

# Wonderlic.

**Basic Skills Test -  
Practice Test**

## **Wonderlic Basic Skills Test Practice Test Series**

**Verbal Form VS-A**

**PRACTICE TEST**

**Wonderlic.**

© 2003-2011 Wonderlic, Inc.

E.F. Wonderlic, 1952



“We must keep going at this **high level of achievement**, and try to achieve **even better** results as we gain more years of maturity, and new teaching and learning methods are discovered.”

– E.F. Wonderlic

---

### **Welcome to the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test Practice Test.**

Since 1937, more than 200 million people throughout the world have been evaluated with Wonderlic assessments in pursuit of new and exciting career training and employment opportunities.

The Wonderlic Basic Skills Test is a standardized test of adult math and language skills that is commonly administered by schools and employers across the United States. This booklet contains questions which represent the content and average difficulty of the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test – Verbal Skills. The questions and specific contexts contained in this booklet do not appear on any published form of the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test. Correct answers are provided inside the back cover.

The U.S. Department of Education has determined that a student's level of proficiency with the math and language skills represented in the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test is fundamental to his or her success in career training. Furthermore, the U.S. Department of Labor has deemed these skills to be critical for satisfactory job performance across a broad range of occupations.

*Wonderlic, Inc. wishes you great success in working toward new and higher levels of achievement!*

**Turn The Page**  
to begin reviewing sample  
questions for the

**Wonderlic Basic Skills Test—  
verbal skills**  
Form VS-A

Correct answers are provided inside the  
back cover of this booklet.

For questions 1-4, choose the verb that correctly completes the sentence.

1. Have you \_\_\_\_\_ the painting yet?
  - A. hanged
  - B. hang
  - C. hanging
  - D. hung
  
2. Kay \_\_\_\_\_ typing at school.
  - A. study
  - B. studies
  - C. studying
  - D. be studying
  
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ the laughter from the conference room.
  - A. hear
  - B. hears
  - C. hearing
  - D. is hearing
  
4. This set of books \_\_\_\_\_ on that shelf.
  - A. goes
  - B. go
  - C. going
  - D. gone

For questions 5-7, choose the word or phrase that best indicates the meaning of the underlined word.

5. Hysterical means:
  - A. out of control
  - B. in trouble
  - C. very loud
  - D. too difficult
  
6. To ignite is to:
  - A. pay no attention
  - B. make fun of
  - C. set on fire
  - D. run an engine
  
7. An inaccuracy is a:
  - A. mistake
  - B. type of medicine
  - C. prison
  - D. chance happening

Use the completed order form below to answer questions 8-11.

Customer Order Form					
Qty	Item #	Description	Color / Size	Item Cost	Total
2	541B	Men's Sweater	Blue / X-Large	\$45	\$90
5	271D	Men's Socks	Black / 13	\$5	\$25
3	412R	Women's Slacks	Gray, Olive or Tan	\$40	\$120
1	768U	Boy's Shirt	White / 13	\$20	\$20

8. The item number for men's socks is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. 541B  
B. 412R  
C. 271D  
D. 768U
9. The cost of one boy's shirt is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. \$45  
B. \$40  
C. \$120  
D. \$20
10. The order form does not show a size for \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. item 541B  
B. item 412R  
C. men's socks  
D. boys' shirt
11. The color of the men's sweater being ordered is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. white  
B. black  
C. gray  
D. blue

For questions 12-14, choose the sentence that is most correctly written.

12. A. The manager signed the register, before going to their rooms, the guests.  
B. Before the register, the manager asked the rooms to sign the guests.  
C. Sign the room to the manager, the guests before going to their register.  
D. The manager asked the guests to sign the register before going to their rooms.
13. A. The car soon after the robbery speeding down Lark Street was seen.  
B. Down Lark Street the car was seen after the robbery speeding soon.  
C. The car was seen speeding down Lark Street soon after the robbery.  
D. Speeding the car down Lark Street was seen soon after the robbery.
14. A. We impose a \$10 charge for any check returned to us by the bank.  
B. For any check, we impose the bank by a \$10 charge returned to us.  
C. For any bank, we impose by the check a \$10 charge returned us.  
D. We impose to us a \$10 charge for any returned by the bank check.

For questions 15-17, choose the word that best completes the sentence.

