

Dear SVP student:

Close to the beginning of SVP, you will be asked to take several tests, including tests to measure your reading ability and your writing ability. As you learned from your letter of acceptance to NTID, these tests will help determine your specific program of study. Below you will find some examples of two of these tests.

The NTID Reading Test

The NTID Reading Test is a two-hour test that measures your reading ability. It includes reading and vocabulary questions to help you demonstrate your skills in English reading comprehension and vocabulary.

Vocabulary items include questions about the meanings of words in phrases and short passages. Comprehension items require you to read short articles and answer questions about directions, reference skills, details, interpretation, and main ideas.

Scores for the whole test range from 0-200 points.

Below are several examples.

Example 1: Choose the word that means the same, or about the same as the underlined word.

- A. completely settled
1. recalled
 2. commended
 3. resolved
 4. suppressed

Example 2: Read the sentences. For each blank, find a word from the list that best completes the meaning of the paragraph.

At the market place, the B of Azir are busy buying and selling goods. They make their living from C with the local farmers.

- B.
1. merchants
 2. customers
 3. gardeners
 4. inhabitants
- C.
1. racing
 2. growing
 3. trading
 4. eating

Example 3: Read the article below. [Excerpted from a longer article.]

The Electric Light

After great expense and nearly two years of work, Thomas A. Edison devised, in 1879, the first successful carbon filament lamp in his experimental laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey. This lamp consisted of a thread of carbon in a sealed glass globe from which most of the air had been exhausted. Edison at first tried to make the carbon filament in this vacuum by charring cotton thread, paper, wood and other materials. Bamboo fiber proved superior to other materials.

When Edison was ready to show his new light to the world, he had lamps hung from the tress in Menlo Park. The thousands who came to see marveled that the lamps could burn day and night for longer than a week. The lamps were small and fragile, but people could easily light or extinguish them by simply pressing a button. Furthermore, the cost of making them was slight. Edison had given the world a new light that was practical and useful.

Edison organized a company to set up a power station that would distribute electricity for the city of New York. The company also made and sold lamps. He, thus, made it possible for people to use his lamps in their homes by getting their electricity from a central station.

The development of the electric light brought changes into the lives of everyone. Better light served as an added impulse to business, made the streets safer at night, and became a stepping-stone to further electrical inventions.

Select the correct answer. You may look back to help you decide on the answers.

1. The most important reason why Edison's lamp was widely used was its
 - a. small cost
 - b. small size
 - c. practical uses
 - d. ease of use

2. Filaments for the early electric lights were
 - a. devised in a single successful experiment
 - b. produced by charring organic materials
 - c. obtained from a central power station
 - d. made by forcing air from sealed globes

3. The first lights publicly demonstrated by Edison were
 - a. simple to operate
 - b. impractical for homes

- c. burned out in a few hours
 - d. hung inside his laboratory
4. The best title for the fourth paragraph of the article is
- a. Making the invention useful
 - b. Discovery of electricity
 - c. The inventor's struggle
 - d. Effects of the electric lamp
 - e. Success
 - f. The practical demonstration
 - g. Inventions
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The NTID Writing Test

The NTID Writing Test measures your writing ability. You are given 30 minutes to write a short essay on an assigned topic. Each essay is read by three faculty members, and evaluated for its organization, content, language use, and vocabulary, with 25 points for each category. Total scores range from 0-100 points.

Below is an example of the type of prompt you will see. We encourage you to practice before you come to SVP.

You are now a high school graduate. Write an essay on your opinions regarding your last year in high school. Give reasons for your opinions as well as examples.