

Wonderlic Study Guide



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ABOUT THE TEST

Wonderlic Inc. is an assessment company best known for its cognitive ability test. This test has been used for over 75 years, with 200 million administrations to date, and is considered one of the most widely used assessment tests.

The Wonderlic cognitive ability test assesses how well applicants follow instructions, work under pressure, and solve problems. There is a strong correlation between succeeding on this test and possessing good working/studying skills.

The test comes in two formats:

- The Quicktest – a short test (eight minutes long) comprised of 30 questions.
- The Full Test – a longer test (12 minutes long) comprised of 50 questions.

These two tests are similar and cover the same general topics. In addition, the techniques used for both these tests are the same.

WHAT IS ON THE TEST

1. Math Questions (approximately 40%)
2. Verbal Skills (approximately 40%)
3. Logic Questions (approximately 5–15%)
4. General Knowledge & Quick Recognition (approximately 5–15%)

IF YOU READ THIS GUIDE CAREFULLY, IN ADDITION TO THE COMPLETE WONDERLIC TEST STUDY GUIDE FOUND IN OUR WONDERLIC PREPPACK™, YOU WILL GAIN ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO SUCCEED ON THE WONDERLIC TEST.

Start Practicing Now

THE ELEMENT OF TIME

Each test is timed differently. The Quicktest is eight minutes long, while the full version of the Wonderlic is 12 minutes long. The time element was designed intentionally to pressure test takers, and **almost no examinees actually finish answering all the questions** in time.



Don't panic if you cannot finish the test in the allotted time; it would be abnormal if you could. Remember, you are not supposed to answer all of the questions. You should try your best to answer as many questions as possible and, more specifically, mark correct answers. It is preferable to correctly answer a few questions in the allotted time than to answer a lot of questions incorrectly.



Practice makes perfect, and we are offering you plenty of it. When using our tips and methods, you can rest assured your performance will improve.

THE TOPICS IN OUR COMPLETE STUDY GUIDE

MATH

- ✓ The last digit technique
- ✓ Complex fraction calculations
- ✓ Calculations with decimals
- ✓ Estimations
- ✓ Graphs
- ✓ Three-dimensional shapes
- ✓ Averages
- ✓ Percentages
- ✓ Number series
- ✓ Ordering
- ✓ Distance questions
- ✓ Rate problems

ENGLISH

- ✓ Which words are odd/meanings
- ✓ Analogies
- ✓ Sentence ordering
- ✓ Contradictions

UNIQUE TYPES OF QUESTIONS

- ✓ Logical reasoning
- ✓ Clerical
- ✓ General knowledge
- ✓ Shapes and patterns

MATH

Around 40% of the Wonderlic test is math-related. While advanced math skills are not required, mathematical thinking is. The difference between these two concepts is quite large. The things you will be asked to calculate are not challenging, but understanding what you should calculate is often difficult.

GENERAL TIPS AND TECHNIQUES:

While each type of question requires a different solving method, all of them share a similar technique.

1. Read the question first! Do not try to answer a question before reading it fully. This way you avoid unnecessary calculations and save a lot of time.
2. Understand what you are being asked. Sometimes people know how to solve a question but still answer it incorrectly. The mistake stems from confusion or from forgetting what exactly the question was asking for.
3. Unlike on the English section of the exam, here you do not need to read through all of the possible answer choices for a question. On the math section, when you find a correct answer, you can mark it and move on to the next question.

THE LAST DIGIT TECHNIQUE

Let's look at the following question:

A paper clip costs \$0.88. How much does a pack of six cost?

1. \$5.22
2. \$4.86
3. \$5.28
4. \$5.70

Although this calculation is not too complicated, you can save time by using the last digit technique:

The calculation you are required to do is $\$0.88 \times 6 = ?$

Because $8 \times 6 = 48$, you know the last digit of the answer is 8. Therefore, the correct answer is answer number 3.

USING ESTIMATIONS

Another technique you can use to avoid unnecessary calculations is estimations.

When confronted with a calculation that is relatively difficult, you can:

- Round up the numbers to figures that are more comfortable to work with.
- Estimate the expected answer.
- Rule out the unlikely answers, hopefully leaving only one option left.

Let's look at the following example to see how this works:

Larry invested a third of his \$6,216 earnings in the stock market. What was the size of his investment?

1. \$879
2. \$2,072
3. \$2,804
4. \$3,120

To avoid calculating $6,216/3$, you can round down 6,216 to 6,000, a relatively close number that is easier to work with. $6,000/3 = 2,000$. Since the original number was 6,216, you can estimate that the answer will be slightly above \$2,000.

