KAPLAN) NURSING

**Kaplan and Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins (LWW)
Integrated Testing Program**

Admission Test

Kaplan's Admission Test is a tool to determine if students have the academic skills necessary to perform effectively in a school of nursing. The Admission Test is a 91-question online, multiple-choice test that evaluates the basic reading, math, writing and science skills of students seeking entry into a nursing program leading to RN licensure. The test can be used to determine acceptance into a nursing program or it can be administered to already admitted students to identify areas in reading, writing, math and science that need remediation.

The reading section contains 22 questions to be answered in 45 minutes. Candidates read four passages and answer questions that measure the essential skills required for reading:
- Determining the logic of a passage
- Comprehending details
- Drawing basic inferences
Identifying the purpose of a passage

The math section contains 28 questions to be answered in 45 minutes. The test measures the candidate's ability to apply mathematical principles in the following areas:
- Conversions
- Operations
- Ratios
- Word problems

The writing section contains 21 questions to be answered in 45 minutes. Candidates read nine passages and answer questions that measure the essential skills required for writing:
- Assessing passage development
- Assessing paragraph logic
- Assessing mechanics of writing

The science section contains 20 questions to be answered in 30 minutes. The test measures the candidate's knowledge of physiology in the following areas:

- Cardiovascular system
- Electrolytes
- Gastrointestinal system
- Immune system
- Neurology
- Renal system
- Hematological system
- Homeostasis
- Respiratory system
- Sensory system

Suggested Text for Preparation if requested: (available at local bookstores or through Kaptest.com for $13-$15.)
Kaplan Nursing School Entrance Exams: Your Complete Guide to Getting Into Nursing School (Kaplan Nursing School Entrance Exam) by Kaplan
Since admissions tests vary in content and focus students should use the areas listed above to target preparation for the Kaplan/LWW Admissions Test.

A longitudinal study is in progress to determine the relationship of scores on the Admission Test and completion of a nursing program leading to RN licensure.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF THE FULL TEST

Tables 1 gives the descriptive statistics for this administration of the test. The mean score on the test is 60.8% correct of the 91 items in the analysis.

How this statistic is to be interpreted depends on the purpose of the test. If the purpose is to separate test takers by their ability on this construct (i.e. if the purpose is norm-referenced) then the test is probably a little too easy, although not excessively so.

However, if the purpose of the test is to determine the extent to which a group of test takers have acquired a body of knowledge (i.e. if the purpose is criterion referenced), then 60.8% correct should be evaluated in the light of what level of attainment should be considered the mastery level; in other words, how many items would a minimally competent student be expected to get correct. If the mastery level is considered to be 75% or even 80%, which is quite common, then a number of interpretations are possible: the test takers are not attaining sufficiently high levels on this test to indicate mastery, or the content of the test does not select appropriately from the instructional domain, or the test is more heavily weighted with tasks from the difficult end of the achievement continuum.

There is no simple way to interpret this statistic, except to consider what the scores are intended to represent, and whether this is appropriate in the light of

that. A mean of 60.8% of items answered correctly may be ideal, and may indicate a sufficient level of attainment.

Table 1

Descriptive Statistics for 340 persons on 91 Items

	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Critical Thinking	Overall Results
Mean	66.7	69.2	47.5	56.5	62.8	60.8
S.D.	19.9	15.7	17.0	13.9	14.9	12.9
Max.	96	100	85	90	94	86
Min.	14	32	10	19	25	27

PERCENTILES

Percentile	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Critical Thinking	Overall
98	96%	95%	80%	86%	88%	81%
96	93%	95%	75%	81%	88%	79%
94	93%	91%	75%	76%	81%	79%
92	93%	91%	70%	76%	81%	78%
90	89%	86%	70%	71%	81%	77%
88	89%	86%	70%	71%	81%	76%
86	89%	86%	70%	71%	81%	75%
84	89%	86%	65%	71%	81%	75%
82	86%	84%	65%	69%	75%	74%
80	86%	82%	65%	6%7	75%	74%
78	86%	82%	65%	67%	75%	73%
76	82%	82%	60%	67%	75%	73%
74	82%	82%	60%	67%	75%	71%
72	82%	82%	60%	67%	75%	71%
70	82%	77%	60%	67%	69%	70%
68	79%	77%	60%	62%	69%	69%
66	79%	77%	55%	62%	69%	68%
64	79%	77%	55%	62%	69%	68%
62	75%	77%	55%	62%	69%	67%
60	75%	73%	55%	62%	69%	67%

Percentile	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Critical Thinking	Overall
58	75%	73%	50%	62%	69%	66%
56	75%	73%	50%	60%	63%	65%
54	71%	73%	50%	57%	63%	64%
52	71%	73%	49%	57%	63%	64%
50	71%	73%	45%	57%	63%	62%
48	71%	68%	45%	57%	63%	60%
Percentile	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Critical Thinking	Overall
46	68%	68%	45%	57%	63%	60%
44	66%	68%	45%	54%	63%	59%
42	64%	68%	40%	52%	63%	59%
40	64%	64%	40%	52%	63%	57%
38	64%	64%	40%	52%	63%	57%
36	61%	64%	40%	52%	5%6	56%
34	58%	64%	40%	52%	56%	56%
32	57%	64%	40%	50%	56%	54%
30	57%	64%	35%	48%	56%	52%
28	57%	64%	35%	48%	56%	52%
26	54%	59%	35%	48%	56%	51%
24	50%	59%	35%	48%	56%	51%
22	50%	59%	35%	48%	50%	49%
20	46%	59%	30%	43%	50%	48%
18	46%	55%	30%	43%	50%	47%
16	43%	55%	30%	43%	50%	46%
14	43%	50%	30%	43%	44%	46%
12	39%	50%	25%	38%	44%	45%
10	39%	45%	25%	38%	44%	43%
8	36%	41%	25%	38%	38%	41%
6	34%	39%	20%	33%	38%	39%
4	28%	36%	20%	29%	31%	37%
2	21%	32%	14%	28%	30%	34%