

what math is on the pert test

What math is on the PERT test is a common question among students preparing for this important assessment. The Post-Secondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) is designed to evaluate a student's readiness for college-level coursework, particularly in mathematics, reading, and writing. The math section of the PERT test measures skills in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. Understanding what to expect can significantly enhance your preparation and help you achieve a higher score, which is crucial for placement in appropriate courses.

Overview of the PERT Test

The PERT is a computer-adaptive test, meaning that the difficulty of the questions adjusts based on the test-taker's performance. This format allows for a more accurate assessment of a student's abilities. The test is primarily used by Florida colleges and universities to determine placement in courses, particularly for students who do not have standardized test scores such as SAT or ACT.

Structure of the Math Section

The math portion of the PERT test consists of 30 questions divided into three main categories:

- Arithmetic (10 questions)
- Algebra (20 questions)
- Geometry (10 questions)

Each category evaluates different skills, which are crucial for success in college-level mathematics.

Arithmetic Skills

The arithmetic section primarily assesses basic mathematical operations and concepts. The types of questions you can expect include:

1. **Whole Numbers:** Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers.
2. **Fractions:** Operations with fractions, including adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions.
3. **Decimals:** Working with decimal numbers, including performing operations and converting between fractions and decimals.
4. **Percentages:** Calculating percentages, percentage increases or decreases, and understanding percentage concepts.
5. **Ratios and Proportions:** Understanding ratios, solving proportion problems, and applying ratios to real-world scenarios.

Mastering these concepts is essential, as they serve as the foundation for more advanced mathematical topics.

Algebra Skills

The algebra section assesses your ability to manipulate algebraic expressions and solve equations. Key topics include:

- **Linear Equations:** Solving single-variable linear equations and understanding slope-intercept form.
- **Systems of Equations:** Solving systems of linear equations using substitution and elimination methods.
- **Polynomials:** Performing operations with polynomials, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and factoring.
- **Exponents:** Understanding and applying the laws of exponents in various mathematical contexts.
- **Quadratic Equations:** Solving quadratic equations by factoring, using the quadratic formula, or completing the square.
- **Functions:** Identifying and interpreting functions, including linear, quadratic, and exponential functions.

A solid grasp of these algebraic principles is essential, as they are applicable in various college-level courses,

particularly in STEM fields.

Geometry Skills

The geometry section evaluates your understanding of shapes, sizes, and the properties of space. You can expect questions that cover:

1. **Basic Geometric Shapes:** Identifying and calculating the properties of common shapes, such as triangles, circles, and rectangles.
2. **Area and Perimeter:** Calculating the area and perimeter of various shapes, including complex polygons.
3. **Volume:** Understanding and calculating the volume of three-dimensional shapes like cubes, spheres, and cylinders.
4. **Angles:** Identifying types of angles, understanding angle relationships, and applying theorems related to angles in various geometric contexts.
5. **Coordinate Geometry:** Working with points, lines, and slopes on the Cartesian plane, including distance and midpoint formulas.

A good understanding of these concepts is vital for success in courses that require spatial reasoning and geometric analysis.

Preparation Tips for the PERT Math Test

Preparing for the PERT math test is crucial for achieving a score that reflects your true abilities. Here are some effective strategies:

- **Review Basic Concepts:** Go over foundational math concepts in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry.
- **Practice with Sample Questions:** Use official PERT practice tests and sample questions to familiarize yourself with the test format.
- **Utilize Online Resources:** Take advantage of online platforms that offer interactive exercises and

tutorials specific to PERT math topics.

- **Study Groups:** Join or form study groups with peers preparing for the same test to share knowledge and strategies.
- **Time Management:** Practice answering questions under timed conditions to improve your time management skills on the actual test.

Conclusion

Understanding **what math is on the PERT test** is essential for any student looking to succeed in this assessment. By focusing on the core areas of arithmetic, algebra, and geometry, and employing effective preparation strategies, you can enhance your confidence and performance on the test. Remember that the PERT test is not just a hurdle but an opportunity to demonstrate your readiness for college-level coursework. With diligent study and practice, you can achieve a score that reflects your capabilities and opens the door to your academic future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What types of math concepts are tested on the PERT exam?

The PERT exam tests various math concepts including arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and data analysis.

Is the PERT math section multiple choice?

Yes, the math section of the PERT is multiple choice, consisting of various questions that assess mathematical understanding.

Are there any specific algebra topics covered on the PERT?

Yes, the PERT includes topics such as solving equations, inequalities, functions, and interpreting linear equations.

What is the maximum score for the math section of the PERT?

The maximum score for the math section of the PERT is 120, with scores ranging from 50 to 120.

Do you need to know geometry for the PERT test?

Yes, geometry is covered on the PERT, including questions about shapes, area, volume, and the properties of geometric figures.

How can I prepare for the math portion of the PERT?

To prepare for the math portion of the PERT, you can practice with sample questions, review key math concepts, and take practice tests.

Does the PERT focus more on applied math or theoretical math?

The PERT focuses more on applied math, assessing how well you can use math concepts in real-world scenarios.

Are calculators allowed during the PERT math test?

No, calculators are not allowed during the PERT math test; however, you can use scratch paper for calculations.

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