



Police Officer

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Practice Questions

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1. What is the primary purpose of a law enforcement agency's code of conduct?

- A. To set clear standards for professional and ethical behavior
- B. To increase the number of arrests officers make each month
- C. To replace the need for formal training
- D. To guarantee promotions for senior officers

2. An officer's use of force must always be proportional to which of the following?

- A. The threat posed by the subject
- B. The officer's personal frustration
- C. The number of bystanders watching
- D. The officer's seniority on the force

3. A police shift logs 14 traffic stops in the morning and 9 in the afternoon. How many traffic stops were logged in total?

- A. 21
- B. 25
- C. 23
- D. 5

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4. When giving a suspect description, which detail is generally considered the MOST reliable because it changes least over time?

- A. Approximate height and build
- B. Clothing color
- C. Hairstyle
- D. Type of hat worn



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5. Passage: 'The grant funded body cameras, but training on their use lagged a full year behind deployment, so footage was often missing or misfiled during that gap.' The best paraphrase is:

- A. Cameras worked perfectly from day one
- B. Cameras were deployed before training caught up, causing footage problems for a year
- C. No cameras were ever bought
- D. Training came before the cameras

6. All officers carry a badge. John is an officer. Which conclusion must be true?

- A. John carries a badge
- B. John is a sergeant
- C. Everyone with a badge is John
- D. Only officers carry badges

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7. Choose the sentence with correct subject-verb agreement.

- A. The officers was searching the vehicle.
- B. The officers is searching the vehicle.
- C. The officers were searching the vehicle.
- D. The officers be searching the vehicle.

8. On a standard map, which direction is at the top?

- A. North
- B. South
- C. East
- D. West

9. An officer's badge and uniform primarily represent which of the following?

- A. Personal authority to act however the officer sees fit
- B. A public trust to serve and protect the community impartially
- C. Permission to ignore agency policy when convenient
- D. Ownership of the streets the officer patrols

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10. Before escalating force, an officer should, when feasible, first attempt to:

- A. Use verbal commands and de-escalation
- B. Draw a firearm immediately
- C. Call for a K-9 unit
- D. Handcuff all bystanders

11. A precinct had 48 patrol cars. If 13 are out for maintenance, how many remain available?

- A. 61
- B. 31
- C. 35
- D. 45

12. A good physical suspect description should be given in what general order to be most useful to responding officers?

- A. Random details as remembered
- B. From general to specific (e.g., sex, race, age, then details)
- C. From the feet upward
- D. Only the most unusual feature first

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13. Passage 1 praises strict enforcement of minor offenses; Passage 2 warns it erodes community trust. Both passages are concerned with:

- A. Uniform design
- B. Vehicle maintenance
- C. How enforcement choices affect the community
- D. Radio frequencies

14. No cats are dogs. All tabbies are cats. Which conclusion follows?

- A. No tabbies are dogs
- B. Some tabbies are dogs
- C. All dogs are tabbies
- D. Some dogs are cats



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15. Which sentence is correct?

- A. The evidence point to the suspect.
- B. The evidence are pointing to the suspect.
- C. The evidence points to the suspect.
- D. The evidence were pointing to the suspect.

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16. An officer driving north makes a left turn. Which direction is the patrol car now traveling?

- A. East
- B. West
- C. South
- D. North

17. Integrity in policing is best defined as:

- A. Always agreeing with your partner
- B. Never writing reports
- C. Doing the right thing even when no one is watching
- D. Avoiding all paperwork

18. De-escalation techniques are primarily designed to:

- A. Reduce the intensity of a conflict without force
- B. Increase the speed of an arrest
- C. Intimidate suspects into confessing
- D. Avoid writing reports

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19. An officer writes 6 reports per day. How many reports does the officer write in a 7-day week?

- A. 13
- B. 36
- C. 42
- D. 48



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20. Effective observation while on patrol primarily requires an officer to:

- A. Stare fixedly at one point
- B. Rely only on dispatch information
- C. Actively scan and notice changes from the normal pattern
- D. Keep eyes on the patrol vehicle dashboard

21. Which sentence mixes a fact with an unsupported opinion presented as if it were fact?

- A. The car was blue.
- B. The meeting is at 3 p.m.
- C. Traffic stops rose 10% and therefore officers are obviously harassing drivers.
- D. Two officers responded.

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22. If it rains, the parade is cancelled. The parade was NOT cancelled. What follows?

- A. It did not rain
- B. It rained
- C. The parade was rescheduled
- D. It will rain tomorrow

23. Choose the correct sentence.

- A. The dog bark at the suspect.
- B. The dog barking at the suspect.
- C. The dog barks at the suspect.
- D. The dog bark's at the suspect.

24. An officer leaves the station heading east, then returns by the exact same route in reverse. In which direction does the officer travel on the return trip?

