

## NEX Nursing Entrance Exam Practice Test

Section: NLN NEX Verbal Ability Exams • Total Questions: 10 • Format: Verified Q&A

1. The atrocious anecdote shocked the audience. Atrocious means

- (A) abominable
  - (B) humorous
  - (C) inspiring
  - (D) tedious
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## 2. What is the main idea of this passage?

1. The 1960s and 1970s are often distinguished as hallmark decades for free speech and free expression in American history- the civil rights movement, feminist movement, and free speech movement all have their roots in the tumultuous Sixties and Seventies. As stated in Welner, Kim, and Biegel (2017), "In the 1960s and 1970s, free speech issues were at the forefront of education-related debates, with students asserting themselves in ways they never had before" (p. 33). The late 1960s and early 1970s were ripe with protest, specifically in response to the violent atrocities associated with the Vietnam War. Inevitably, this democratic fervor seeped into the systems and structures of K-12 public schooling. Thus, it is not surprising that this era gave birth to many of the modern constitutional debates regarding students and their First Amendment rights in public schools. In particular, this era gave birth to the landmark Supreme Court case known as *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969).

2. *Tinker v. Des Moines* emerged from the countercultural milieu of the late Sixties: "In December 1965, a group of adults and students in Des Moines, Iowa held a meeting. The group determined to publicize their objections to the hostilities in Vietnam and their support for a truce by wearing black armbands during the holiday season and by fasting on December 16 and New Year's Eve" (p. 43). Three students attending that meeting were John Tinker, 15 years old, Mary Beth Tinker, 13 years old, and Christopher Eckhardt, 16 years old. Fueled by the images they witnessed on television broadcasts, Tinker and her classmates decided to wear black armbands as a symbol of youthful resistance and patriotism. The administrators of the Des Moines Independent Community School District caught word of the upcoming protest and hastily adopted a school policy that promised to suspend any students who wore black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War. On December 16 and 17, the administration attempted to squash the public display of solidarity, all three students were suspended from school indefinitely "until they would come back without their armbands" (p. 43).

3. The students' parents fought back, suing the school for violating the children's right to free speech. After a U.S. district court - and later a U.S. court of appeals - ruled against the children and their families, citing that their protest was a disruption and breeched local school standards, the case made its way all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The resulting decision of *Tinker v. Des Moines* set in motion a historical tidal wave of praise and criticism. Promising that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate," the Supreme Court justices decreed a 7-2 ruling in favor of the protestors. They claimed that the students' silent and symbolic expression was protected under the U.S. Constitution, citing that all political speech in public schools remains guarded by the First Amendment so long as it does not "substantially disrupt the learning environment." In a bold move for the times, the decision claimed that "In order for [a school] to justify prohibition of a particular expression of opinion, it must be able to show that its action was caused by something more than a mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompany an unpopular viewpoint."

4. *Tinker V. Des Moines* became one of the key democratic victories of the mid-late twentieth century. The decades that followed, however, created clashing currents of belief that were captured by some of the major court cases that reinterpreted the *Tinker* decision. For the most part, these court cases not only stood as lasting symbols of the political beliefs of the judicial majorities involved, but also as emblems of the socio-historical climate from which they resonated. Less than 20 years after *Tinker V. Des Moines*, the constitutional precedents made by the landmark decision quickly dissipated, receding into a new sea of social censorship for students. Constitutional reinterpretations of *Tinker* in the

- (A) The *Tinker* decision had long-lasting effects on free speech for students.
- (B) The *Tinker* decision did not belong in the 1960s.
- (C) The *Tinker* decision was unconstitutional.
- (D) The *Tinker* decision was reflective of the culture of the ×.

### 3. The piano tuner tightened the string on the piano, thus increasing the string's

- (A) tension
  - (B) length
  - (C) volume
  - (D) strength
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### 4. Why might a patient with T1D experience hypoglycemia?

1. Forty years ago, a person diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1D) would have found their life altered considerably. T1D frequently begins to manifest in childhood but can be diagnosed at any age. However, thanks to recent advances, managing this chronic condition now comes with conveniences that allow for less worry and fewer challenges for people who live with T1D.

2. People with T1D must be attentive to their food intake, carefully monitor their blood glucose levels, and take regular doses of insulin tasks that often make people feel alienated from their friends who are able to eat what they want without worry. If someone with T1D takes too much insulin for their food, they can experience hypoglycemia, a sudden drop in blood sugar, leading to debilitating symptoms such as headache, sweating, shakiness, and even fainting. But if they don't take enough insulin, they will experience hyperglycemia which causes symptoms such as excessive thirst, frequent urination, lethargy, headaches, and blurred vision.

3. Recently, however, advances in blood glucose monitoring and insulin delivery have simplified disease management for many people with diabetes. Roughly 64% of current patients with T1D in the U.S. use an insulin pump for consistent, accurate delivery of insulin rather than relying on daily insulin injections (Smith & Harris, 2018). Insulin pumps generally contain an insulin reservoir and a computer chip that monitor insulin delivery through a cannula inserted under the patient's skin, usually on the lower part of the stomach. While the cannula site must be changed every few days, the pump frees the individual from needing frequent injections and delivers insulin more consistently than injections.

4. Additionally, patients can now also use a continuous glucose monitor (CGM) to promote better regulation of blood sugar. CGMs use a sensor inserted under the skin to transmit blood glucose information to a smartphone app or even directly to an insulin pump. Patients can then use an app to monitor their insulin intake and blood sugar at any given time. Furthermore, the app can alert the patient to changes in blood sugar that could lead to dangerous reactions. Patients and their caregivers can use the information stored on the app to adjust diet and insulin delivery to promote better overall health (Wong, 2023).

