

# THE GEO-SAMPLER

Spelling tests. Drivers tests. IQ tests. Blood tests. Even those online compatibility tests that help you determine which pet is right for you. Somewhere along the line, testing got a bad name. This seems like a bit of a shame, really, since testing is a pretty important tool in today's society. And, as card-carrying members of the "I love tests" society, we'd like to do our best to return the term 'testing' to its properly revered place in our lexicon.

## ATTEST TO A TEST

First, we start by offering a shout-out to test-takers everywhere and share our excitement that March is "National FREE Practice Test Month." See, even if you're not in high school, you can feel like it all over again, thanks to a free practice SAT, ACT or PSAT available this month only via "Test Fest" at Princeton Review.com.

For all the rest of us, though, it's interesting to learn a little about all kinds of tests. We've done some studying on the topic, in case there's a test at the end of this newsletter, and come across a few pretty interesting test-imonials to testing.

IQ Testing first appeared on the scene in the early 1900s, when the French government asked psychologist Alfred Binet to help decide which students were most likely to experience difficulty in schools. Over the years, the Stanford-Binet intelligence test has undergone a few twists, but is credited with starting a multi-billion dollar industry. In fact, by 1974, according to the *Mental Measurements Yearbook*, 2,467 tests measuring some form of intellectual ability were in print and in 1989, the American Academy for the Advancement of Science listed the IQ test among the twenty most significant scientific discoveries of the century, along with nuclear fission, DNA and flight.

Another bit of assessment that has caused some controversy over the years is drug testing. Technically, a drug test is an analysis of a biological specimen —urine, hair, blood, sweat or saliva

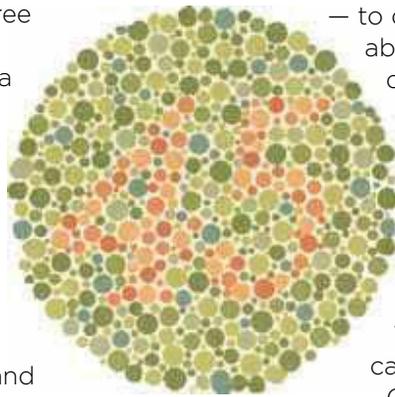
— to determine the presence or absence of specified parent drugs or their metabolites, particularly performance enhancing steroids in sport or illegal drugs. With that said, we can clear up a few urban myths about drug testing.

(1) It would require eating 100 poppyseed bagels to cause a failed drug test. (2) Consuming vinegar, while a tasty way to lower the pH of blood, has been proven an unreliable measure for beating a drug test. And (3), the highly successful Geotechnics Dodgeball team has never demonstrated positive test results for performance enhancing drugs.

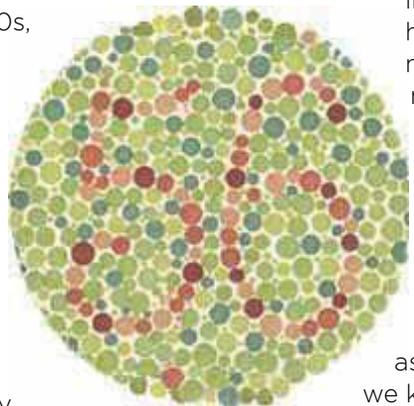
Here at Geotechnics, we've been fans of testing for decades. It's come to our attention that others may love testing just as much as we do. In fact, we know that you can take a

test online to determine just about anything, from assessing everything from your sleeping and sex live to personality traits to possible internet addiction.t.

If you're a fan of tests, visit [queendom.com](http://queendom.com). As for us, however, you'll find us in the lab, where every day is a test. And we like it that way.



The Ishihara color test, which consists of a series of pictures of colored spots and numbers, is the test most often used to diagnose red-green color deficiencies.



**If you lend someone \$20, and never see that person again; it was probably worth it.**



**After a cold winter, will deciduous trees be released?**

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was a nurse said, 'No change yet.'

What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway).

He didn't tell his mother that he ate some glue. His lips were sealed.

Those who throw dirt are sure to lose ground.

The harm caused by sibling rivalry is relative.

The primary responsibility for a child's education is apparent.

The little old woman who lived in a shoe wasn't the sole owner - there were strings attached.

I tried wrapping Christmas presents, but I didn't have the gift.

Last night, I kept dreaming that I had written Lord of the Rings. The wife said I'd been Tolkien in my sleep.

Need an ark to save two of every animal? I noah guy.

As a young boy, Brutus' mother often cautioned him not to run with Caesars.

Some children think that their parents are all no-ing.

If all of the women left the country there would be a stagnation.

Unborn twins are womb-mates.



# TEST-AMENT TO TESTS

These are actual answers from test papers and essays submitted to science and health teachers by junior high, high school, and college students around the world.

- “When you breath, you inspire. When you do not breath, you expire.”
- “To collect fumes of sulphur, hold a deacon over a flame in a test tube”
- “Nitrogen is not found in Ireland because it is not found in a free state”
- “Three kinds of blood vessels are arteries, vanes and caterpillars.”
- “Blood flows down one leg and up the other.”
- “The moon is a planet just like the earth, only it is even deader.”
- “Mushrooms always grow in damp places and so they look like umbrellas.”
- “The body consists of three parts- the brainium, the borax and the abominable cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abominable cavity contains the bowls, of which there are five - a, e, i, o, and u.”
- “Germinate: To become a naturalized German.”
- “Liter: A nest of young puppies.”
- “Momentum: What you give a person when they are going away.”
- “Vacumm: A large, empty space where the pope lives.”
- “Before giving a blood transfusion, find out if the blood is affirmative or negative.”
- “For a nosebleed: Put the nose much lower then the body until the heart stops.”
- “For dog bite: put the dog away for sevrsl days. If he has not recovered, then kill it.”
- “For asphyxiation: Apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead.”
- “Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun. But I have never been able to make out the numbers.”
- “To most people solutions mean finding the answers. But to chemists solutions are things that are still all mixed up.”
- “I am not sure how clouds get formed. But the clouds know how to do it, and that is the important thing.”
- “A monsoon is a French gentleman.”
- “Thunder is a rich source of loudness.”



## Shale, Shale, the gang's all here.

*Speaking of gas, the industry is abuzz with talks of Marcellus Shale. Geographically located in the heart of the region, Geotechnics is uniquely positioned to help firms with testing needs, whether in the lab or in the field. Let us know how we can help you make the most of your project. Just contact Randy O'Rourke at (412) 823-7600.*



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Pittsburgh – 544 Braddock Avenue • East Pittsburgh, PA 15112 • Phone (412) 823-7600 • [dbackstrom@geotechnics.net](mailto:dbackstrom@geotechnics.net) or [jpkline@geotechnics.net](mailto:jpkline@geotechnics.net)

Raleigh – 2200 Westinghouse Boulevard • Raleigh, NC 27604 • Phone (919) 876-0405 • [msmith@geotechnics.net](mailto:msmith@geotechnics.net)