15. We waited downstairs for ten minutes. At last, the \_\_\_\_\_ arrived, and we rode it up to the tenth floor.  
A. bus  
B. package  
C. elevator  
D. neighbors
16. Although we would like a bigger and better apartment someday, this one is \_\_\_\_\_, and we're satisfied.  
A. terrific  
B. passable  
C. dreadful  
D. gigantic
17. We heard strange music coming from the empty house. We also saw blue lights there. It was quite \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. unwise  
B. expensive  
C. familiar  
D. mysterious



For questions 22-24, choose the sentence in which the underlined word has the same meaning as it does in the sentence within the brackets.

22. { Spencer looks fit now that he jogs every day. }

- A. To stay fit, you must eat right.
- B. That piano will never fit in here.
- C. Does that shirt still fit you?
- D. In a fit of anger, I broke the plate.

23. { To make twice the number of cookies, double all ingredients. }

- A. Tom's double to right field won the game.
- B. The actor's double does the dangerous scene.
- C. He said, "Please double the paper along the dotted line."
- D. You can double your paycheck by working over the weekend.

24. { The dancers lined up in the form of a circle. }

- A. We filled out an order form at the store.
- B. The athletes will form a new team.
- C. The basketball player shot with great form.
- D. Her valentine card was drawn in the form of a heart.

For questions 25-27, choose the word that best indicates the meaning of the underlined word.

25. Wind, water and animals all aid in the dispersion of seeds, sometimes carrying them great distances.

- A. destruction
- B. development
- C. scattering
- D. recovering

26. Fresh air and good food had a salutary effect on the sick boy, and he was soon able to get out of bed.

- A. uncertain
- B. healthful
- C. dangerous
- D. unexpected

27. The newspaper story about graft at city hall soon forced the mayor to quit.

- A. politics
- B. awards
- C. bribery
- D. speeches

Read the steps below for painting a room and then answer questions 28-30.

**Steps to Paint a Room**

1. **Ceiling:** Paint across the narrow dimension of a room in strips 2-3 feet wide. If you use a roller, attach a long-handled extension so that you can paint while standing on the floor. Paint the ceiling first in order to avoid drips on surfaces that you have just painted.
2. **Walls (with brush):** Paint a strip 3 feet wide from ceiling down to floor. Repeat across wall and around room. Painting a succeeding strip before the first one has dried will eliminate unsightly lap marks.
3. **Walls (with roller):** Paint all wall and ceiling corners and around windows and doors with a brush first. For best coverage, roll up and down in a zigzag pattern, then blend across with horizontal strokes. Start in a dry area and roll toward one that was just painted to avoid lap marks.
4. **Woodwork and Windows:** Using slow brush strokes, brush the enamel first in one direction, then level it by brushing across. (If you paint woodwork too quickly, the brush may skip across tiny depressions.)
5. **Floors:** For best results, the floor should be clean, dry, sanded, and vacuumed. Two coats of paint are recommended.

28. When using a roller to paint walls, you should:
- A. Paint around windows and doors last.
  - B. Paint in strips 3 feet wide.
  - C. Roll up and down in a zigzag pattern.
  - D. Use two coats of paint.
29. The directions suggest painting the ceiling first because:
- A. Drips will matter less.
  - B. The lap marks are more obvious.
  - C. It is most difficult.
  - D. A roller or a brush can be used.
30. When painting with a roller, work from a dry area to a wet area because:
- A. It uses less paint.
  - B. It cuts down on unnecessary movement.
  - C. It helps to avoid lap marks.
  - D. It makes the roller last longer.

For questions 31-33, if there is an error in one of the underlined sections below, choose the letter below the line as your answer. If there is no error, choose D.

31. The San Andreas Fault, which stretches 750 miles along the Californian coast,  
A.  
has caused many earthquakes, land west of the fault slips northward about 2  
B. C.  
inches each year. No error.  
D.
32. How pleased I was to learn that your father has been choosen as the new police chief!  
A. B. C.  
No error.  
D.
33. My family goes to the movies on Sundays, and sometimes we go out to eat  
A. B. C.  
afterwards. No error.  
D.

For questions 34-36, choose the group of words that forms a complete sentence.

34. A. The drug store closes at 9:00 p.m.  
B. The last cattle in the valley?  
C. Racing wildly toward the school bus on Route 9!  
D. To finish the garage by October.
35. A. Another dinner of reheated leftovers!  
B. Away we go.  
C. A smaller puppy under the kitchen radiator.  
D. To clean up the broken glass in aisle 3.
36. A. They're here—the red, the blue, and the green.  
B. Tall, thin models at the fashion show.  
C. By the end of the summer, certainly?  
D. Trying and trying to start the old lawn mower.

