

How to Prepare for the Trimester 1 Skills Test on 11/6

Directions: Your Trimester 1 Skills Test will count for 50% of your overall grade in trimester 1. Below are skills you should use while answering questions related to the attached passage. Read and annotate on this article to prepare for the questions that follow. **Doing this will help you when you have to perform similar tasks on the test, but with a different article.** Mr. Hence will collect your article and questions on the day of the test.

How to help yourself on this article and its questions and prepare yourself for the test:

- Close read the article MULTIPLE times to become strongly familiar with the material.
- Fully understand the QAR strategy and apply it while answering questions.
- Know the 7 most commonly created analogies
- Understand the meaning of all unknown words/phrases (word gaps) with or without context clues (know the 5 types). Recognize and label any context clues of word gaps. No context clue?? Look it up!
- Make as many inferences as possible. Be prepared to explain your inferences.
- Be prepared to correctly create definition, synonym, or example context clues.
- Be prepared to summarize information from the text

Good luck in your preparation—I believe in you!

How to Prepare for the Trimester 1 Skills Test Passage 11/7

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Teens are missing out on real-world socializing

By USA Today, adapted by Newsela staff on 04.04.19

Word Count **881**

Level **1040L**



Nick Jonas and puppy co-star appear at Cigna's Health Improvement Tour at Evolve in March 2019 in Los Angeles, California. Photo: Rachel Luna/Getty Images for ABA

Spending time with friends online can lead to loneliness for teenagers. Even those who mix real-world socializing with social media are increasingly isolated, a new report shows.

Loneliness isn't just an age thing. It is generational, says the author of the study, Jean Twenge, a professor at San Diego State University in California. The percent of high school seniors who said they often felt lonely increased from 26 percent in 2012 to 39 percent in 2017.

The number of 12th-graders who said they often felt left out also increased, from 30 percent in 2012 to 38 percent in 2017.

The study was published in the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*. It uses surveys of 8.2 million U.S. adolescents between 1976 and 2017.

The topic of loneliness has gained an interest in health care because of its link to mental and physical health.

"Alone In Her Suffering"

Research last year from the insurer Cigna found that teens reported being loneliest. It was not clear whether that was due to age or being from a different generation.

"We find it is a generational difference, since loneliness increased among teens 2012 to 2017," Twenge says.

The increase in loneliness might come from how teens spend their time, Twenge says. They go out less compared with teens in earlier decades. Generation Z are less likely to "get together with friends in person, go to parties, go out with friends, date, ride in cars for fun, go to shopping malls, or go to the movies," she reported. People in Gen Z were born in 1995 or later.

Rebecca Agnello of Grand Island, New York, was "alone in her suffering" when she died by suicide in December 2015. She was 14. Her father, Rob, says there is no single cause that led his daughter to take her life, although he believes social media played a role.

"With social media, there's an appearance of having all this closeness, but we have a lot of time alone," he says.

For Rebecca, who had a good group of friends, "sitting with her phone and people not getting back to her" was painful, he says.

Doctors can help people who are considering suicide, but not everyone seeks help.

The Numbers Tell The Story

Below are additional numbers from Twenge's study.

In the late 1970s, 52 percent of 12th-graders said they got together with their friends almost every day. By 2017, only 28 percent did.

In 2017, teens got together with their friends 68 fewer times a year than they did in the early 1990s. High school seniors went out on dates 32 fewer times a year.

Generation Z 10th-graders went to approximately 17 fewer parties a year than Generation X 10th-graders did. Those in Gen X were born from 1965 to the late 1970s.

Musician Nick Jonas is a spokesman on the dangers of social isolation for Cigna. He said balancing diabetes with the challenges of his solo career several years ago was difficult but not as hard as it might have been. He recently resumed performing with his brothers.

"I was really lucky to have my brothers, my family and my touring family," said Jonas. "I never felt that sense of real loneliness."

"Social media is an incredibly powerful tool," Jonas says, but he notes "it can be isolating at times."

Online Activities Are A Distraction To Real Life

Today's high school seniors spend at least an hour less a day seeing friends in person than teens in the late 1980s.

Melissa Sporn, a McLean, Virginia, child psychologist, says this happens for two main reasons. First, overscheduling limits socializing. Second, parents put a lot of effort into protecting kids from

dangers outside, which leads to more inside time on computers and phones.

Online activities hit us twice, Sporn says. First, they are a distraction or substitution for real social interaction and then they represent "all the things we aren't doing and should be engaged in," she says.

Twenge says teens' isolation is not caused by more time spent on work or homework. The data show they spend less time on paid work and about the same time or less on homework and extracurricular activities as they did in the 1980s and 1990s.

Sporn disagrees. "Our students in high school are taking college classes and there is a significant uptick in the amount of homework our kids have, compared to just 15 years ago," she says.

