2013 Admissions Test

1. NEWS ANALYSIS (35-45 MINUTES)
2. END NEWS ANALYSIS
3. NEWS WRITING DRILL (20-25 MINUTES)
4. END NEWS WRITING DRILL
5. GRAMMAR, USAGE and STRUCTURE (10-15 MINUTES)
6. END GRAMMAR, USAGE and STRUCTURE

Name *

First
Last

Date *

01 / 04 / 2013

2013 IA. NEWS ANALYSIS (35-45 MINUTES)
Write a news analysis of 400 words or fewer on ONE of the following five topics. Aim for a factual, editorial-style piece or an expository essay; use specific examples to add strength to your piece.

FORMAT: Please indicate which question you have chosen. You are not allowed to use spelling or grammar check software on the computer. If you do, your test and application for admission will be voided.

TIME: You should spend a maximum of 45 minutes on this section; it is suggested that you spend the first five to ten minutes outlining the analysis, and the last five editing it.

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ESSAY QUESTIONS:

1. Explain the similarities and differences between the Tea Party movement and the Occupy Wall Street protestors.

2. Will the "Arab Spring" bring beneficial changes to Egypt? Explain why or why not?

3. Should major newspapers keep their online editions free of charge? Or should they institute some sort of pay-for-content system? Discuss the pros and cons. Provide any relevant examples.

4. In seeking the Republican nomination for President, Rick Perry has proposed a "flat tax." What is it? Explain why you think it's a good idea or a bad idea.

Your News Analysis *
2013 IB. NEWS WRITING DRILL (20–25 MINUTES)

Here are some notes gathered from interviews with several sources. Use them to write a short news story of approximately 250 words.

You are not allowed to use spelling or grammar check software on your computer. If you do, your test and application for admission will be voided.

It is recommended that you allot 20 - 25 minutes to work on this section.

Interview Notes:

• Tyreece Feldman was pronounced dead Tuesday morning by a medical team located on the prison grounds.

• Tyreece's older sister is Lillie Mae Feldman. She said her brother was a "good kid who never hurt nobody." He was in prison, she said, because he sold "a little weed."

• He was incarcerated at Rikers Island while awaiting sentencing on a drug possession charge, said Department of Corrections spokesman Dave Smith.

• Tyreece had dropped out of high school in 10th grade, his sister said. He was 23.

• Tyreece had been unable to receive medication for some emotional issues and had struggled with school, Ms. Feldman said.

• Feldman was supposed to be in the prison’s mental observation unit, not in the general population with violent offenders, according to his lawyer, Isaiah Berlin. “What comes as much as a surprise as his death is where he was killed,” Berlin said.

• Feldman was pronounced dead at 9:30 am, according to Smith. An autopsy has been ordered.

• A spokesman for the Bronx district attorney’s office said that the lawyers on Feldman’s case had hammer out a deal in which Feldman was going to be sentenced into a drug rehab program instead of serving time.

• The NYC Police Department is investigating charges from a fellow inmate that Feldman was beaten to death by a group of nine gang members who served as enforcers of discipline in the prison unit where Feldman was housed.

• Correction officers responded to the fight immediately, but they had left the personal alarms issued to all officers in their security lockers, according to Smith.
• Karl Popper, a representative from the New York City Correction Officers Benevolent Association, said the two officers who responded were being treated for injuries incurred when they tried to break up the fight.

• Corrections officers are not armed with firearms.

• Feldman’s sister said Tyreece was always helpful around the house, doing chores and cooking for the extended family, which included his sister and her four children, plus three nephews, a niece, a cousin and an aunt.

• Mr. Feldman had faced minor drug and trespass charges previously, but had never served time, Smith confirmed.

• The sentencing was to take place in nine days.

Berlin said he had heard that the inmate who witnessed the fight told investigators gang members had descended on Feldman “like a pack of wolves.”

• “He was great with the kids, always doting on them,” Ms. Feldman said.

• It took 10 minutes after the first two officers responded for additional help to arrive and for the fight to be brought under control. The union said the incident reinforces its position that corrections officers need to be armed to be more effective.

News Writing Drill *

Maximum Allowed: 250 words. Currently Used: 0 words.
2013 Admissions Test

2013 IIA. GRAMMAR, USAGE and STRUCTURE (10–15 MINUTES)
Select the right answer for correctness and clarity. You will have 15 minutes to complete this section.

Choose the correct option for grammatical correctness and clarity

1. The group met at (its, their) favorite restaurant.
   - ○ its
   - ○ their

2. It was (Jack, Jack's) and John's idea.
   - ○ Jack's
   - ○ Jack

3. That was (him, he) who spoke at last night's forum.
   - ○ him
   - ○ he

4. She feels (badly, bad) about your troubles.
   - ○ bad
   - ○ badly

5. Sam took my brother and (I, me) to the movies.
   - ○ I
   - ○ me

6. The misunderstanding (affected, effected) their relationship.
   - ○ effected
   - ○ affected
7. The company insisted that (their, its, it's) stock was sound. *
   o its
   o their
   o it's

8. If I (was, were) in charge, things would be done better. *
   o were
   o was

9. The (womens', women's) choir is the best in the Northeast. *
   o womens'
   o women's

10. She is (president, President) of the glee club. *
    o President
    o president

11. Neither Jack nor Jill (have, has) gone up the hill. *
    o have
    o has

12. I'm going to (lie, lay) down for a nap. *
    o lie
    o lay

13. She is a person (that, who) never forgets. *
    o that
    o who

14. He's the candidate (who's, whose) work stood out. *
    o whose
    o who's

15. She voted "no," because the bill went against her (principals, principles). *
    o principles
    o principals

Choose whether the sentence is correctly or incorrectly structured.
16. Walking down the beach, the sun burned her badly. *
   ○ Correct
   ○ Incorrect

17. The boy yelled at the dog that barked at the cat that chased the parakeet. *
   ○ Correct
   ○ Incorrect

18. He spent his vacation reading, drawing and on a cruise. *
   ○ Correct
   ○ Incorrect

19. Ted studied all night, he wants to do well. *
   ○ Correct
   ○ Incorrect

20. The apartment was available, but it was too expensive. *
   ○ Correct
   ○ Incorrect
2013 Admissions Test

2013 IIB. NEWS ID TEST
IDENTIFY THE FOLLOWING. EXPLAIN WHY THEY'RE IN THE NEWS. NOTE: 256 CHARACTERS MAX.

1. West Bank settlements

2. John Boehner

3. Tim Cook

4. Herman Cain

5. Amy Winehouse

6. Tahrir Square

7. Drones

8. Vladimir Putin

9. Tablet computers

10. Ben Bernanke
11. Muammar Qaddafi

12. Mark Zuckerberg

13. Mitt Romney

14. Angela Merkel

15. Clarence Thomas

16. Tumblr

17. Kim Kardashian

18. Joe Paterno

19. Chris Christie

20. Greece