

PREPARING FOR THE PPST

1. Take the PPST practice test given during DED 075 Orientation to Teacher Education at KSU as instructed.
2. Go to www.ets.org/praxis. Click on “Test Preparation” for information about Test at a Glance (TAAG). This section provides the most up-to-date information to assist test takers in selecting the correct information for the test they need to take. The PPST is referred to as the Praxis I test.
Other resources:
3. *Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Test Preparation Guide* (Cliff Notes) or
4. *The Best Test Preparation for the Praxis I PPST* (Research & Education Association) at the Union Bookstore or Varney’s Bookstore. Study the “Introduction,” “Analysis of Exam Areas,” “Mathematics Review,” and “Selective Review of Grammar and Usage” sections in the book.
5. *Cracking the Praxis - contains drills, explanations, test-taking strategies for the PPST, and practice exams
6. *The Praxis Series Study Guide PPST Pre-Professional Skills Tests: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics (published by Educational Testing Services [ETS], the company that makes the PPST)

**indicates resource is on reserve at Hale Library*

Online resources:

The Praxis Series Official Guide, Second Edition – e/book - \$19.95

Praxis I Study Plan on Demand 90 Day Subscription – \$15.95

Praxis I Reading Study Guide – ebook \$22.95 (focuses on reading test only)

Go to the Praxis website at www.ets.org/praxis for ordering information on all three resources.

If you feel you are weak in any of the areas that the PPST evaluates, or if you have failed one or more of the PPST sections, prepare by using the appropriate procedures given below.

READING

1. *Understanding the Main Idea, *Making Inferences, *Recognizing Tone (all from Jamestown Publishers)
2. *Verbal Review for Standardized Tests (Cliff Notes) (parts II and V apply)
3. Read for 30 minutes every day. As in other endeavors, practice leads to improvement.
4. PPST Reading Online Tutorial, Six Month Subscription - \$39.95 Go to the Praxis website at www.ets.org/praxis for ordering information.

WRITING

1. *Verbal Review for Standardized Tests (Cliff Notes) (parts II and V apply)
2. English Department’s Writing Center – Students can sign up for a thirty-minute walk-in appointment. The available times for walk-in appointments are posted on the bulletin board in the Writing Center (English/Counseling Services Building 122D) and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Each Friday morning that department posts the walk-in times for the following week. Students should stop by on Friday or early the next week to sign up for an appointment. As the semester progresses, these times fill up quickly, so you should plan ahead. Students are limited to one walk-in appointment per week. For more information, contact: Deborah Murray, Writing Center Director, English/Counseling Services Building 122E 532-2179, debom@ksu.edu
3. PPST Writing Online Tutorial, Six Month Subscription - \$39.95 Go to the Praxis website at www.ets.org/praxis for ordering information.

MATH

1. **Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach* (by Aufmann/Barker)
Many problems on the PPST involve fractions, decimals, ratios, and proportions, percents, statistics, and rational numbers. Concentrate on these chapters. You may also want to review the chapters in algebra and geometry.
Take the chapter test for each chapter and score your results to determine weaknesses.

**indicates resource is on reserve at Hale Library*

KSU Counseling Services

Information about test stress and anxiety can be found on the KSU Counseling Services Web Page www.ksu.edu/counseling/. Go to <http://www.k-state.edu/counseling/topics/stress/stresgen.html> for specific topics.

Students wishing to take advantage of individual appointments regarding stress issues can call Counseling Services at 532-6927. Enrolled students may receive up to 4 counseling sessions per fiscal year (July 1-June 30) at no charge.

The Praxis Series Information Bulletin - <http://www.ets.org/praxis/about/bulletin/> Go to this website and click on

Reducing Test Anxiety under “Booklets.” This booklet can help you understand the nature of your anxiety and ways to deal with test stress and anxiety.

For further information, contact Linda Rawdon (or your advisor), Center for Student and Professional Services, College of Education, Bluemont Hall 013, (785) 532-5524 or lindar@ksu.edu.

The following websites can also be helpful for skill improvement:

<http://www.purplemath.com/> Click on “How do you really do this stuff?” and you will find a list of basic math skills and beginning algebra skills through advanced algebra. The discussion of each subject matter includes problems with detailed explanations and practice. This is an excellent site for practice, review, and remediation.

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/> This site is recommended on the K-State English Department’s Writing Center web page. It contains basic essay writing instruction and explanation. The link entitled “Symptoms and Cures for Writer’s Block” could be helpful for students who experience this difficulty. The “symptom” and “possible cures” format is easy to read and informative.

<http://www.k-state.edu/english/links.html> Many helpful sites are included on this page. For example, Jack Lynch’s “Getting an A on an English Paper” explains guidelines that could be helpful in almost any essay-writing situation, including the PPST. In addition, the “Guide to Grammar and Style” has a quick-reference to specific grammar, vocabulary, and usage questions.

<http://coe.k-state.edu/> Click on “Learning Express Library.” This site will provide two PPST practice tests, the first of which will be used in the orientation class DED 075. If you are weak in any of the three tested areas, you can also find skill building instruction, practice, and testing in writing skills, reading comprehension, and math. These tests and exercises start as far back as middle school level through high school and advanced math.

Various publishing companies not mentioned on this sheet have study resources for the PPST that vary in approach and price. Don’t hesitate to search for a resource that suits your individual learning style and wallet.