Recalling The Old Times

Cigna's yearly well-being survey will report that U.S. millennials appear to prefer their smartphones and gaming over socializing with friends. Millennials are currently 25 to 34 years old.

Cigna's survey includes ways to connect more with other people. Agnello says that is needed. "Effort has to be made" to preserve social interaction, as there are drawbacks when it is "electronic assisted," he says.

"Social media can give us the impression that the lives of others are so good and can make us feel like we are missing out," Agnello says. He says there are many factors at work. "The emphasis these days seems to be more on achieving and accomplishing partly due to the demands of society rather than the time we used to have just to be children." There is more pressure now, he says.

Name#: _____ Block: _____

Trimester 1 Skills Test Prep (ACC)

Directions:

- a) Use the article "Teens are missing out on real-world socializing" to answer the following questions. You may also want to use your Reading Seminar notes to assist you in this activity.
- b) Before answering the questions you need to utilize the QAR strategy and properly code each question to help you address and respond to the questions properly. See codes below.
RT=Right There; TS=Think and Search; AM=Author and Me; OMO=On My Own

QAR Code:

_____ 1. (2 parts) What does the author mean in paragraph 2 when he says loneliness "is generational"? By just looking at the word, what is it's form and how do you know?

_____ 2. Circle which of the following would be best considered a context clue to understanding the meaning of "generational"?

- a) "Even those who mix real-world socializing with social media are increasingly isolated..."
- b) "Loneliness isn't just an age thing."
- c) "Spending time with friends online can lead to loneliness for teenagers."
- d) "It uses surveys of 8.2 million U.S. adolescents..."

_____ 3. What context clue does question #2's answer represent?

_____ 4a. Explain the difference in percentage between high school seniors who felt *lonely* in 2012 and those who felt *lonely* in 2017?

4b. Explain how using the correct QAR strategy helped you derive your answer for 4a.

_____ 5. What is the cause for the topic of loneliness gaining interest in health care?

_____ 6. Would "Generation Z" comprise you? Explain with evidence from the text.

_____ 7. Contrast Cigna's and Jean Twenge's findings as to the cause for teens reporting being loneliest.

_____ 8. When would someone need to have been born to be comprised in "Generation X"?

_____ 9. Imagine what would happen if Nick Jonas--Mr. Hence's favorite! ;-), didn't have his brothers, family, or touring family. Explain by using information from the text to help support your claim.

_____ 10. Would it be correct to infer that teens in 2017 were more social with their friends than teens in the '90s? Use evidence from the text to help support your claim.

_____ 11a. Read paragraphs 23 and 24 from the section "Online Activities Are A Distraction To Real Life." Circle which conclusion, or inference, is BEST supported by those paragraphs.

- a. The increase in teenager's social isolation might come from more than one cause.
- b. Teenagers' social isolation is partly the result of working fewer hours at a job with other people.
- c. Teenagers' social isolation has partly resulted from the amount of homework they have to do.
- d. The data on teenagers' activities clearly proves that their social isolation is decreasing.

11b. Explain the inference you chose for #11. Think of the inference response model and use paragraphs 23 and 24 to help support your answer.

_____ 12. How did social media affect teenager Rebecca Agnello?

_____ 13. Explain how social media has affected your life both positively and negatively. Provide real examples from your life to help support your claims. This question can be answered whether you participate in social media or not.

_____ 14. Show your understanding of the word “adolescent” as it’s used in paragraph 4 by using the word in a sentence along with a synonym context clue. Highlight or underline the context clue you create.

_____ 15. Summarize *all* the data (think numbers and stats) from Jean Twenge’s study that lead to her conclusions.

How Well Do You Understand Your Notes? Use your notes, if needed, to complete.

1. Label each QAR category as to the type of question it is:
 - a. Right There: _____
 - b. On My Own: _____
 - c. Author and Me: _____
 - d. Think and Search: _____



2. List the most commonly created analogies.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

3. Properly label each analogy below as to which type of analogy it is.

- a) drawstring : hoodie :: window : door _____
- b) epidemic : plague :: corroborate : prove _____
- c) beautician : sheers :: engineer : toolbox _____
- d) rebuke : praise :: reprimand : celebrate _____
- e) screwdriver : tool :: filter : pool _____
- f) bully : demeaning :: friend : supportive _____

4. Read the following sentences and infer the meaning of each bolded word by analyzing the context clue provided. Write the inferred meaning below **AND highlight the context clue in the sentence.**

- a) Fletcher Christian should have instilled some discipline into the sailors. Instead he had let them develop **slovenly** habits.

Inferred meaning:

- b) Bligh's **prudent** rationing of their very limited supplies of food and water kept the crew alive.

Inferred meaning:

5. List the 5 types of context clues:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____