STUDY GUIDE for the CUSD Instructional Aide Basic Competencies Exam

The actual examination is a combination of 40 multiple choice questions (40 points) and a short writing sample (worth 10 points). You will need a score of 35/50 on the actual examination to pass. Below are sample questions similar to what you will see on the CUSD Instructional Aide Examination:

LANGUAGE ARTS QUESTIONS:

Choose the sentence that is complete and written correctly.

1.   A. He wanted to do the project by itself.

        B. Monopoly is himself a popular board game.

        C. He wanted to go down the slide by themselves

        D. She painted the picture by herself.

2.   A. Susy learned her brother how to tie his shoe.

        B. My sister taught her friend how to play guitar.

        C. The teacher taughted the class how to do long division.

        D. Did she learn how to read by yourself?

3.   A. The teacher didn't allow anyone to chew gum in class.

        B. He didn't let noone be the student of the day today.

        C. My mom doesn't want no bad manners at home.

        D. My dog never obeys none of the commands.

4.   A. The classes worked in they're school garden.

        B. The teachers was moving their supplies into the room.

        C. The dog ran quickly through the grass to get their toy.

        D. The students ate their meals in the cafeteria.

Choose the underlined part that is the simple subject of the sentence.

5. During the cold (A) winter (B), the crackling (C) fireplace (D) warmed the house.

Choose the underlined part that is the simple predicate (verb) of the sentence.

6. Jose (A) passed (B) the paper (C) to his teacher (D).

Read the underlined sentences. Choose the sentence that best combines those sentences into one.

7. The boy wrote on the paper. The boy painted some rocks.

   A. The boy wrote on the paper and the rocks.

   B. The boy wrote and painted paper and on the rocks.

   C. The boy that wrote on the paper was the one who painted rocks, too.

   D. The boy wrote on the paper and painted some rocks.

8. Read the passage below; then answer the question that follows.

(1)It is one of my favorite things to do at recess. (2)I choose to play there most days. (3)I especially love going down the fireman's pole, because I like how fast I go down it! (4)If anyone asks my friends where I will be during recess, they will probably say the play structure. (5)I also like the slide and the monkey bars at the play structure, but not as much as the fireman's pole.

Which of the following sentences should be moved to the beginning of the paragraph to improve its logical organization?

   A. Sentence 2

   B. Sentence 3

   C. Sentence 4

   D. Sentence 5

9. Choose the sentence that does <u>not</u> belong in the paragraph.

    (1) My favorite part of the school week is art class that we do on Fridays. (2) Everyone can be creative and successful in art. (3) I love how I can express my emotions through art projects. (4) Have you gone to a store to buy art supplies? (5) The only thing I would change is having art more than once a week at school!

   A. Sentence 1

   B. Sentence 2

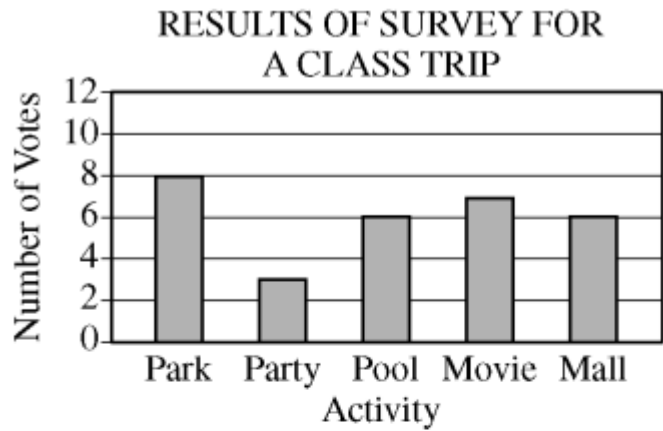   C. Sentence 3

   D. Sentence 4

10. Read the paragraph below. Then choose the best main idea.

    One way to stay healthy is to exercise. Exercise helps you feel better, lose weight, and grow stronger. Taking a walk is a form of exercise. It helps you go outside and get fresh air. Playing a sport is another form of exercise. This is a fun way to be active. Taking classes at a gym is a way to be healthy and fit. There are many types of exercise you can do to improve your health.

What is the main idea of the passage?

   A. Choose a fun way to exercise.

   B. There are many types of exercise.

   C. All living things need sunlight.

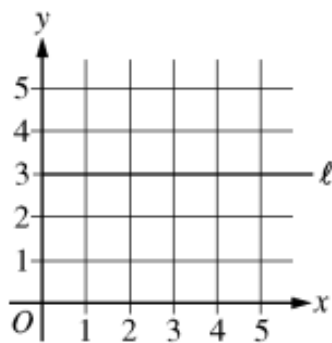   D. There are many ways to make yourself feel better.

