son or daughter’s decision to enter college, technical or vocational school, military service, or the civilian world of work after high school is an important one. When they participate in the ASVAB CEP, your child can explore occupations aligned with their interests and skills, and also develop effective strategies to realize their career goals. The ASVAB CEP assesses academic ability and predicts success in a wide variety of careers, not only military occupations, so taking it gives your child an opportunity to explore education, work, training, certification, and/or military in the context of their skills and interests without cost or commitment.
ASVAB CEP promotes career literacy through exposure to career-field entry requirements and future-oriented planning tools to help your child develop an action plan they can share with you.

Participants have no obligation to military service, but 11th-12th grade students who choose to can use their scores to explore enlistment.

Visit the parents tab at www.asvabprogram.com to find out more.

Research has shown that students who participate in the ASVAB CEP experience less career indecision, enjoy greater confidence in making career decisions, and consider more thoughtfully their options than do students who do not participate.

Know Your Option

Each school participating in ASVAB CEP selects one of eight available options regarding the information Department of Defense releases to the Military Services. Regardless of the score release option your child’s school selects, you can choose to opt in or out of having your child’s scores released. Forms can be found at www.asvabprogram.com/general-resources.

What can you do to help your teen?

- Encourage your teen to take the ASVAB and use the tools the program provides such as the FYI and OCCU-Find. Then, review the results together.
- Share your own experiences with career planning. What have you learned along the way? What do you know now that you wish you knew then?
- Advise your teen to explore several occupations.
- Explore potential occupations together at www.asvabprogram.com, or review the results of the search together.
- Listen to what your teen has to say about his or her skills and interests and discuss the pros and cons of all the different post-secondary options.
- Promote experiential learning opportunities to further explore a given occupation.
- Suggest a meeting with someone employed in the selected occupation.
The ASVAB subtests may look a lot like other tests you have taken. All test responses are multiple-choice. Answer these sample questions to get familiar with the various ASVAB subtests.

Remember that you are not expected to know everything on these tests. There are no passing or failing grades. You will score more strongly in some areas than in others.

First, read the example question provided for each test category (the example is answered for you). Make sure you understand the example. Then move on to the sample test questions. Select the best answer by circling the appropriate letter. When you have completed all the sample test questions, check your answers against those in the Answer Key on page 28.
General Science

General Science tests the ability to answer questions on a variety of science topics drawn from courses taught in most high schools. The life science items cover botany, zoology, anatomy and physiology, and ecology. The earth and space science items are based on astronomy, geology, meteorology, and oceanography. The physical science items measure force and motion mechanics, energy, fluids, atomic structure, and chemistry.

Example

Q: A magnet will attract

A. water.
B. a flower.
C. a cloth rag.
D. a nail.

D is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

1. An eclipse of the sun throws the shadow of the
   A. moon on the sun.
   B. moon on the earth.
   C. earth on the sun.
   D. earth on the moon.

2. Substances that hasten chemical reaction time without themselves undergoing change are called
   A. buffers.
   B. colloids.
   C. reducers.
   D. catalysts.

3. Air is less dense than water because
   A. it is lighter.
   B. its molecules are further apart.
   C. its molecules are closer together.
   D. it moves more quickly and easily.

4. Salt helps to melt ice because it
   A. dissolves in water to form an acid.
   B. chemically destroys the water molecules.
   C. lowers the temperature at which water freezes.
   D. is attracted to concrete sidewalks below the ice.
Arithmetic Reasoning

Arithmetic Reasoning tests the ability to solve basic arithmetic problems encountered in everyday life. One-step and multi-step word problems require addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and choosing the correct order of operations when more than one step is necessary. The items include operations with whole numbers, operations with rational numbers, ratio and proportion, interest and percentage, and measurement. Arithmetic reasoning is one factor that helps characterize mathematics comprehension.

Example

Q: If 12 workers are needed to run 4 machines, how many workers are needed to run 20 machines?

A. 20  
B. 48  
C. 60  
D. 80

C is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

5. How many 36-passenger buses will it take to carry 144 people?

A. 3  
B. 4  
C. 5  
D. 6

6. It costs $0.50 per square yard to waterproof canvas. What will it cost to waterproof a canvas truck cover that is 15’ x 24’?

