

Overview of the HCHS Entrance Examination & Directions

Welcome to the Hunter entrance exam. We know this is a very important day for you and we want to make sure that you feel totally prepared. Below are all the details you need to know about test day and the exam itself. To be at your best on the day of the exam, make sure you are calm and focused. We know that students perform best when they have had a healthy breakfast and a good night's sleep. Make sure you set yourself up for the best exam day possible. Good luck!

This Overview will explain the process of the Hunter College High School Entrance Exam, from the student perspective. For a full, detailed preview of two **HCHS SAMPLE EXAMS**, please visit the Hunter College High School website: www.hunterschools.org/hsadmissions

BEFORE THE EXAM STARTS

Everyone wants to get to the test on time, but stay relaxed. There is no advantage to being first on the line – all students already are assigned to a test room. **Make note of the check-in time on your admittance ticket – this is the time that you should be at your designated check-in location for the test.**

The temperature in test rooms may vary; you want to bring a light sweater or you may be comfortable in a t-shirt.

Only one of your parents/guardians should come with you on test day. Parents/Guardians will not be permitted to enter the test site with you and they will not be allowed to wait inside the building. Parents/Guardians may arrive at the pickup/dismissal location as early as 11:30 AM.

Once inside your testing building, you will be directed to the test room indicated on your admittance ticket.

If you have a cell phone (OR other electronic device) it must be turned off once your proctor has instructed you to do so. This is to ensure that there is no cheating and that the test is not interrupted.

Once seated, place your admittance ticket on your desk where the proctor can see it. Your candidates' Admissions 4-digit ID number is on the admittance ticket. **Remember the 4-digit ID number; you will need to record it on your test booklet cover and on the Writing Assignment pages as the Admission ID number.**

You will be given your test booklet and a "bubble" answer sheet. You will fill in your name and other information to prepare the answer sheet. Make sure to bubble in all the information correctly!

Then, the test will begin...

THE ENTRANCE EXAM

Throughout the test, the proctor will write the current time and how much time is remaining on the chalk board or dry erase board so that you can be aware of how much time you have left to complete the test. **You have three hours for the entire exam. You will not be told to stop until the end of the test.** Consider your own strengths and how much time you can allow yourself to spend on each section. You will need to monitor the time and pace yourself. **It is best if you do the exam in the order that the sections appear in the test booklet.**

Some students have asked if they can do the mathematics section before the Writing Assignment. We

have specifically placed the Writing Assignment after the reading passages and have designed the test to go in the order it was written. You may choose to do the exam in any order you wish, but **we strongly recommend that you follow the order that we have designed.**

The HCHS exam is designed to assess your learning. No one test can give a complete picture of your skills and knowledge, but the exam will provide a sample of your thinking, comprehension, creativity, and problem-solving ability.

The cover page of the test has spaces for you to write your name, your birth date, and the Admissions **4-digit ID** number that appears on your admittance ticket. The rest of the cover page will look *something* like this:

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL
EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION INTO THE CLASS OF 2030
Test Date: January 2024

This test contains three sections: **45** multiple-choice **English Language Arts** questions, a two-part **Writing Assignment**, and **30** multiple-choice **Mathematics** questions.

Each multiple choice question is followed by **five possible answers: A, B, C, D, or E**. Choose the best answer for each question. You may make marks in this test booklet; use the space between questions and the blank pages in your booklet for scrap paper. **Do not leave any questions unanswered. There is no penalty for guessing.**

On the answer sheet, carefully blacken the circle that contains the letter of the answer you select. Use only a Number 2 pencil for the multiple choice sections. If you wish to change an answer, carefully erase the wrong answer completely and mark your new answer. **As soon as you finish one section of the test, go on to the next section. Monitor the time the proctor writes on the board.**

Calculators and electronic devices are **not** permitted.

The topic of **the Writing Assignment is on page 18**. Scrap paper for the writing assignment is provided on page **19**. If you use the scrap paper, **be sure to copy your entire writing assignment onto page 20 and 21**. You do not need to include a title. You may use pen or pencil for the writing assignment.

You have a total of **three hours to complete the examination**, including the writing assignment.

If you complete the test before the time is up, you may review your previous work to correct for errors. Make sure that your answer sheet is accurately and cleanly prepared. Answers **must** be recorded on the answer sheet. Answers written in the test booklet will not be scored. **Do not leave any questions unanswered. There is no penalty for guessing.**

You may not remove any page from this test booklet or take papers from the test room.

The English Language Arts sections

In the Critical Reading section, your reading comprehension will be assessed. You will answer questions about specific reading passages to show your ability to understand, interpret, and analyze a number of types of writing.

When you are instructed to do so, you will turn to page 1 inside the booklet and look at this section of the test. The Critical Reading section contains five or six passages to read. There are multiple-choice questions after each passage.