Reviewing the options available, you can immediately rule out answers 1 & 4. Since answer 3 is too far from 2,000 to be in your estimation range, you can safely conclude that the correct answer is \$2072, answer number 2.

In this example, the answers were quite spread apart in size, making it easier for you to estimate. But what if the answers are much closer to each other?

You can take the estimation process a step further by splitting \$6,216 up into $6,000 + 216$.

216 is pretty close to 210, which you can divide by 3 quite easily:

$210/3 = 70$ (it is enough to remember from the multiplication table that $21/3 = 7$).

Thus, $6,000/3 = 2,000$, and $210/3 = 70$.

You can add them up to 2,070, and get an even more accurate estimation.

Our complete study guide includes many other types of questions and examples, as well as specific methods and techniques for solving math questions on the Wonderlic test. For additional free sample questions, access our free Wonderlic practice test!

Take a Free Wonderlic Test

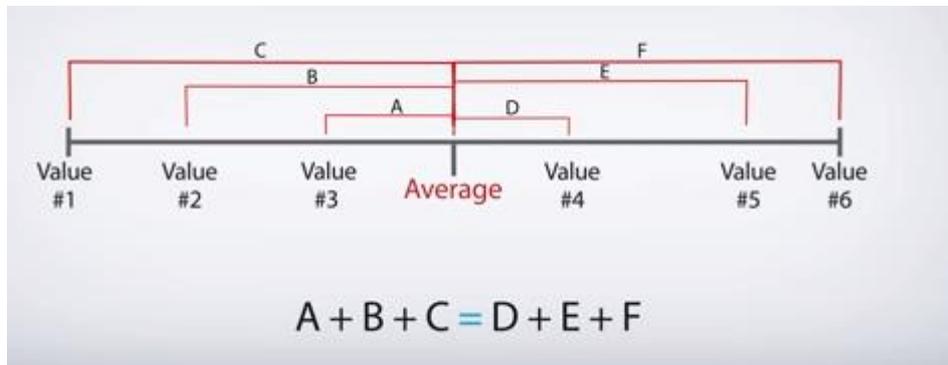
TYPES OF QUESTIONS AND SPECIFIC METHODS

GRAPHS

A small part of the exam consists of reading graphs. These questions are time-consuming and a little bit more difficult to understand. Thus, if you know that you do not excel on this type of question, it is recommended to skip these questions and focus on them at the end of the test/studying process.

AVERAGES

These types of questions ask you to find an average or a specific value that comprises it. An average is the sum of individuals' values divided by the number of individuals.



Finding an average is a three-step process:

1. Count the values.
2. Add the numbers together.
3. Divide the sum by the number of values.

For example:

Find the average of 103 and 147.

- A. 120
- B. 125
- C. 130
- D. 132
- E. 122

Solution:

1. Count the values – there are two numbers, 103 and 147.
2. Add the numbers together – $103 + 147 = 250$.

3. Divide the sum by the number of values – $250/2 = 125$.
4. The average is 125.

PERCENTAGES

Percentages are based on portions of a certain value. It may sound a bit frightening, but actually use percentages when you visit retail shops. When you try to calculate the discount you will receive when there is a 30% off sale, you are answering a percentage question.

To make your life easier, the following chart contains a breakdown of common percentages:

Fractions	Decimal	Percentages
1/100	0.01	1
1/10	0.1	10
1/8	0.125	12.5
1/5	0.20	20
1/4	0.25	25
1/3	~0.3333	~33.33
1/2	0.50	50
3/4	0.75	75
10/10	1	100

NUMBER SERIES

The number series questions asks you to identify the missing number/s in a sequence. To do so, you must deduce the logical rule behind a series of numbers.

These questions assess both your understanding of arithmetic and your logical skills.

ORDERING

"Ordering" is a common question type on the exam, and these questions are generally very easy to solve. An "ordering" question will present a series of numbers, and your task is to determine which is the largest or the smallest. In addition, there are questions about dates which ask you to spot the earliest date.

ENGLISH

A main part (approximately 40%) of the Wonderlic test assesses English skills. Skills such as vocabulary and grammar are acquired over the years and are hard to learn in a couple of weeks. You are expected to know many uncommon words, and Wonderlic does not provide a list of them. To help, our complete study guide offers you techniques to deal with words whose meanings you do not know.

