



VANCOUVER ISLAND
UNIVERSITY

Assessment Preparation Guide: English Component

This handout is intended to give you an *overview* of how the assessment is set up. It is *not* a review of the topics covered in the assessment. A preparation package for your specific program can be purchased at the bookstore. Go over the material on your own. If you want some help, make notes of areas of difficulty and contact Student Services (250-746-3509) to discuss assessment preparation support.

The Program Assessment

Be sure to read the program assessment *information sheet* that you may have received from the Student Services department and that is also included in the *assessment preparation package* available for purchase at the Bookstore.

For some health programs, such as the Health Care Assistant, a section on familiarity with basic health care terminology is also included. You will be asked to provide short answers on your understanding of such terms as *pediatrician* and *ambulatory care*. A page is included in the preparation package to help you prepare for this section of the assessment.

Tips for Answering Multiple Choice Questions

Multiple-choice questions can be confusing if you are not used to the format, so be sure to read the *questions* very carefully.

- Remember that your task is to choose the *best* answer, even if it seems to you that more than one answer *could* be correct.
- Don't *assume* that your first choice is the best choice; these questions can be tricky! Use critical thinking skills to figure out which is the best choice.
- Look carefully at how the choices *differ* from one another. Make deliberate decisions: A is not the right choice because _____. B is not the right choice because _____. C is the right choice because _____. D is not the right choice because _____.
- Notice the use of *negatives* (no, not, never) as in the second question on the next page. For this question, you need to know what a mammal *is* (a creature that gives live birth) and also what a mammal is *not* (mammals do not fly).
- Notice the use of *punctuation*, as in the first question on the next page; it can provide a clue if you know the rules. Review the rules in your preparation package.

(Continued on page 2)

These are examples of the types of multiple choice questions you may encounter on the assessment:

Completion: Choose from a list of four to fill in the blank.

- Exercise is an important part of a healthy lifestyle; _____, many people do not have a regular exercise routine.
 - a. but
 - b. and
 - c. however
 - d. therefore

Questions: Choose the answer to a question from a list of four choices.

- Which of the following animals is not a mammal?
 - a. porcupine
 - b. whale
 - c. eagle
 - d. cougar

Choices: Four options are given, and you are to choose the best one.

- Choose the word that is spelled correctly and completes the sentence.

The athlete works out _____ at the gym.

- a. regularly
 - b. regularly
 - c. regularlly
 - d. regulerly
- In the reading selection, the child started crying because
 - a. her mother left her alone in the store.
 - b. she saw a clown.
 - c. she was tired.
 - d. she wanted a treat.
 - Select the best title for the paragraph:
 - a. Dieting Myths
 - b. Dieting Truths
 - c. Myths and Truths About Dieting
 - d. Dieting
 - Choose the sentence that is complete and written correctly.
 - a. James Smith, a journalist from Toronto, Ontario, covered the news story about the terrorist attack and winning an award for it.
 - b. Watching the eagle soar overhead, the child lost her balance and fell backwards.
 - c. Last night, the mayor of the small town calls a news conference to discuss the concerns of the press about a leak of confidentiality.
 - d. Bundled up in a snowsuit and winter boots, the infant who was warm and cozy.