

Questions and Answers about the ASVAB

Date of ASVAB: Oct. 5th Cohort A/ Juniors

Oct. 7th Cohort B/ Juniors

Seniors who sign up will test on 7th

Time/Place: 8:30 A.M. in the theater

1. *What is the ASVAB?*

The *Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery* (ASVAB) is a multi-aptitude test battery. It consists of 8 short individual tests covering Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Arithmetic Reasoning, Mathematics Knowledge, General Science, Auto and Shop Information, Mechanical Comprehension, Electronics Information. Not only do you receive scores on each of these *individual* tests, you also receive *composite* scores. Composite scores or Career Exploration Scores are the results of several individual tests combined to help students get a good sense of their verbal, math, and science and technical skills compared to other students in the same grade.

2. *Does it matter how well I score on the ASVAB?*

Yes, it does. The **ASVAB** test is a good mirror of how well you have developed your academic and occupational abilities at school, at home, and in the community. Your scores can qualify you for certain jobs and training in the Armed Forces and because the ASVAB assesses academic ability it can help predict your success in occupations in the public sector.

3. *What is an aptitude?*

Aptitude can be defined as capabilities that you have developed, so far, that indicate your readiness to become proficient in a certain type of activity, given the opportunity. This may refer to your capacities to learn *a particular type of work*, or your potential for *general training*. The **ASVAB** measures aptitudes that are related to success in different jobs.

4. *What is a career?*

A career involves becoming qualified for and successful in at least one definite kind of work. Most people start “becoming qualified” for a career while they are still quite young. Early aptitudes, interests, and behaviors are all strong influences on later career choices. Personality and skills start to take shape in childhood, and they will play a role in career selection as well. A *job*, on the other hand, is an agreement you have with an employer to carry out certain tasks for pay. Your *career* determines what kinds of jobs you are qualified for, seek, and accept.

5. *What is career exploration?*

In today’s world, where there are hundreds of careers to choose from, it’s a smart idea to spend some time looking closely at the options before you. The decisions you make can determine “what you are,” professionally speaking. To make a good decision—that is, an informed decision—you need facts. You will want information on the occupations themselves. You will want detailed descriptions that include the type of duties performed, education needed, chances for advancement, and working conditions. And you will want information on you as well—the other half of the equation. What do you

like? What do you do well? What work values do you want to satisfy? How much time and money are you willing to invest in education and training? What are your long-term goals?

6. ***Who administers the ASVAB?***

The **ASVAB** is administered in schools by specially trained test administrators from the Federal Government.

7. ***How long does the ASVAB take?***

ASVAB testing takes about three hours.

8. ***How can I prepare for the ASVAB?***

You don't have to go through any lengthy preparation to take the **ASVAB**. Getting a good night's rest and arriving on time to take the test are the two most important steps you can take to prepare. As with other tests, how hard you have studied and how much you have learned in school through the years will probably make the most difference in your results. **Your motivation to do well will result in better performance on the test as well.**

9. ***What can I expect on the day of the test?***

You will receive a test booklet containing 8 short tests. An **ASVAB** test administrator will give you instructions and tell you how long you have to complete each test. After the instructions, you will have a chance to try some practice questions before starting the test. Finally, you will have a chance to ask questions of the test administrator to make sure you know exactly how to complete the test.

10. ***When will I receive my ASVAB test scores?***

Your scores will be provided to you on a report called the **ASVAB Student Results Sheet**. This sheet provides you with information that will help you understand your **ASVAB** results and what they mean. You will be notified by the counselors' office or your advisor when your test scores are in.

If you have any further questions related to the ASVAB, please contact Mrs. Farmer in the Counselors' Office.