

National Certification in Literary Braille

Sample Test

National Blindness Professional
Certification Board
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

You should note that this sample test is an accurate representation of the types of tasks that are required of you on the actual exam; however, the length, complexity, and/or format of the exam may differ.

This sample test consists of the instructions that should be followed throughout the NCLB test, including those specific to each of the four sections.

This test includes (1) Braille Writing using a braillewriter, which requires you to transcribe material into contracted literary braille with little or no errors; (2) Braille Writing, using a slate and stylus, which requires you to transcribe material into contracted literary braille with little or no errors; (3) Proofreading, in which you are given a passage in contracted literary braille, and you must identify the errors that have been embedded in the document; and (4) Multiple Choice, in which you are tested on your knowledge of braille rules and their use.

An answer key is provided at the back of this booklet so that you may check your work.

Section One

Braille Writing—Braillewriter

Carefully read and follow all instructions. Failure to do so may result in a loss of points.

Using a braillewriter, transcribe each passage provided into contracted braille.

Format: Use a 40-cell braille line on 11 by 11-1/2 inch braille paper. Utilize the maximum space possible on each braille line without hyphenating, except where a hyphen already exists.

If you are using the braille copy of this booklet, you should know that it has been translated from the print version and you should not assume that it is in correct braille format.

Start each passage on a separate braille page on line 1. When the passage contains a heading, it should be centered and italicized. Skip one line between the centered heading and the following paragraph. Some passages may contain a list. Skip a line before and after a list. Start each new line of the list in cell 1 and start runovers in cell 3. Paragraphs and lists should be single-spaced. If you make a mistake and corrections are noticeable, start over using a fresh piece of paper. Pen or pencil notes will not be considered by the evaluator when your test is scored.

An ID label should be placed on the back of every page that is to be evaluated. Notes and/or scrap paper

should be folded in half and placed in the envelope with the rest of the materials.

When you have completed this section, let the administrator know so that all test materials can be collected in an orderly fashion.

THE VISITOR

"Bo," Cody called.

"What?"

"It's 2:30 a.m."

"The lights."

"Where?"

"Back light cut on."

"Oh, no!"

Fully awake, Bo bounded across the room.

"Muffin's puppies ..."

"OPOSSUM!" Bo hissed.

"The 3rd in a week."

"Get back," ordered Bo.

After a time, Cody finally saw Bo walk up the gravel drive.

"Muffin's puppies?"

"Counted all 11 asleep in the hideaway. No mistake."

"Muffin?"

"A-Okay. But it wasn't an opossum, it was a skunk. I'd better spend the night with Muffin." "Guess we need to put up an addition to the fence."

"Let's get these supplies tomorrow."

Bo scribbled this list.

twenty fence posts, two post hole
diggers, two post pounders
two rolls wire fence
five boxes wire fasteners
one gate

Section Two

Braille Writing—Slate and Stylus

Carefully read and follow all instructions. Failure to do so may result in a loss of points.

Using a slate and stylus, transcribe each passage provided into contracted braille.

Format: Use a 28-cell braille line on 8-1/2 by 11 inch braille paper. Utilize the maximum space possible on each braille line without hyphenating, except where a hyphen already exists.

If you are using the braille copy of this booklet, you should know that it has been translated from the print version and you should not assume that it is in correct braille format.

Start each passage on a separate braille page on line 1. When the passage contains a heading, it should be centered and italicized. Skip one line between the centered heading and the following paragraph. Some passages may contain a list. Skip a line before and after a list. Start each new line of the list in cell 1 and start runovers in cell 3. Paragraphs and lists should be single-spaced. If you make a mistake and corrections are noticeable, start over using a fresh piece of paper. Pen or pencil notes will not be considered by the evaluator when your test is scored.

An ID label should be placed on the back of every page that is to be evaluated. Notes and/or scrap paper

should be folded in half and placed in the envelope with the rest of the materials.

When you have completed this section, let the administrator know so that all test materials can be collected in an orderly fashion.

Suzy's Kitchen

Suzy's Kitchen is a great cafe! Found just around the corner, right beside the community center at 805 1/2 E. 143rd, the cafe is open every day, 1-7 P.M.

Cheeseburger 'n chips (with dill pickle)

Country-style chicken with extra onion gravy

Chocolate torte with heavy cream

Cranberry juice quencher

Section Three Proofreading

Carefully read and follow the instructions. Failure to do so may result in a loss of points.

This section tests your ability to read accurately and to identify braille errors. There are two documents that comprise the proofreading section: 1. The Proofreading Passage; and 2. The Reference Passage.

1. The Proofreading Passage is a separately bound booklet that is double spaced for your convenience. It contains embedded errors that you must identify, and it is what you will submit as your work to be scored.
2. The Reference Passage follows these instructions in your test booklet, and is a replica of the proofreading passage, but contains no errors or mistakes. You may use this to check for the intended punctuation and spelling.