A. $ 6.67  
B. $ 18.00  
C. $ 20.00  
D. $180.00

7. If the tire of a car rotates at a constant speed of 552 times in one minute, how many times will the tire rotate in half-an-hour?

A. 276  
B. 5,520  
C. 8,280  
D. 16,560
8. A motorcycle cost $7,250. If it depreciates by 12% per year, how much will it be worth after one year?

A. $870
B. $1,250
C. $5,920
D. $6,380

Sample test questions

9. If \( X + 6 = 7 \), then \( X \) is equal to

A. -1
B. 0
C. 1
D. \( \frac{7}{5} \)

10. What is the area of this square?

\[
\text{Area} = 5 \times 5 = 25 \text{ square feet}
\]

A. 1 square foot
B. 5 square feet
C. 10 square feet
D. 25 square feet

11. \( \sqrt{\frac{27}{3}} = \)

A. \( \sqrt{3} \)
B. 3
C. 9
D. 12

D is the correct answer.

Mathematics Knowledge

Mathematics Knowledge tests the ability to solve problems by applying knowledge of mathematical concepts and applications. The problems focus on concepts and algorithms and involve number theory, numeration, algebraic operations and equations, geometry and measurement, and probability. Mathematics knowledge is one factor that characterizes mathematics comprehension.

Example

Q: If 50 percent of \( X = 66 \), then \( X = \)

A. 33
B. 66
C. 99
D. 132

D is the correct answer.
12. \[
\frac{x^2 - y^2}{x - y} =
\]
A. \( x + y \)
B. \( x - y \)
C. \( x + 2y \)
D. \( 2x - y \)

Sample test questions

13. The wind is variable today.
   A. mild
   B. steady
   C. shifting
   D. chilling

14. Rudiments most nearly means
   A. politics.
   B. minute details.
   C. promotion opportunities.
   D. basic methods and procedures.

15. Antagonize most nearly means
   A. embarrass.
   B. struggle.
   C. provoke.
   D. worship.

16. His record provides no reason for apprehension.
   A. anxiety
   B. change
   C. enjoyment
   D. endorsement

Word Knowledge

Word Knowledge tests the ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms - words having the same or nearly the same meaning as other words. The test is a measure of one component of reading comprehension since vocabulary is one of many factors that characterize reading comprehension.

Example

Q: Small most nearly means

A. sturdy.
B. round.
C. cheap.
D. little.

D is the correct answer.
Paragraph Comprehension

Paragraph Comprehension tests the ability to obtain information from written material. Students read different types of passages of varying lengths and respond to questions based on information presented in each passage. Concepts include identifying stated and reworded facts, determining a sequence of events, drawing conclusions, identifying main ideas, determining the author’s purpose and tone, and identifying style and technique.

Example

Q: From a building designer’s stand point, three things that make a home livable are the client, the building site, and the amount of money the client has to spend.

According to this statement, to make a home livable

A. the prospective piece of land makes little difference.
B. it can be built on any piece of land.
C. the design must fit the owner’s income and site.
D. the design must fit the designer’s income.

C is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

17. Twenty-five percent of all household burglaries can be attributed to unlocked windows or doors. Crime is the result of opportunity plus desire.

To prevent crime, it is each individual’s responsibility to

A. provide the desire.
B. provide the opportunity.
C. prevent the desire.
D. prevent the opportunity.

18. In certain areas, water is so scarce that every attempt is made to conserve it. For instance, on one oasis in the Sahara Desert the amount of water necessary for each date palm tree has been carefully determined.

How much water should each tree be given?

A. no water at all
B. exactly the amount required
C. water on alternate days
D. water only if it is healthy

C is the correct answer.
19. A thin transparent layer of oxide protects the metal titanium against corrosion. The same thin layer attracts artists interested in making their art with the help of technology. By using heat or electricity, an artist can thicken the oxide layer and thereby turn the metal a range of vivid colors.

According to the passage, some artists work with titanium because it

A. is transparent.
B. does not corrode.
C. generates its own heat.
D. can assume a variety of colors.

20. They returned to the beach, where blankets spotted the slope to the water. An advancing wall of clouds, black and gray, darkening the expanse of ground beneath, approached from the west. To the east and above them, the sky remained clear, the sun warm, as if collaborating in the deception.

