

Resources for Preparing for the Peace Officers Written Exam (POST Test)

I. Books and Study Guides:

For students who do well by reading books to refresh their skills, they may find the following texts and study guides useful.

A. California Police Officer Exam, third edition, ISBN-13: 978-1576857281

B. California POST sample test: <http://lib.post.ca.gov/publications/poWrittenPracticeTest.pdf>

C. CHP Study Guide: <http://www.chp.ca.gov/recruiting/docs/asg.pdf>

II. Tutoring and Seminars:

For the student who needs one-on-one individualized or face-to-face group instruction, he or she should consider utilizing an online tutor or attending a live seminar event. These resources are particularly helpful for students struggling to pass the exam, whose English grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and reading comprehension are in need of improvement, or whose first language is not English. The following website “Police Test Tutors” contains information on tutoring, seminar dates, test-taking blogs, and free resources. An electronic copy of this handout is also available on the www.policetesttutors.com website under free resources.

A. Police Test Tutors

1. www.policetesttutors.com/seminars – register for an eight hour, one day seminar
2. www.policetesttutors.com/onlinetutoring – find a personal tutor to help you pass the exam
3. www.policetesttutors.com/freeresources – get free practice exercises/information for the exam
4. www.policetesttutors.com/webinars -get free test-taking strategies for the exam
5. www.policetesttutors.com/blog – find out who is hiring and talk to other exam takers

III. Internet Resources That Address Each Area of the POST Test:

A. Reading- the candidate MUST read everyday and be able to answer reading comprehension questions. Practice is the only tried and true way of improving reading skills. The POST has twenty-two reading comprehension questions, and since the POST test is timed, speed and accuracy becomes essential to a successful test score. The following links provide practice with questions and answers:

1. <http://fcit.usf.edu/fcat10r/home/sample-tests/index.html>
2. <http://www.testprepreview.com/modules/readingmainidea.htm>
3. http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwrtp/f23fra_i.htm
4. <http://www.spreader.com/app.php>
5. http://www.examenglish.com/IELTS/cbIELTS_reading.htm
6. <https://web.gsc.edu/fs/mhorton/LSEnglish/readingpractice/test3/reading3.html>

B. Grammar- the POST test has 15-18 grammar questions that determines the candidates proficiency in six grammatical concepts. The links below will provide practice for each of these areas.

1. <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/5/18/38/> - Fragment practice tests
2. <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/5/13/34/> - Subject verb agreement practice tests
3. <http://www.uvu.edu/owl/infor/Usage%20-%20Comma%20Splices%202011.pdf> -run ons
4. <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/597/1/> - dangling modifier practice test
5. <http://owlet.letu.edu/grammarlinks/pronouns/pronoun1d2.html> -pronoun agreement
6. <http://owlet.letu.edu/grammarlinks/modifiers/modifier2s3.html> – squinting modifier

C. Spelling – the POST test has 15-18 spelling words that cover some of the trickier types of spelling forms such as “ie” combinations, silent letters, double consonants, and other commonly misspelled words. The following sites will help you practice mastering these words.

1. http://www.alphadictionary.com/articles/misspell_quiz.html – excellent site for spelling practice
2. <http://zone.msn.com/en/root/deluxe.htm?code=112680150&RefID=25> - a fun but relevant online game to practice spelling
3. <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/bee/> adapts to each person's spelling level

D. Vocabulary- the POST test has 15-18 vocabulary questions ranging from moderate to difficult words. Reading is the best way to increase vocabulary; however, there are websites and software that can assist in increasing vocabulary competency. A proficient vocabulary is also essential when taking the CLOZE (fill-in-the-blanks) portion of the exam.

1. www.wordsmart.com – scroll down to “Word Smart Challenge which provides vocabulary game challenges and vocabulary improvement resources
2. <http://www.vocabtest.com/> -start at the sixth grade to freshman level. Levels beyond that contain words too advanced and not seen on the exam.

E. Reasoning – POST uses reasoning questions as pilot questions on the exam. If and when they will integrate these questions into the T-score is undetermined. To practice for these questions, go to the following link:

1. <http://www.indiabix.com/logical-reasoning/verbal-classification/>

E. CLOZE (Fill-in-the-blanks) – the final portion of the POST exam, and the most dreaded, is the fill-in-the-blanks section. It is difficult in that the candidate needs to have good reading comprehension skills and an adequate vocabulary. The candidate must supply the exact word in the exact number of spaces given. No word choices are given making this exam harder. The best way to prepare is to practice a CLOZE test once a day. To start, go to sites that give you answer choices. After that, practice doing exercises that are just like those found on the POST exam.

1. www.policetesttutors.com/freeresources – learn how to make your own CLOZE test exactly like the POST, and practice CLOZE exams like those the POST test for free.
2. <http://www.englishlearner.com/tests/advanced-grammar-1.shtml> – practice CLOZE tests
3. <http://www.flo-joe.co.uk/fce/students/tests/tsindex.htm> – practice Cloze tests

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How much does the POST test cost? **Answer:** It's free
2. How many times can I take the POST? **Answer:** Once every 30 days.
3. Can I find out which questions I missed? **Answer:** No, sorry!
4. What is the highest achievable T-score? **Answer:** T-77.8 (Einstein level)
5. Does the POST test require a lot of studying? **Answer:** Yes, put the time in so you can get a good score.

For an electronic copy of this resource list, go to www.policetesttutors.com/freeresources/