It is important to manage your time: monitor your progress when the proctor makes a new time notation on the board. Answers must be recorded on the answer sheet. Answers written in the test booklet will not be scored, unless you have an approved accommodation allowing such. Do not leave any questions unanswered. There is no penalty for guessing.

The Writing Assignment section

You will write, depending on the topic, two essays, or autobiographical pieces, or a fictional pieces (two, one on each page) so that the testers can assess the originality, effectiveness, and use of vivid detail in your writing. In some years, we have offered a choice of topics; in other years, we have offered only one topic. There is scrap paper in the test booklet where you can jot down and outline thoughts, or compose a draft before writing the full assignment.

You will write the full assignment on the lined composition paper that is on a perforated page of the test booklet. (You will NOT receive extra paper to write the essay.) DO NOT separate the lined composition page from the booklet. The readers of your writing will read only what you have written on the two sides of the perforated page. **NOTE: You must complete the writing assignment in order to be considered for admission.** The Writing Assignment instructions will look *something* like:

Writing Assignment

- ✓ **Complete the Writing Assignment on the lined paper on page 19 and 20. Only pages 19 and 20 will be read by the evaluators.**
- ✓ **Do NOT detach the Writing Assignment from the test booklet.**
- ✓ **You do not need to include a title.**
- ✓ **You may use pen or pencil.**
- ✓ **Make sure that your Exam Booklet Number and Admissions ID Code are written clearly at the top of pages 19 and 20.**
- ✓ **Do NOT write your name on the Writing Assignment.**

When you complete the Writing Assignment, you will see the directions on the page to continue on to the Mathematics section.

The Mathematics section

This section tests your problem-solving ability. Students solve a variety of problems, including multi-step ones involving: estimation; computations with integer numbers (positive, negative and zero), fractions, decimals, and percent; rules of divisibility; rate; average; ratio; time; money; area of shaded regions; perimeter; counting; visual and numerical pattern recognition; and three-dimensional figures.

The Mathematics section is made up of 30 multiple choice questions, each of which is followed by **five possible answers: A, B, C, D, or E**. You will choose the best answer from the possibilities given for each question.

There is scrap paper and room to do your figuring in the test booklet, but answers must be recorded on the answer sheet. Answers written in the test booklet will not be scored. Take advantage of the space to test out your thinking. Extra paper and/or calculators **MAY NOT** be brought into the test room.

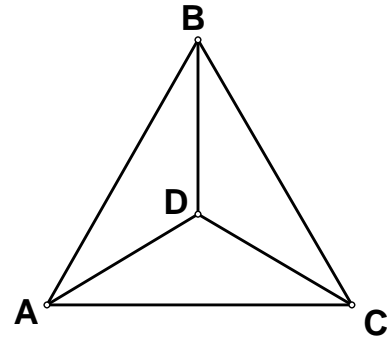
This introduction to the exam is too limited to show you all types of math items, but here are some examples to give you an idea:

MATHEMATICS

1. Which number is $1\frac{1}{6}$ times as large as 660?

- A) 666 B) 760 C) 766 D) 770 E) 776

2. Shawn takes a walk along the paths shown in the diagram to the right. He begins at point A and visits each of the points B, C and D exactly once, and then returns to point A. He does not walk along the same path twice. In how many ways can he complete his walk?



- A) 3 B) 6 C) 8 D) 9 E) 12

3. Ticket prices at the Pine City Zoo are as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	\$6
Saturday, Sunday	\$10
Wednesday	Free

During a certain week, 28,000 people visited the zoo. If the same number of people visited on each of the seven days, what was the total income from ticket sales?

- A) \$160,000 B) \$164,000 C) \$166,000 D) \$176,000 E) \$196,000

WHEN YOU FINISH THE EXAM

If you finish the exam and there is still time left during the testing session, it is a good idea to check your responses, and look over your writing assignment. When checking your answer sheet, make sure that you have erased any stray marks and clean up all places you have erased so that your answer sheet can be read correctly. Make sure that the answer you have bubbled in matches the answer you have selected for the question, but answers **must** be recorded on the answer sheet. Answers written in the test booklet will not be scored. **Again, do not leave any questions unanswered. There is no penalty for guessing.**

The proctor will give you the directions for the proper collection of the booklets and answer sheets. *You will not be permitted to take any papers away from the exam.*

The proctor will then give you the dismissal directions. Your parent or guardian has your pick-up location and will be there to meet you when you are done. It will be easy to find your parent at the dismissal location.

The exam is done! You should feel very proud of yourself – you have been a great student and you have done your best on a competitive exam. Though it seems like a long time to wait, you will hear back from Hunter soon. Until then, keep up the good work and give yourself hearty congratulations for making it through the Hunter test!