Refer to the article below to answer questions 37-42.

Line

1. Did you know that everyone sheds 50 million skin cells each day.
2. People’s noses can’t smell this chemical trail but it is immediately
3. obvious to a bloodhound. The bloodhound’s ears cup the scent as
4. it’s nose passes over the ground. The part of the dog’s nose that
5. receives odors is forty times larger than the same part of a human
6. nose. In addition, the bloodhound have been bred especially to
7. smell people. Overall bloodhounds are a million times more
8. sensitive to the human scent than people are.

37. What change, if any, is needed in line 1?
- A. Change sheds to shed.
  - B. Change million to milion.
  - C. Change the period to a question mark.
  - D. Make no change.
38. What change, if any, is needed in line 2?
- A. Change People’s to Peoples.
  - B. Add a comma after trail.
  - C. Change immediately to imediately.
  - D. Make no change.
39. What change, if any, is needed in lines 3 and 4?
- A. Add a comma after scent.
  - B. Change it’s to its.
  - C. Change passes to pass.
  - D. Make no change.
40. What change, if any, is needed in line 5?
- A. Change receives to recieves.
  - B. Add a comma after odors.
  - C. Change larger to more large.
  - D. Make no change.
41. What change, if any, is needed in line 6?
- A. Remove the comma after addition.
  - B. Change have to has.
  - C. Change the period to a comma.
  - D. Make no change.
42. What change, if any, is needed in lines 7 and 8?
- A. Add a comma after Overall.
  - B. Change scent to sent.
  - C. Change than to then.
  - D. Make no change.

For questions 43-45, choose the sentence that best joins the sequence of events stated in brackets without omitting any details or changing the meaning.

43. { Rita lost her job last May.  
She was on unemployment for three months.  
Her new job begins in November. }

- A. Rita lost her job last May and was on unemployment; her new job begins in three months in November.
- B. After losing her job last May, Rita was on unemployment for three months until her new job began in November.
- C. When Rita's new job begins in November, she will have been on unemployment for three months; she lost her job in May.
- D. Last May, Rita lost her job and was on unemployment for three months; her new job begins in November.

44. { I removed the old wallpaper.  
I washed the plaster walls.  
I patched the cracks. }

- A. I removed and washed the old wallpaper and plaster walls; then I patched the cracks.
- B. I removed the old wallpaper, and I washed and patched the cracks in the plaster walls.
- C. I removed the old wallpaper, washed the plaster walls, and patched the cracks.
- D. I removed the cracks, washed the plaster walls, and patched the old wallpaper.

45. { Chris put water in a glass jar.  
He put the jar in the freezer.  
The water froze solid and the jar cracked. }

- A. A glass jar with water in it cracked after Chris put it in the freezer and it froze solid.
- B. Chris put water in a glass jar and put the jar in the freezer; the water froze solid and cracked the jar.
- C. A glass jar cracked because Chris put it in water in the freezer and the water froze solid.
- D. Chris put water in a glass jar, put it in the freezer, and it cracked.

Read the news story below then answer questions 46-50.

The Midwest Solar Energy Society will sponsor a day-long solar home tour on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8 a.m. Featured on the outing is Hickory Hill, a 25-unit development with 10 apartments built in Middleton by Kenwood Homes. Twelve solar energy collectors per unit provide most of the hot water and space heating to the apartments. Kenwood has long been a leader in creative housing.

Also on the tour is the Harvey House in Makepeace. Ninety percent energy efficient fans move air from the south glass area to a 200-ton underground heat storage battery.

The group will also stop at the Batteau House in Sheldon Park and the Dows Lake Middle School. Dr. Tony Batteau has won three design awards for his original solar energy ceiling windows. The Dows Lake School now heats all its hot water with sunlight.

Reservations can be made by calling 555-9809.

46. Where is the Batteau House located?
- A. Middleton
  - B. Dows Lake
  - C. Sheldon Park
  - D. Makepeace
47. What does Harvey House feature?
- A. a solar system to heat hot water
  - B. an underground heat storage battery
  - C. 12 solar energy collectors per unit
  - D. original solar ceiling windows
48. The main purpose for the tour is probably to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. popularize solar energy
  - B. help owners of solar homes sell their property
  - C. have an outing on a sunny day
  - D. raise money to build a solar home
49. Which of the following is the best title for this article?
- A. Dr. Batteau Wins Solar Design Awards
  - B. Day-Long Tour to Begin at 8:00 a.m.
  - C. Tour to Feature Area Solar Homes
  - D. Middleton Gets 100 Solar-Powered Apartments
50. Which of the following statements from the article is an opinion?
- A. Twelve solar energy collectors per unit provide most of the hot water and space heating.
  - B. Reservations can be made by calling 555-9809.
  - C. The group will also stop at the Batteau House in Sheldon Park and the Dows Lake Middle School.
  - D. Kenwood has long been a leader in creative housing.

