Taking the Placement Test at Eastern Arizona College

What is the Placement Test
The placement test will determine your skill level in English, reading and math.

Who Needs to Take the Placement Tests?
Prior to meeting with a counselor or an academic advisor and registering for classes, most students will need to complete placement testing. The primary placement testing tool we use is ACT COMPASS. Students in the following categories must complete placement testing:

- All new students enrolling in a degree or certificate program
- Students registering in Reading, English, or Mathematics

Students may be exempt from placement testing if:

- The student completes assessment testing at another institution and submits those scores to EAC (we accept ACT COMPASS, Accuplacer and ACT Asset placement test scores);
- The transfer student presents official transcripts from a regionally accredited college or university to show completed coursework in a corresponding subject with a grade of "C" or better.
- The student took the ACT test and scored a 21 in Writing and/or Math. A minimum score of 18 is required for Reading. If the student took the SAT and received a 530 or higher score in reading and/or writing and 520 or higher in math.

Taking the Placement Tests
It is always best to make an appointment for placement tests to ensure a testing spot will be available for you. We test Monday through Friday at 10am and 2pm or by appointment. The tests are administered via a computer and are not timed. However, so that you won't feel rushed or pressured, you should allow yourself approximately two hours for testing.

Your test results are printed and distributed to you immediately after you've completed your tests. You can then meet with a counselor or an advisor to help you develop your course plan. If you would like to meet with a counselor, make sure to let the scheduler know when you set your testing appointment and plan an additional hour to complete your initial advising session. You can make an appointment for placement testing and to see a counselor by calling (928) 428-8253 or (800) 678-3808 ext 8253.

The Goal of Placement Testing is to Ensure Success
It is important to understand that students cannot “fail” their placement tests. Rather, results of writing, mathematics, and reading tests are indicators of a student's current skill levels and are used to help students select appropriate courses that build on present knowledge and support future success. Prior to enrolling in courses in their program of study, students may be required to enroll in basic skills courses to help develop the academic proficiency necessary for success at the college level.

Review Before You Test?
If a student wants to optimize their chances for doing well on the placement test, they can review before they take the test. Attached are some sample math questions. Additional review question can be found online at [www.act.org/compass/sample/index.html](http://www.act.org/compass/sample/index.html)

Also, there is a book on reserve at the EAC Alumni Library called Chart Your Success on COMPASS by Callahan, Commander and Cotter. It is available for you to read at the library and provides a detailed review of the topics covered in the ACT COMPASS placement test.
Numerical Skills/Pre-Algebra Placement

(Averages: Means, Medians, and Modes)
1. What is the average (arithmetic mean) of 8, 7, 7, 5, 3, 2, and 2?
A. 3
B. 4
C. 4
D. 5
E. 6

(Basic Operations with Decimals)
2. Ben is making wooden toys for the next arts and crafts sale. Each toy costs Ben $1.80 to make. If he sells the toys for $3.00 each, how many will he have to sell to make a profit of exactly $36.00?
A. 12
B. 20
C. 30
D. 60
E. 108

(Basic Operations with Fractions)
3. How many yards of material from a 24-yard length of cloth remain after 3 pieces, each 3 yards long, and 5 pieces, each 2 yards long, are removed?
A. 2
B. 4
C. 4
D. 10
E. 10

(Percentages)
4. Phillip charged $400 worth of goods on his credit card. On his first bill, he was not charged any interest, and he made a payment of $20. He then charged another $18 worth of goods. On his second bill a month later, he was charged 2% interest on his entire unpaid balance. How much interest was Phillip charged on his second bill?
A. $8.76
B. $7.96
C. $7.60
D. $7.24
E. $6.63

Answers:
Algebra Placement

(Elementary Algebra: Linear Equations in One Variable)
1. A student has earned scores of 87, 81, and 88 on the first 3 of 4 tests. If the student wants an average (arithmetic mean) of exactly 87, what score must she earn on the fourth test?
A. 85
B. 86
C. 87
D. 92
E. 93

(Elementary Algebra: Basic Operations with Polynomials)
2. Which of the following expressions represents the product of 3 less than twice x and 2 more than the quantity 3 times x?
A. \(-6x^2 + 25x + 6\)
B. \(6x^2 + 5x + 6\)
C. \(6x^2 - 5x + 6\)
D. \(6x^2 - 5x - 6\)
E. \(6x^2 - 13x - 6\)

(Elementary Algebra: Substituting Values into Algebraic Expressions)
3. If \(x = -1\) and \(y = 2\), what is the value of the expression \(2x^3 - 3xy\)?
A. 8
B. 4
C. -1
D. -4
E. -8

(Intermediate Algebra: Rational Expressions)
4. For all \(r \geq 2\), \(r = \) ?
A.
B.
C.
D.
E.

(Coordinate Geometry: Linear Equations in Two Variables)
5. What is the equation of the line that contains the points with \((x,y)\) coordinates \((-3,7)\) and \((5,-1)\)?
A. \(y = 3x - 2\)
B. \(y = x + 10\)
C. \(y = -x + 8\)
D. \(y = -x + \)
E. \(y = -x + 4\)

College Algebra Placement

(Complex Numbers)
1. For i = , if 3i (2 + 5i) = x + 6i, then x = ?
   A. –15
   B. 5
   C. 5i
   D. 15i
   E. 27i

(FUNCTIONS)
2. If f(4) = 0 and f(6) = 6, which of the following could represent f(x) ?
   A. x – 4
   B. x + 2
   C. x – 4
   D. x + 6
   E. 3x – 12

Answers:
1. A  2. E

Geometry Placement

(Angles)
1. In the figure below \(\overline{AB}, \overline{CD}, \) and \(\overline{EF}\) are parallel, and \(\overline{FQ}\) intersects all 3 lines at points R, S, and T, respectively. If the measure of \(\angle QTF\) is 33°, what is the measure of \(\angle PRB\) ?
   A. 33°
   B. 57°
   C. 66°
   D. 123°
   E. 147°

(Triangles)
2. In \(\triangle MPB\) below, \(\overline{LA} \parallel \overline{MB}\). If \(\frac{PL}{LM} = \frac{5}{3}\), then \(\frac{PB}{PA} = ?\)
   A. \(\frac{5}{8}\)
   B. \(\frac{2}{3}\)
   C. \(\frac{5}{8}\)
   D. \(\frac{5}{3}\)
   E. \(\frac{3}{8}\)

Answers:
1. E  2. C

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