

**Booker T Washington High School
And The High School for Engineering Professions
119 East 39th Street
Houston, Texas 77018**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE MAGNET COORDINATOR TO
SCHEDULE A DATE AND TIME FOR TAKING THE TEST**

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Phone

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A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTRANCE TEST

We currently use an aptitude test for assessing incoming 9th/10th grade student's academic abilities and interests. The test has the following parts:

1. Verbal Reasoning (VR) measures the ability to see relationships among words. The test consists of analogies, each of which has two words missing—the first word in the first relationship and the second word in the second relationship. Rather than focusing on vocabulary recognition, these analogies assess the ability to infer the relationship between the first pair of words and apply the relationship to the second pair of words, so that the last two words are related to each other in the same way as the first two words. Good test achievers may predict success in business, law, education, journalism and the sciences. (40 items/25 minutes)

2. Numerical Reasoning (NR) measures the ability to perform mathematical tasks. In order to ensure that reasoning rather than computational facility is stressed, the computation level of many of the problems is well below grade level of students for whom the test is intended. Good test achievers may predict success in mathematics, physics, chemistry and engineering plus occupational success in bookkeeping, carpentry, laboratory work and tool making. (40 items/30 minutes)

3. Abstract Reasoning (AR) assesses how well students can reason with geometric figures or designs, and is a nonverbal measure of reasoning ability. Good test achievers may predict success in automobile repair, computer programming, drafting and mathematics. (40 items/20 minutes)

4. Mechanical Reasoning (MR) measures the ability to understand basic mechanical principles of machinery, tools and motion. Each item consists of a pictorially presented mechanical situation and a simply worded question. Items represent principles that involve reasoning rather than special knowledge. Good test achievers may predict success

as a carpenter, electrician, engineer, machine operator or any job where repair and operation of complex devices is involved. (60 items/25 minutes)

5. Space Relations (SR) measures the ability to visualize a three-dimensional object from a two-dimensional pattern, and to visualize how this object would look if rotated in space. Each problem shows one pattern, followed by four three-dimensional figures. Students are to choose the one figure that can be made from the pattern. Good test achievers may predict success in architecture, art, carpentry, clothing design, dentistry and drafting. (50 items/25 minutes)

6. Spelling measures how well students can spell common English words based upon phonetic and structural principles. The words are presented in a four-option item format that includes three correctly spelled words and one misspelled word. In this way, a 40-item test actually tests 160 words. The misspelled words reflect the most plausible and commonly made errors identified by a major research study. Good test achievers are skilled in basic skills necessary in many academic and vocational pursuits. (40 items/10 minutes)

7. Language Usage measures the ability to detect errors in grammar, punctuation and capitalization. The test consists of sentences that are divided into four parts. Students must choose whether one part has an error in punctuation, capitalization or grammar or whether it is correct as written. It is an important skill for most jobs requiring a college degree. Good test achievers may predict success as editors, librarians, secretaries, teachers and writers. (40 items/15 minutes)