“We must keep going  
at this **high level of  
achievement**, and try  
to achieve **even better**  
results as we gain  
more years of maturity,  
and new teaching and  
learning methods are  
discovered.”

– E.F. Wonderlic

Question #	Wonderlic Basic Skills Test Sample Questions Profile Verbal Skills Form VS-A		Question #		
Language Level*	Primary Skills Set Required	Full Correct Answer	Correct Answer		
1	1	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context	hung	D	1
2	1	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context	studies	B	2
3	1	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context	hear	A	3
4	1	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context	goes	A	4
5	2	Recognize word meanings	out of control	A	5
6	2	Recognize word meanings	set on fire	C	6
7	2	Recognize word meanings	mistake	A	7
8	1	Locate specific information in various formats	271D	C	8
9	1	Locate specific information in various formats	\$20	D	9
10	1	Locate specific information in various formats	item 412R	B	10
11	1	Locate specific information in various formats	blue	D	11
12	1	Recognize standard sentence structure.	The manager asked the guests to sign the register before going to their rooms.	D	12
13	1	Recognize standard sentence structure.	The car was seen speeding down Lark Street soon after the robbery.	C	13
14	1	Recognize standard sentence structure.	We impose a \$10 charge for any check returned to us by the bank.	A	14
15	2	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context.	elevator	C	15
16	2	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context.	passable	B	16
17	2	Complete a sentence with an appropriate word in context.	mysterious	D	17
18	2	Locate specific information in various formats	location	C	18
19	2	Locate specific information in various formats	outside the children's clothing store	B	19
20	2	Locate specific information in various formats	A and C	A	20
21	2	Locate specific information in various formats	a man's suit	C	21
22	2	Recognize multiple meanings of words used in context	To stay <u>fit</u> , you must eat right.	A	22
23	2	Recognize multiple meanings of words used in context	You can <u>double</u> your paycheck by working over the weekend.	D	23
24	2	Recognize multiple meanings of words used in context	Her valentine card was drawn in the <u>form</u> of a heart.	D	24
25	3	Recognize word meanings	scattering	C	25
26	3	Recognize word meanings	healthful	B	26
27	3	Recognize word meanings	bribery	C	27
28	3	Understand and use "how-to" instructions	Roll up and down in a zigzag pattern.	C	28
29	3	Understand and use "how-to" instructions	Drips will matter less.	A	29
30	3	Understand and use "how-to" instructions	It helps to avoid lap marks.	C	30
31	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	<u>earthquakes, land</u> (earthquakes. Land)	C	31
32	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	<u>your father has been choosen</u> (chosen)	B	32
33	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	<u>No Error.</u>	D	33
34	1	Identify a complete sentence.	The drug store closes at 9:00 p.m.	A	34
35	1	Identify a complete sentence.	Away we go.	B	35
36	1	Identify a complete sentence.	They're here—the red, the blue, and the green.	A	36
37	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Change the period to question mark.	C	37
38	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Add a comma after <u>trail</u> .	B	38
39	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Change <u>it's</u> to <u>its</u> .	B	39
40	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Make no change.	D	40
41	2	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Change <u>have</u> to <u>has</u> .	B	41
42	1	Recognize common errors in standard sentence mechanics	Add a comma after Overall.	A	42
43	3	Compound and complex sentence construction	Last May, Rita lost her job and was on unemployment for three months; her new job begins in November.	D	43
44	3	Compound and complex sentence construction	I removed the old wallpaper, washed the plaster walls, and patched the cracks.	C	44
45	3	Compound and complex sentence construction	Chris put water in a glass jar and put the jar in the freezer; the water froze solid and cracked the jar.	B	45
46	2	Locate specific information in various formats	Sheldon Park	C	46
47	3	Use literature and other written information	an underground heat storage battery	B	47
48	3	Use literature and other written information	popularize solar energy	A	48
49	3	Use literature and other written information	Tour to Feature Area Solar Homes	C	49
50	3	Use literature and other written information	Kenwood has long been a leader in creative housing.	D	50

\* Language levels established in accordance with job-related General Education Development (GED) skills content published by the U.S. Department of Labor in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT).

