

# Placement Tests

## Reading Sample & Questions

During testing you will have **32 minutes** to answer questions after reading several passages. Following is a sample reading passage and associated questions.

Answer the questions about the following passage.

Local governments were our first governments. The primitive tribe that chose the strongest man to be its chief and the oldest men to form a council was establishing local government. It was seeking a better, safer life.

In the same way, the first English settlers who landed at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607 soon realized that they needed rules and leaders. At first, the settlers searched for gold, and had to find their own food and provide their own shelter. As food supplies began to run low, and as the colonists faced hunger and disease, they saw that they needed to work together if the colony was to survive. The colonists formed a council to make laws for the colony. They chose Captain John Smith as president of the council to see that the laws were carried out. This government at Jamestown was the first local government in America.

Today, local government is still the first and most important government in our lives. It protects our lives, our safety, and our homes, and it helps to keep our environment clean. Local government provides us with schools, libraries, and other important services.

1. The first colonial government was

1. tribal.
2. city.
3. county.
4. local.
5. federal.

2. The Jamestown colonists formed a government because of

- a. pride.
- b. greed.
- c. necessity.
- d. togetherness.
- e. public spirit.

3. The best title for this selection would be

- a. John Smith.
- b. The First Government.
- c. Jamestown.
- d. Local Government.
- e. American Government.

4. The overall goal of local government seems to be public

- a. regulation.
- b. wealth.
- c. growth.
- d. welfare.
- e. protection.

**ANSWERS:**

1. d

2. c

3. b

4. e