MATH QUESTIONS:

**RESULTS OF SURVEY FOR
A CLASS TRIP**

11. In the graph above, how many votes were submitted in total?

A. 3
B. 32
C. 30
D. 8

12. What digit is in the thousandths place of the number 5623.7149?

A. 7
B. 1
C. 4
D. 9

13. Which of the following is a point on the line ℓ shown on the graph above?

A. (2, 5)
B. (3, 1)
C. (3, 3)
D. (5, 3)

14.   6 + 4 x 16 - 7 = ?
   A student wrote the incorrect number sentence above to solve the following problem:
            "Multiply the sum of 6 and 4 and the difference of 16 and 7."

   To correct the error, the student's number sentence should be changed to

   A. (16 + 4) x 16 - 7 = ?

   B. 16 + 4 x (16 - 7) = ?

   C. (6 + 4) x (16 - 7) = ?

   D. (6 + 4) x (16 + 7) = ?

15. Layla works 6 hours per day on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 3 hours per day on
Tuesday and Thursday. She does not work on Saturday and Sunday. She earns $432 per week.
How much does she earn in dollars per hour?

   A. $16 per hour

   B. $18 per hour

   C. $19 per hour

   D. $20 per hour

16. What are all the factors of 18?

   A. 0, 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 18

   B. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 18

   C. 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 18

   D. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18

17. What is $3\frac{2}{3} + 4\frac{1}{5} =$

   A. $7\frac{3}{8}$

   B. $7\frac{3}{15}$

   C. $7\frac{13}{15}$

   D. $8\frac{7}{15}$

18. What is $2\frac{1}{3} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ =

    A. $3\frac{1}{4}$

    B. $4\frac{3}{12}$

    C. $4\frac{1}{12}$

    D. $\frac{71}{10}$

19. What is 12 x 37 =

    A. 444
    B. 314
    C. 49
    D. 628

20. What is 540 ÷ 12 =

    A. 41
    B. 45
    C. 36
    D. 42

21. Find the sum.
$$
\begin{array}{r}
8465 \\
+\ 3568 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

    A. 14,063
    B. 12,033
    C. 11,923
    D. 12,456

22. Tom, Sara, and Jose are picking apples.   Tom picks 12 apples. Sara picks four times as many apples as Tom. Jose picks 3 more apples than Sara. How many total apples do they pick altogether?

    A. 19 apples

    B. 48 apples

    C. 51 apples

    D. 111 apples

23. Ms. Martinez has 32 prizes to give out to 7 students. Ms. Marquez gives the prizes out to each student 1 at a time until all of them are gone. How many students would get more than 4 prizes?

    A. 5

    B. 4

    C. 3

    D. 2

24. What is the unknown number that makes the equation true?

        6 feet = _____ inches

    A. 2

    B. 12

    C. 72

    D. 18

25. Round 563,932 to the nearest thousand.

    A. 560,000

    B. 564,000

    C. 563,900

    D. 563,000

COMMUNICATION SKILLS and WORKING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - These questions evaluate your knowledge of techniques that promote effective interactions. View the question from the perspective of how a school would want its employees to respond in the environment in which the work takes place.

26. If you must talk with a kindergarten-aged child about using inappropriate language at school, what is an appropriate thing to do:

A. use a loud voice to get the child's attention.

B. talk to the child in a calm voice and clearly state that the words they used are not ok.

C. have the child write the inappropriate words down multiple times.

D. put the child in a lengthy time out and ignore the behavior.

27. If a parent of one child is asking about specific behaviors of another child (not their child), an appropriate response is to:

A. tell the parent as much detail as you can about all the children involved.

B. ignore what the parent is saying because they shouldn't be talking about children that aren't theirs.

C. ask as many questions as possible to find out if they are telling the truth.

D. listen and let them know you will communicate with the teacher and administration (if necessary) about the concerns while also staying confidential about all children involved.

EXAM SECTION - Writing Sample: You are given a topic below to write on. Here are some tips for completing the writing sample:

- The writing sample should be at least one paragraph long with a minimum of five sentences.
- Organize your thoughts and write clearly.
- Give a clear sense of the purpose of your writing by beginning with a meaningful introductory sentence describing the topic.
- Give specific details and create concrete images and examples that support the topic.
- Proofread for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure errors.

Writing Prompt:

Discuss a situation where you were successful working with a child or children.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____