- A. North
- B. East
- C. West
- D. South

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25. An officer is offered a free coffee by a shop owner who says 'we appreciate what you do.' The most cautious, integrity-based concern is that:

- A. The coffee may be cold
- B. The officer is not thirsty
- C. It violates traffic law
- D. Accepting gratuities can create an appearance of favoritism or obligation

26. Creating 'time and distance' during a tense encounter helps an officer to:

- A. Slow the situation down and consider options
- B. Provoke the suspect into acting
- C. Avoid calling for backup
- D. Skip de-escalation entirely

27. A class of 36 recruits is split evenly into 4 training squads. How many recruits are in each squad?

- A. 8
- B. 10
- C. 9
- D. 12

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28. An officer notices a parked car with its engine running, lights off, at 3 a.m. behind a closed store. This is an example of detecting:

- A. A normal condition
- B. An unrelated event
- C. A traffic violation only
- D. An anomaly worth further attention

29. In the sentence 'The officer wrote 12 citations, and clearly she is the best on the force,' which part is opinion?

- A. The officer wrote citations
- B. She is the best on the force
- C. She wrote 12 of them
- D. She is an officer



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30. If a suspect flees, an alarm sounds. The alarm sounded. Which is a logically valid conclusion?

- A. The alarm may have sounded for another reason
- B. The suspect definitely fled
- C. The suspect definitely did not flee
- D. No conclusion about flight is possible only if alarm is silent



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. A — To set clear standards for professional and ethical behavior

A code of conduct establishes uniform standards of ethical and professional behavior so officers know what is expected and the public can hold them accountable.

2. A — The threat posed by the subject

Force must be objectively reasonable and proportional to the threat the subject poses, judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on scene.

3. C — 23

Add the two amounts: $14 + 9 = 23$ traffic stops.

4. A — Approximate height and build

Clothing and accessories can be changed quickly, but a person's height and general build are stable physical traits, making them more dependable description elements.

5. B — Cameras were deployed before training caught up, causing footage problems for a year

The paraphrase keeps the sequence (deployment before training) and the result (a year of footage problems).

6. A — John carries a badge

From 'all officers carry a badge' and 'John is an officer', it necessarily follows that John carries a badge. The other options add information not given.

7. C — The officers were searching the vehicle.

The plural subject 'officers' requires the plural verb 'were.' 'Was,' 'is,' and 'be' do not agree with a plural subject.

8. A — North

By cartographic convention the top of a map points north, with south at the bottom, east on the right, and west on the left.

9. B — A public trust to serve and protect the community impartially

The badge symbolizes a public trust; officers exercise authority on behalf of the community, not for personal benefit.

10. A — Use verbal commands and de-escalation

When time and safety permit, verbal commands and de-escalation should precede physical force to resolve situations with the least force necessary.

11. C — 35

Subtract the cars in maintenance: $48 - 13 = 35$ cars remain.

12. B — From general to specific (e.g., sex, race, age, then details)

Structured descriptions start broad (sex, race, age, height, build) and move to specifics, so officers can quickly



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narrow down and identify a person.

13. C — How enforcement choices affect the community

Both discuss enforcement strategy and its community impact, even though they reach opposite conclusions.

14. A — No tabbies are dogs

Since all tabbies are cats and no cats are dogs, no tabbies can be dogs. This is a valid categorical syllogism.

15. C — The evidence points to the suspect.

'Evidence' is an uncountable singular noun, so it takes the singular verb 'points.'

16. B — West

When traveling north, a left turn points the vehicle west.

17. C — Doing the right thing even when no one is watching

Integrity means consistently acting ethically and honestly regardless of supervision or chance of being caught.

18. A — Reduce the intensity of a conflict without force

De-escalation aims to calm a situation and reduce the likelihood that force will be necessary, protecting both officers and the public.

19. C — 42

Multiply reports per day by days: $6 \times 7 = 42$ reports.

20. C — Actively scan and notice changes from the normal pattern

Good observation is the active habit of scanning the environment and detecting what is out of place or has changed, rather than passive looking.

21. C — Traffic stops rose 10% and therefore officers are obviously harassing drivers.

A 10% rise is factual, but 'obviously harassing drivers' is an unsupported opinion stated as if proven by the number.

22. A — It did not rain

This is modus tollens: if rain implies cancellation and there was no cancellation, then it did not rain.

23. C — The dog barks at the suspect.

The singular subject 'dog' takes the singular verb 'barks.'

24. C — West

Reversing a route reverses every heading; an outbound east trip becomes a westbound return.

25. D — Accepting gratuities can create an appearance of favoritism or obligation

Even small gratuities can create an expectation of special treatment or the appearance of impropriety, which is why many agencies prohibit accepting them.

26. A — Slow the situation down and consider options

Time and distance reduce immediate pressure, giving the officer room to think, communicate, and request resources before force becomes necessary.

27. C — 9

Divide the total by the number of squads: $36 / 4 = 9$ recruits per squad.



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28. D — An anomaly worth further attention

Recognizing what departs from the expected pattern of a place and time is the core of observational policing and prompts further investigation.

29. B — She is the best on the force

'Best on the force' is a subjective judgment; the citation count is a fact.

30. A — The alarm may have sounded for another reason

Affirming the consequent is invalid: the alarm sounding does not prove the suspect fled, since the alarm could have other causes.



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