Sample Questions from our PSEE Reasoning and Judgement Tests

The sample questions which follow replicate real **Public Service Entrance Exam (PSEE)** questions used in the **online** and **supervised in-person** tests. We know this from taking PSEE tests and from our long experience with hiring competitions exclusive to the federal public service.

You need to be aware that:

- Practice questions the Public Service Commission makes available are few and misleadingly easy.
- Sample questions in other Canadian guidebooks and online services are generic, improperly structured, and counterproductive to preparing effectively.
- Questions found on the Internet that seem similar are often of foreign origin and not directly applicable to what the Canadian government is testing.

In short, free questions or low-cost samples of the wrong type—no matter how many exercises are included—simply won't help you.

You will benefit from using what we provide:

- **PSEE Reasoning Test materials** that include **three 25-question sample exercises plus a 20-question supplement** for added practice on formulas underlying reasoning questions.
- **PSEE Judgement Test** materials that include **two 52-question sample exercises plus a 15-page explanation** of the behavioural psychology principles behind the test.
- **Answers for each sample test are included at the back of our study packages** so you can check your work against the underlying formulas and principles for the tests.

To help you excel in your competition **our following sample questions** for both PSEE test types **show the format and substance** of what you will really face in the **online** and **supervised in-person government tests**.

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Our PSEE *Reasoning Test* Sample Questions

Arithmetic Reasoning

In this question type, you will need to identify an unknown value based on the information provided.

A building contractor supplied 5 days of labour (8 hours per day) and $250 in materials. There was a bonus of $200 for completing the job on time. The total payment was $1,500 plus tax (12%). What was the hourly rate of pay?

a) $26.25 per hour
b) $37.50 per hour
c) $42.00 per hour
d) $48.75 per hour

Logical Reasoning

In this question type, you will need to use logical reasoning to choose the best response based on the information given in the first part of the question.

Bob Bearchuk, a high school curling coach, has a pool of seven players from which he chooses his team for a given tournament. He has some experienced curlers and some rookies, and to give his newcomers a chance while maintaining a competitive team he chooses two players from each group.

The names of the experienced players are Sanjit, Frances, David and Kim.

The names of the rookies are Jocelyn, Tom and Luisa.

However, in choosing his team, Mr. Bearchuk has to take into account certain personality issues as well:

- Sanjit and Frances cannot play together

- Tom and Sanjit refuse to play together

- David and Luisa never play together

If Sanjit is playing, who must be on the team with him?

a) Jocelyn, Luisa, and Tom
b) Jocelyn, Luisa, Kim
c) Tom, David, Frances
d) Jocelyn, Luisa, David

Analytical Reasoning

In this question type, you may find some invented words as well as some real words in English, and you will be asked to select the best response. In all cases, you will need to make inferences based on the information in the question. In certain situations you will need to make assumptions based on your knowledge of the relationships between the real words.

- Purple flowers are bigger than yellow flowers
- White flowers are smaller than yellow flowers
- Yellow flowers have green stems and leaves

Which of the following is the best response?

a) Both purple and white flowers have green stems.
b) Both purple and white flowers have no leaves.
c) White flowers have yellow stamens.
d) Purple flowers are bigger than white flowers.

Number or Letter Series

In number or letter series question types, you are to determine the number or letter that would come next in the series. You need to establish the rule which has been used to make up the series, and then apply this rule to complete the series correctly.

What is the next number in this series?
15, 15, 10, 10, 5

a) 5
b) 0
c) 1
d) -5

Our PSEE *Judgement Test* Sample Questions

Situation – A demanding client lets you know that their project with the work team you lead has suddenly become more critical for their needs. Rescheduling workload is always an issue with your team, which is short-staffed and busy, and with your supervisor, who is rigid about sticking to time-commitments.

Response – Meet with the client immediately to determine exactly what is required and the timeline they want.

How effective is this response?

1. Very ineffective   ☐
2. Ineffective   ☐
3. Somewhat ineffective   ☐
4. Somewhat effective   ☐
5. Effective   ☐
6. Very effective   ☐

Situation – You work on a team that interacts with internal client groups across the organization. One of the people you have met is a new employee who recently joined his team and is finding the work difficult to get used to. He is looking to you for help in coping.

Response – Tell him to take up the problem with his team leader as that will be the best way to start addressing his needs.

How effective is this response?

1. Very ineffective   ☐
2. Ineffective   ☐
3. Somewhat ineffective   ☐
4. Somewhat effective   ☐
5. Effective   ☐
6. Very effective   ☐

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