

Assessment Services
Reading Assessment – DRP
Practice Test

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2055 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0J9 Telephone 204-632-2458



Created by people around the world, folk art has great variety. Folk artists are united, however, by similarities in their backgrounds, the reasons they make art, and the kinds of styles they use.

Folk artists tend to live in isolated rural communities. They are not professionally trained, and art is not their full-time occupation. They have other 1. To earn a living, they may work as farmers, fishers, carpenters, and so on. Most folk artists are not concerned with fame and do not care if their names are known. So most of their pieces are not 2. That makes it hard to tell who made them.

The majority of folk artists create mostly for their own needs and pleasure and that of their friends and family. Much of what they create is practical. They may spend their spare time decorating houses, tools, or clothing. Such 3 are functional. Some of their work, though, has a more festive purpose. It is used to celebrate milestones such as births and marriages. These 4 have great importance to the community. Folk artists often make important contributions to the celebration. For a wedding, they may provide special bowls to be broken during the ceremony. Such creations are meant to be 5. Neither they nor the more practical pieces of folk art are treated as precious.

The styles that folk artists use tend to be simple. They also tend to last for a long time. Many folk art styles, in fact, remain basically the same for centuries. There is little 6. Designs are passed from generation to generation. Young artists traditionally train themselves by copying the work of earlier ones. In this way they 7. As a result, a basket made last week may look exactly like one made 300 years ago.



- 1 a) jobs b) homes
c) fears d) animals
e) examples

- 2 a) sanded b) stored
c) protected d) signed
e) delivered

- 3 a) colors b) classes
c) handles d) objects
e) directions

- 4 a) events b) churches
c) wagons d) places
e) citizens

- 5 a) framed b) returned
c) lighted d) compare
e) destroyed

- 6 a) wood b) change
c) demand d) waste
e) trouble

- 7 a) wait b) trade
c) learn d) travel
e) quarrel



Many western European countries have a long history of building warships. England and Spain, in particular, were among the mightiest naval powers of the 17th and 18th centuries. Both countries spent heavily on their 8. Construction and maintenance of each vessel required enormous amounts of labor and material. The greatest effort went into ships of the line, which occupied a forward position in battle. These ships were most likely to be 9. Therefore, they needed to be especially strong.

European ships of the line, like most other ships of this era, were made almost entirely of wood. Construction began with a spine of heavy timber called a keel, which ran lengthwise along the bottom of each ship. This piece formed the 10 of the vessel. Further support was provided by a second timber running directly above the keel. The frame of the ship was then joined to these pieces by wooden pegs and wrought iron bolts. These fasteners, which could be as long as six feet, were handmade. All were 11 right at the building site. Sails and rigging were produced by hand at the shipyard, too.

The amount of wood required to build ships of the line was enormous. Over 3,000 trees were needed for the largest of these, which weighed some 1,900 tons. The 12 of Europe could barely meet the demand. The Spanish imported wood from Cuba, where large stands of mahogany provided excellent timber. Mahogany was not only sturdy, but also resistant to rot. Therefore, it 13.

Maintaining ships of the line was an expensive undertaking. Periodically, each vessel had to be heaved onto its side so rotten timbers could be replaced. Then the bottom was scraped to remove marine growths and coated with a preservative, such as copper. Careful maintenance, though costly, enabled the ships to sail faster and to be steered more easily into action. Such ships held the 14. They had a much greater chance for victory.



- 8 a) cities b) roads
c) parks d) fleets
e) governments
- 9 a) included b) taxed
c) attacked d) searched
e) exchanged

- 10 a) base b) cabin
c) door d) front
e) cover

- 11 a) buried b) lost
c) scattered d) bought
e) fashioned

- 12 a) banks b) forests
c) mines d) soldiers
e) railways

- 13 a) dried b) burned
c) broke d) lasted
e) rolled

- 14 a) treasure b) maps
c) advantage d) supplies
e) passengers



The secret ballot, designed to keep voters free from intimidation or reprisal, was not a standard feature of the American electoral process until the end of the 19th century. Before then, a substantial number of communities required voters to cast their ballots publicly, through either a show of hands or a voice vote, called the *viva voce* method. There was a major difference between the two 15. While a show of hands operated on a group basis, the *viva voce* method had to be carried out individually. Each person had to 16. The *viva voce* method was thus the least private form of public voting, often exposing voters to intimidation. Written ballots, instituted to provide the secrecy that would eliminate problems inherent in public voting, were not at first particularly private. Initially, at least, the 17 remained.

The first written ballots were printed not by the government but by politicians and their parties, who made sure that each ballot exhibited a distinguishing characteristic such as color. The ballots were therefore not 18. There was a reason for the visible differences between ballots: partisans stationed at polling places could easily detect voters' selections and try to coerce them into shifting their votes. Voters were sometimes even 19. At such times, fear constrained freedom of choice.

Because they were distributed in advance, privately printed ballots were susceptible to various types of fraud. Unscrupulous voters, for example, could cast multiple votes by folding one ballot inside another. This 20 was exceedingly common. Some of the ballots distributed to unsuspecting voters might also be forgeries that omitted the names of particular candidates. These candidates were usually 21. When such abuses became known to the public, demand grew for electoral reform that would produce a truly secret written ballot.



- 15 a) amounts b) systems
c) counties d) leaders
e) departments

- 16 a) serve b) pay
c) travel d) sign
e) speak

- 17 a) crowds b) articles
c) judges d) difficulties
e) committees

- 18 a) useful b) uniform
c) complete d) current
e) cheap

- 19 a) recalled b) trusted
c) threatened d) trained
e) mentioned

- 20 a) practice b) answer
c) opinion d) delay
e) division

- 21 a) respected b) fined
c) welcomed d) defeated
e) recognized

DRP Practice Test Answer Key

- 1. A**
- 2. D**
- 3. D**
- 4. A**
- 5. E**
- 6. B**
- 7. C**
- 8. D**
- 9. C**
- 10. A**
- 11. E**
- 12. B**
- 13. D**
- 14. C**
- 15. B**
- 16. E**
- 17. D**
- 18. B**
- 19. C**
- 20. A**
- 21. D**