The “deception” referred to in the passage is that

A. there is no storm approaching.
B. the sky is clear in the east.
C. it is too cold to swim.
D. the sun is warm.

Electronics Information

Electronics Information tests understanding of electrical current, circuits, devices, and systems. Electronics information topics include electrical tools, symbols, devices, and materials; electrical circuits; electrical and electronic systems; and electrical currents.

Example

Q: What does the abbreviation AC stand for?

A. additional charge
B. alternating coil
C. alternating current
D. ampere current

C is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

21. Which of the following has the least resistance?

A. wood
B. iron
C. rubber
D. silver
22. In this circuit diagram, the resistance is 100 ohms, and the current is 0.1 amperes. The voltage is

![Circuit Diagram]

A. 5 volts.
B. 10 volts.
C. 100 volts.
D. 1,000 volts.

23. The circuit shown in the diagram contains a battery and two light bulbs. If one light bulb burns out, the other will

![Light Bulb Diagram]

A. no longer burn.
B. continue to burn.
C. flicker on and off.
D. burn more brightly.

24. Because solid state diodes have no filament, they

A. don’t work.
B. are less efficient than tubes.
C. require less operating power.
D. require more operating power.

Auto and Shop Information

Auto and Shop Information tests aptitude for automotive maintenance and repair and wood and metal shop practices. The test covers several areas commonly included in most high school auto and shop courses such as automotive components, automotive systems, automotive tools, troubleshooting and repair, shop tools, building materials, and building and construction procedures.

Example

Q: A chisel is used for

A. prying.
B. cutting.
C. twisting.
D. grinding.

B is the correct answer.
Sample test questions

25. A car uses too much oil when which of the following parts are worn?
   A. pistons
   B. piston rings
   C. main bearings
   D. connecting rods

26. The saw shown is used mainly to cut
   A. plywood.
   B. odd-shaped holes in wood.
   C. along the grain of the wood.
   D. across the grain of the wood.

27. Where does combustion take place?
   A. 3
   B. 4
   C. 5
   D. 6

28. The clamp shown is called a
   A. bar clamp.
   B. web clamp.
   C. spring clamp.
   D. parallel clamp.
Mechanical Comprehension

Mechanical Comprehension tests understanding of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support, and properties of materials. Mechanical comprehension topics include simple machines, compound machines, mechanical motion, and fluid dynamics.

Example

**Q:** If gear A makes 14 revolutions, gear B will make

A. 21
B. 17
C. 14
D. 9

A is the correct answer.

Sample test questions

29. Which post holds up the greater part of the load?

![LOAD](image)

A. post A  
B. post B  
C. both equal  
D. not clear

30. In this arrangement of pulleys, which pulley turns fastest?

![Pulleys](image)

A. A  
B. B  
C. C  
D. D
31. In which direction does friction act on this skier?

A. A  B. B  C. C  D. D

32. Why does the intake valve open on this pump when the piston goes down?

A. Air pressure at X is less than air pressure at Y.
B. Air pressure at Z is less than air pressure at X.
C. Air pressure at X is greater than air pressure at Y.
D. Air pressure at Y is greater than air pressure at Z.

Assembling Objects

Assembling Objects tests your ability to determine how an object will look when its parts are put together. Choose the figure that best shows how the objects in the box will touch if the letters for each object are matched.

Example

D is the correct answer.
33.

A.  
B.  
C.  
D.  

34.

A.  
B.  
C.  
D.  

Overview Guide
Test Answers

Use the correct answers below to check your answers.

1. B
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. C
7. D
8. D
9. C
10. D
11. B
12. A
13. C
14. D
15. C
16. A
17. D
18. B
19. D
20. A
21. D
22. B
23. A
24. C
25. B
26. B
27. D
28. D
29. A
30. A
31. A
32. C
33. C
34. C
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ASVAB CEP gives you the tools to build your dreams. With the assistance of your parents, friends, teachers, and school counselors, the ASVAB CEP empowers you to start planning today for an exciting and satisfying academic and occupational future.

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