General tips for this part of the test:

1. Use connotations to remember words. We assume part of your preparation for the test includes trying to acquire extra words and refresh your memory. To do this as efficiently as you can, use connotations to remember words. This method was experimentally tested and has proven to be successful. The brain creates a new connection between the neurons inside it and makes the memory stronger.
2. Do not stress out over words you do not know. This guide will provide you a method to solve questions without really knowing the words. Although some questions are unsolvable without knowing what the words mean, in these cases, you should just guess and not waste time!
3. Try to understand what roots means. Learn how to work with roots, as it will help you during the test.
4. Try to memorize the meaning of similar/contradictory roots that sound the same.
5. Learn the additional elements of words besides roots. Prefixes and suffixes are prevalent within this part of the exam, and learning how to "refine" the word will help you to avoid the extra time you may spend trying to think of what the prefix stands for.

WHICH WORDS ARE ODD/MEANINGS

This type of question may consist of identifying which words do not belong in a certain list, or identifying which words contradict each other and which words are similar. The answer choices may differ also, as well as the number of correct answers for each question. For example:

In the following set of words, which word is different from the others?

- (A) creek
- (B) spring
- (C) tributary
- (D) pond
- (E) pool

The correct answer is (E). Answer (E) is a man-made body of water, while all of the other answers occur naturally.

ANALOGIES

Analogies are a specific type of question on the test. Analogy questions present a typical format, followed by five different answer choices:

X is to Y as _____ is to Z.

Fins are to fish as _____ are to boats.

1. Nets
2. Sails
3. Wood
4. Decks
5. Sailors

To solve these types of questions, you must understand all the meanings of the words that appear in the question. To do so, you can use one of these two methods:

- A. Create a sentence with the first pair of words and apply it to the other pair.
- B. Think about the relationship between the words.

CONTRADICTIONS

Within the test, you will encounter a very specific type of question several times. These questions present two words and three different answer choices. Your main task is to determine the relation between the two words.

For example:

Commonly Communally

1. Do they have a similar meaning?
2. Do they contradict each other?
3. Neither similar nor contradictory

UNIQUE TYPES OF QUESTIONS

LOGICAL REASONING

Approximately 5–10% of the test consists of logic questions. In most cases, the questions will present two sentences and a conclusion. The question you will be asked is: "If the first two statements are correct, is the final statement true?"

The sentences should be considered as true regardless of their content. The final statement should be an assumption that can be based solely on the first two sentences.

For example:

"If the first two statements are correct, is the final statement true?"

All the chefs wear hats on the job

Alfred is not a chef

Alfred does not wear hat on the job

1. Yes
2. No
3. Uncertain

Answer:

The correct answer is (3), uncertain. You know that all the chefs wear hats, but you do not know if professionals who are not chefs wear them as well. Maybe Alfred works as an assistant to the chef and also has to wear a hat?

These logic questions are very diverse and include a lot of different types. Our complete study guide elaborates more on the different logic questions types that are found on the Wonderlic test, and it explains each question type with specific examples and solving tips.

CLERICAL

On this part of the test, you will encounter several pairs of words or combinations. You will be tasked with answering questions like, "Which of the following is an exact duplication of...?" or "How many exact duplications appeared on this list?"

A duplication means the exact same combination. Every slight change to the order of the characters (spelling, capitalization, etc.) will not be considered a duplication.

TESTIMONIALS



People Who Practiced for the Wonderlic Test with JobTestPrep Say:



It provides excellent material and practice tests for your final exam. By and large, 90% of questions on the real test are of the same type as those you practice in JobTestPrep's Wonderlic pack. I am highly satisfied and strongly recommend this product to prospective candidates appearing for job assessment tests. Good luck!

Mubasher
03/05/17



Great insights into process and goals, as well as helpful techniques to apply.

Len J.
03/31/17



Great resource for practice and study.

Kai C.
04/11/17

GOOD LUCK :)

For nine additional Wonderlic test simulations, in-depth answer explanations for every question, solving strategies, and a comprehensive Wonderlic study guide, access our full Wonderlic PrepPack™.

Get the Wonderlic PrepPack™

Studying for the Wonderlic test is essential to landing the job of your choice. Our practice packs are tailored to help you get your best score on whichever Wonderlic assessment you have been asked to take.

About Job Test Prep

PIONEERS IN JOB TEST PREPARATION

We are a group of 100+ educators, content experts, developers, and designers who are passionate about creating the right preparation packages for you to succeed. We are devoted to creating customized experiences so that you can practice with the most relevant and up-to-date materials online.

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