5. Perhaps the most exciting recent development in diabetes management is that of the hybrid, closed-loop system, or artificial pancreas. In 2016, the FDA approved the first of these devices, which combine glucose monitoring and insulin delivery in one automated system (Smith & Harris, 2018). These systems, now commercially available, allow patients with T1D a level of ease of management that enables them to go about daily tasks without the need to carry kits containing syringes, vials, finger prick devices, and test strips.

6. While a cure for T1D remains a goal of researchers, consistent improvements in patient care and management have vastly improved life for many patients living with T1D. While patients wait for a cure, modern medical technology now offers them a vastly improved quality of life

- (A) They drank too many fluids.
  - (B) They did not take enough insulin for their food intake.
  - (C) They took too much insulin for their food intake.
  - (D) They did not carefully monitor their glucose level.
-

5. The writer chose to use many vernacular expressions in his essay. Vernacular means

- (A) blasphemous
  - (B) everyday
  - (C) ludicrous
  - (D) ribald
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6. The best title for this article is

1. In October 2018, James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology of Medicine for their groundbreaking efforts in inhibiting the impact of cancer in patients through immunotherapy. James P. Allison, 70-year-old immunologist and native Texan, works at the prestigious Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Tasuku Honjo is a 76-year-old immunologist and native of Kyoto, Japan who currently leads a variety of important medical research efforts at Kyoto University. Their research efforts span several decades, in two extremely different national contexts, but their recent international collaborations have reignited the profession over the last ten years.

2. Together, their cutting-edge research has helped make cancer immunology one of the most innovative branches in the field of medicine. Their current project, which focuses on mitigating negative immune regulation, has helped uncover new strategies for "inhibiting the brakes of our immune systems" through T-cell immunotherapy. Though cancer rates continue to decline throughout developed countries, it still remains the second leading cause of global mortality rates, contributing to millions of deaths each year. Thanks to their findings, many research initiatives, which had previously given up on the prospects of immunotherapy practices, are reinvesting hundreds of millions of dollars into an entirely new class of drugs that might help

- (A) Allison and Honjo Fight T-Cells.
  - (B) CTLA-4 and PD-1: Two Deadly Types of Cancer.
  - (C) Pharmacology and Cancer Treatments.
  - (D) Nobel Prize Winners Fight Cancer.
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**7. Based on the passage, 'greenhouse effect' refers to:**

1. As knowledge of climate change has expanded, so has the vocabulary surrounding the issue. Some key terms include greenhouse gas, fossil fuel, and carbon footprint. Understanding these terms can help us to recognize how changes in human activity can slow down climate change

2. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides resources on its website to help citizens better understand climate change. Most people already know that the energy provided by the sun is key to life on earth. Greenhouse gases are substances that affect the way the earth either absorbs or reflects this energy. Water vapor and carbon dioxide are two examples of greenhouse gases. These gases absorb and hold some of the sun's energy, warming the planet like a "blanket" (Basics of Climate Change, 2023). This effect is similar to the way a greenhouse traps heat to support plant life, hence the term greenhouse effect

3. Greenhouse gases are important to regulating the earth's temperature and making the planet warm enough to sustain life. Natural occurrences such as plant and animal respiration, oceanic activity, and erupting volcanoes have always released greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. When humans began extracting and burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas during the Industrial Revolution, greenhouse gas emissions rose sharply, upsetting the planet's balance and trapping too much heat. The result has been a sharp increase in the earth's temperature, leading to climate change. According to Dr. Julia Rosen, a geologist and journalist (2021), the average global temperature has risen 2.2 degrees Fahrenheit since 1880, with the sharpest temperature rise occurring in the last 70 years.

4. Use of plastics, especially single-use plastics, also enlarges the carbon footprint since the production of plastic requires the burning of fossil fuels and significant resulting carbon emissions. The average consumer can reduce their carbon footprint by making small changes such as recycling, reducing dependence on single use plastics, driving a fuel-efficient vehicle with lower emissions, and switching to renewable energy sources such as solar or wind energy.

5. While 2.2 degrees may not seem like much, we are seeing the effects of the earth's warming in the form of melting ice caps, rising sea levels, and more extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, and severe storms (Rosen, 2021). However, scientists agree that just as human activity caused climate change, so can human activity slow it down. Individuals, corporations, and governments can take steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing dependence on fossil fuels. Understanding what contributes to our carbon footprint and taking measures to reduce it are the first steps.

- (A) the intentional use of greenhouses to simulate Earth's natural heating processes.
- (B) the rise in Earth's temperature that occurs when all the sun's energy is absorbed by the gases.
- (C) the process by which greenhouse gases prevent the sun's energy from reaching Earth's surface.
- (D) a natural phenomenon where greenhouse gases trap heat and raise Earth's temperature.

**8. The funds were allocated to various organizations. Allocated means**

- (A) donated
- (B) promised
- (C) conveyed
- (D) assigned

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6. While a cure for T1D remains a goal of researchers, consistent improvements in patient care and management have vastly improved life for many patients living with T1D. While patients wait for a cure, modern medical technology now offers them a vastly improved quality of life

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## 10. The senator voted against the bill, thereby showing

- (A) dissent.
- (B) composure.
- (C) rapture.
- (D) constraint