

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS*

*FOR*

**PRACTICE TEST FOR READING  
(ENGLISH II EXIT EXAM), GRADE 10**  
(Test items developed for skills measured in OCCT)

---

*Skills*

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1.0 Vocabulary                    | 4.0 Research and Information    |
| 1.1 Meaning of Words              | 4.1 Accessing Information       |
| 2.0 Comprehension                 | 4.2 Interpreting Information    |
| 2.1 Inferences and Interpretation | 5.0 Grammar/Usage and Mechanics |
| 2.2 Summary and Generalization    | 5.1 Standard Usage              |
| 2.3 Analysis and Evaluation       | 5.2 Mechanics and Spelling      |
| 3.0 Literature                    | 5.3 Sentence Structure          |
| 3.1 Literary Genres               |                                 |
| 3.2 Literary Elements             |                                 |
| 3.3 Figurative Language           |                                 |
| 3.4 Literary Works                |                                 |
- 

Number of questions: 60

Number of pages: 15

(c) EPES TESTING, INC.

(OVER)

# OCCT PRACTICE TEST IN READING (ENGLISH II EXIT EXAM) - GRADE 10

## Directions

Read the following article. Then answer questions 1 through 10.

### PROBLEMS OF RECYCLING

Of greatest interest to those concerned with the environmental aspects of solid waste management is the issue of -- and the need for -- resource recovery and recycling. To many Americans, there is perhaps no greater symbol of our imbalance with nature and our maladaptation to its realities than the fact that we discard millions of tons of waste every year which do, in fact, have value. The American people realize now that trash need not be mere junk. It has the potential of becoming a significant vein of resource, a mother lode of opportunity for men of vision who can see beyond the horizon.

The American people are right. And those who serve them can no longer view solid waste management solely in terms of collection and disposal. However, something more than the magic of science and technology is required to convert all this waste into useful resources.

In fact, in proportion to consumption, resource recovery has been steadily losing ground in recent years in virtually every material sector. Approximately 200 million tons of paper, iron, steel, glass, nonferrous metals, textiles, rubber, and plastics flow through the economy yearly -- and materials weighing roughly the same leave the economy again as waste. In spite of neighborhood recycling projects, container recovery depots, paper drives, anti-litter campaigns, local ordinances banning the non-returnable bottle, and the emergence of valuable new technological approaches, only a trickle of the "effluence of affluence" is today being diverted from the municipal waste stream.

The principal obstacles are economic and institutional, not technological. The cost of recovering, processing, and transporting wastes is so high that the resulting products simply cannot compete, economically, with virgin materials. Of course, if the costs of such economic "externalities" as environmental impact

associated with virgin materials use were reflected in production costs and if there were no freight rates, the use of secondary materials would become much more attractive. But they are not now. There are no economic or technical events on the horizon, short of governmental intervention, that would indicate a reversal of this trend. If allowed to continue to operate as it does now, the economic system will continue to select virgin raw materials in preference to wastes. This fact should be etched into the awareness of those who look to recycling as a way out of the solid waste management dilemma.

1. The main obstacles preventing effective recycling are
  - A. environmental
  - B. technological
  - C. economical
  - D. institutional
  
2. In this article, the term "maladaptation" means
  - A. understanding
  - B. dysfunction
  - C. awareness
  - D. belief
  
3. The passage mainly describes the
  - A. the obstacles blocking widespread recycling
  - B. American's ignorance of the need to recycle
  - C. the overwhelming reasons why recycling is impractical
  - D. the vast damage done to the environment due to limited recycling