(Note: The proofreading passage with the embedded errors appears immediately after the reference passage in this sample test booklet.)

Clearly circle each error in the proofreading booklet; one circle should represent one error. Errors may be in letters, contractions, punctuation marks, composition signs, and/or spacing. Extra space errors should be indicated by circling the space. Missing space errors should be indicated by circling the two characters between which the space should exist.

You may want to open the booklet so that the page you are evaluating is by itself with no braille pages beneath it. This will reduce the possibility of accidentally erasing or flattening dots on the other pages.

If you are unable to erase a mark that you want to change, put an asterisk next to the mark and write the word "Ignore" in the margin. You may ask the administrator to do this for you.

An ID label should be placed on the back of the booklet. Notes and/or scrap paper should be folded in half and placed in the envelope with the rest of the materials.

When you have completed this section, let the administrator know so that all test materials can be collected in an orderly fashion.

Reference Passage

EXOTIC SPICES

Herbs and spices add flavor and interest to our foods. Explorers have searched the world over, going to many nations, to find the best and the freshest flavorings. One favorite spice is cinnamon. Can you name your favorite?

California has good conditions for growing herbs such as basil and dill year after year. "Jerk" seasonings come from Jamaican mountain jungles, cinnamon sticks come from Indonesia, thyme from France, fennel from India...

After these spices are imported, they are packaged and brought to the store. Then mothers and fathers can look for the sage below the chili peppers and beside the saffron.

Many people experiment with new herbs and spices to learn how they will taste in the foods they enjoy. Cookbooks such as The Joy of Cooking have recipes that introduce new spices.

Following are six ways to spice up your cooking:

1. It's a good idea to replace your herbs and spices on a yearly basis because they lose their flavors. Hard spices that need to be ground, however, such as whole peppercorns and whole nutmeg, can last up to three years.
2. A good way to familiarize yourself with a new spice is to make a tea and add the spice, or add it to another

neutral item such as plain hot water, chicken broth, or scrambled eggs. This will help you determine the character and the quality of the spice.

3. When adding spices to your food, don't just pour them straight from the jar. Rub them between your fingers first to release the oils.
4. Add your spices at the beginning of cooking, and then again three to five minutes before serving, if necessary, to adjust the flavor.
5. To reduce your fat and salt intake, try some unique pairings between sweet and hot tastes. For example, try combining cayenne pepper with fruit.
6. When using garlic, add it in small quantities to help heighten existing flavors, but be careful not to use too much or it will overwhelm them. Less is often better.

Passage Containing Embedded Errors

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Section Four Multiple Choice

Carefully read and follow the instructions. Failure to do so may result in a loss of points.

This section contains multiple choice questions. If you are using print, indicate your answer by circling the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the number of the question you are answering. If you are using braille, use a braillewriter or slate to write the question number and answer on a blank sheet of paper.

You may choose only one answer per question. It is important that each answer is marked clearly.

In some items, the response options consist of a single braille character. In these items, the braille character is preceded by a dot locator, which is a braille cell showing all six dots.

1. The closing quotation mark is
 - a. ⠠⠨⠠
 - b. ⠠⠨⠠
 - c. ⠠⠨⠠
 - d. ⠠⠨⠠

2. The dots 3-4-5-6 represent
 - a. the letter sign
 - b. the number sign
 - c. the opening parenthesis
 - d. the italic sign

3. Braille dots 1-5-6 standing alone indicate the word
 - a. where
 - b. what
 - c. which
 - d. when

4. The "gh" contraction is Brailled
 - a. ⠠⠨⠠
 - b. ⠠⠨⠠
 - c. ⠠⠨⠠
 - d. ⠠⠨⠠

5. The "dd" sign should not be used in which of the following?
 - a. wedding
 - b. paddle
 - c. muddy
 - d. daddy

6. The word "those" should be Brailled

- a. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- b. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- c. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- d. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

7. The word "believe" is Brailled

- a. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- b. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- c. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
- d. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

הַיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֶחֱדָה
וְיִשְׁמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח

בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו
וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח
בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו
וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח
בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו
וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח
בְּעַמּוֹתָיו וְיִשְׂמַח בְּעַמּוֹתָיו

Answer Key for Section Two
Slate and Stylus

1. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

1. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

Answer Key for Section Three Proofreading

1. The first sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The second sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The third sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The fourth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The fifth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The sixth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The seventh sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The eighth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The ninth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

The tenth sentence is highlighted in yellow.

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הַיְהוֹדוּת לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה

וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה

אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד

וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה

אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה

יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד

וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה

אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

יְהוָה יֵחַד וְיֵחַד לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

Answer Key for Section Four
Multiple Choice

1. a
2. b
3. c
4. a
5. a
6. b
7. a

END OF SAMPLE TEST

For more information, please refer to the NCLB Candidate Guide at: www.nbpceb.org.