

Sample Questions

Punctuation

The famous governor never thought he would be subjected to such humiliating pranks, however, someone thought otherwise and threw a pie at the governor.

- A. Correct
- B. The famous governor never thought he would be subjected to such humiliating pranks, however, someone thought **otherwise, and threw** a pie at the governor.
- C. The famous governor never thought he would be subject to such humiliating **pranks; however,** someone thought otherwise and threw a pie at the governor.
- D. The famous governor never thought he would be subjected to such humiliating pranks **but,** someone thought otherwise and threw a pie at the governor.

Diction

The brightly colored beach towel was _____ on the sandy beach.

- A. Laying
- B. Lying

The _____ of old books I will need for school this semester is incredible.

- A. Number
- B. Amount

Answers: d (subject/verb agreement), b (pronoun/antecedent agreement); c (comma splice); b, a (diction)

HOURS & LOCATION

Hours and Location

The ALPHA Center is located in Nazareth Hall, room N4012. When day-school classes are in session, our testing hours are as follows:

* Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(The ALPHA Center closes daily during chapel)

*Summer and holiday hours vary.



ALPHA CONTACTS

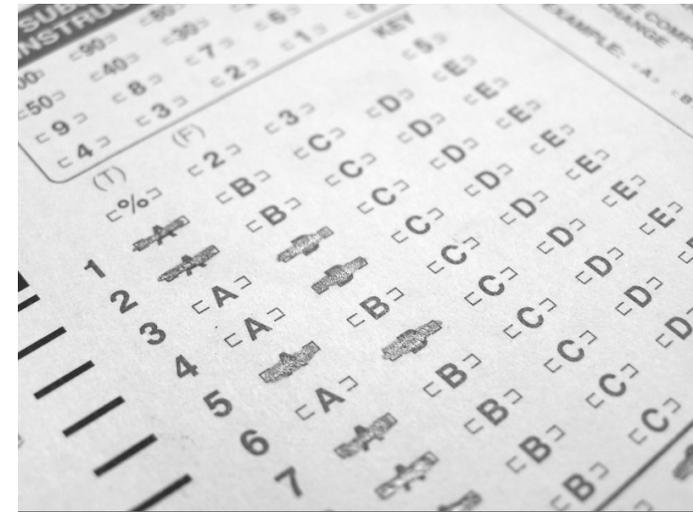
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**UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHWESTERN**
ST. PAUL



**The Editing
Competency
Exam**

Frequently Asked Questions about the ECE:

What is the ECE?

The ECE is an assessment tool which the English Department uses to measure the students' grammar comprehension. It is a 75-question, multiple-choice exam covering three specific aspects of writing: usage, punctuation, and diction. To pass the test, you must answer 56 out of the 75 questions correctly (75%).

Why do I need to take the ECE?

The most common reason students need to take the ECE is to be able to register for English Composition II (ENG2205)—a requirement for graduation. Other reasons include registering for any course containing a writing concentration emphasis, getting into the Teacher Education Program, or taking any upper-level literature or English courses.

Where and when can I take the ECE?

If you are a registered student, you can take the ECE in the ALPHA Center whenever it is open. Make sure you bring a photo ID, know your school ID number, and allow yourself 1-2 hours to take the exam. During the school year, the ECE can be taken any weekday from 8 am to 8 pm (4:30 on Fridays), except during chapel. Summer hours can be found online.

Do I have to make an appointment to take the ECE?

The only time an appointment needs to be scheduled is if you need the quiet room.

What happens if I fail the ECE?

Students who fail the ECE are required to undergo a remediation process with an ALPHA Center writing tutor. Students remediating receive tutoring and take quizzes for each of the areas in which they missed questions on the ECE. They can begin the remediation process by scheduling appointments online. The remediation process can last anywhere from 5 to 25 hours, depending on the student.

How can I prepare for the ECE?

- Obtain the *Guide for Rapid Revision* from the campus bookstore.
- Download the ECE guidebook, available online under the "Resource Links" tab at <http://unwsp.edu/alpha> or under the "Campus Services" tab on the ROCK.
- Take a 50-question Moodle quiz for the ECE available through the Moodle course titled "English All."
- Make an appointment with the ALPHA Center. We are more than willing to help you prepare. Access our online schedule under the "Campus Services" tab.

Sample Questions

Usage

Each of those delicious chocolate chip cookies are made with real butter.

- A. Correct
- B. Each of **these delicious** chocolate chip cookies are made with real butter.
- C. **Every one** of those delicious chocolate chip cookies are made with real butter.
- D. Each of those delicious chocolate chip cookies **is** made with real butter.

After roaming the theme park for hours, everyone threw their souvenirs on the couch and sat down to rest.

- A. Correct
- B. After roaming the theme park for hours, everyone threw **his or her** souvenirs on the couch and sat down to rest.
- C. After roaming the theme park for hours, **everyone throws** their souvenirs on the couch and sat down to rest.
- D. Everyone threw their souvenirs on the couch and sat down to rest **after roaming the theme park for hours**.