

Test shows value of eighth grade education in 1895

A friend from Colorado e-mailed a test to me that said it was the eighth grade final exam in Salina in 1895. Information with the test says the original document is on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, and it has been printed in *The Salina Journal*.

Looking through the test, I'm sure some of the math problems use information I didn't learn until college, and on some of the questions I don't even know what they were talking about. Quite a few of the questions require rather lengthy answers and a lot of effort. It makes the standardized multiple choice test look like a piece of cake.

I'm pretty sure I could pass the test, but I think I would need to return to the classroom for a semester or two before I could do very well on it.

A lot of people could spare themselves a lot of budgetary problems if they knew and applied the math



sharon corcoran

• just for fun

on this to their financial/business transactions.

I added notes in italics to define things I couldn't understand without consulting the dictionary.

Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.

2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.

3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph.

4. What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of "lie," "play," and "run."

5. Define case; Illustrate each case.

6 What is punctuation? Give rules

for principal marks of punctuation.

7 - 10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.

2. A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 feet long and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?

3. If a load of wheat weighs 3,942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1,050 lbs. for tare?

4. District No 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month and have \$104 for incidentals?

5. Find the cost of 6,720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.

6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.

7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per metre?

8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.

9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance of which is 640 rods?

10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note and a Receipt

U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided

2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.

3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.

4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.

5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.

6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.

7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?

8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

Orthography (Time, one hour)

(Note: For those of you, like me, who don't know, orthography is spelling.)

1. What is meant by the following: Alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?

2. What are elementary sounds?

How classified?

3. What are the following, and give examples of each: Trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals.

4. Give four substitutes for caret "u." (Note: caret is a mark like "Λ" to mark where something is to be inserted.)

5. Give two rules for spelling words with final "e." Name two exceptions under each rule.

6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.

7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.

8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.

9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.

10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

Geography (Time, one hour)

1 What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?

2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?

3 Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?

4. Describe the mountains of North America.

5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.

6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.

7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.

8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?

9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.

10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

Notice that the test took five hours to complete. I hope they had breaks to eat and rest their brains. Gives the saying, "he only had an eighth grade education," a whole new meaning, doesn't it?

State offering training for emergency preparedness

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News
Remembering the scrambling people did to help travelers off the highways during the blizzard after Thanksgiving, a course offered by the state could help train people for the next emergency.

Courses designed to help citizens become first responders in a disaster are being offered in Haysville (Wichita) on Wednesday, March 8 and Thursday, March 9. The state of Kansas will cover the cost of the course and lodging if people travel more than 50 miles.

"Highly recommend this course. It is well worth every minute to experience the practical skills and instruction," said Judy McKee, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for Sherman County.

The program called the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) came into being after the Los Angeles earthquake in 1987. This nationally certified program prepares volunteers with 20 hours

of classroom and hands-on training. People such as EMT's, firefighters, building personnel and law enforcement will teach the courses.

The blizzard after Thanksgiving showed Goodland didn't have enough public services to cover the whole county and assist people but people took on extra responsibilities and did a great job, said McKee. It also showed where we needed to work on preparedness.

The Kansas Division of Emergency Management is providing the opportunity for people to be trained in disaster survival and rescue skills. People will not be reimbursed for meals or mileage.

An application form is available at the City Building, 204 W. 11, on the table and needs to be filled out. The completed application can be placed in a box on the same table or given to Judy McKee or Crissy Conger, Assistant Emergency Manager. For more information call McKee at (785) 890-5188 or Gary Rogers at (785) 890-4570.

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Terry Richardson
899-3093
terryr@eaglecom.net



Donna Moore
899-6159
donnam@eaglecom.net



Cynthia Butts
899-3944
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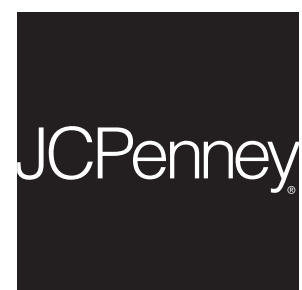
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