



# TELEPHONE ABILITY BATTERY (TAB) TEST GUIDE

## WHY DO AT&T AND ITS AFFILIATES TEST?

At AT&T, we pride ourselves on matching the best jobs with the best people. To do this, we need to better understand your skills and abilities to make sure that you are indeed the right match for the job. Our ultimate goal is to set you up for success in your career at AT&T (that is, if AT&T is the right match for you). Research has shown that tests provide accurate measures of people’s skills and abilities and, therefore, we use tests to identify people who are the best match for the job. Our philosophy is simple...if you succeed in your role, then we succeed as a company.

## WHAT IS THE TELEPHONE ABILITY BATTERY (TAB)?

The TAB is a series of four timed tests. The entire test will take approximately 32 minutes to complete.

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO SEE ON THE TEST?

Each test is described below and some sample items are provided for each to give you an idea of the types of questions you may be asked on the test.

### ❖ DETAIL PERCEPTION

This test is designed to measure your ability to quickly and accurately make comparisons between pairs of things. The objective is to identify, as quickly as possible, the pair that is not identical. The correct answer is the letter (A, B, C, D) between the pair that is not exactly alike. There are six parts to this test. Each part consists of nine or ten problems. You will have a total of five minutes to work on this test. However, each part is timed separately. The first four parts are 45 seconds each, and the last two parts are one minute each.

Unlike some multiple-choice tests, there is no need to read all of the possible answers on the test. As soon as you find a pair that is different, you should mark your answer on the answer sheet and go on to the next problem. Although you are not expected to complete each part of this test in the time allotted, work as quickly as possible to obtain your maximum potential score. Below are some sample problems:

Sample 1	John Jones	(A)	John Jones
	Mat Hall	(B)	Mat Hall
	Jane Cohen	(C)	June Cohen
	Sylvia Cope	(D)	Sylvia Cope

*The correct answer is C. This pair is NOT identical.*

Sample 2	15 ft. 7 inches	(A)	15 ft. 7 inches
	1111 ft. 11 inches	(B)	111 ft. 11 inches
	1551 ft. 9 inches	(C)	1551 ft. 9 inches
	1998 ft. 9 inches	(D)	1998 ft. 9 inches

*The correct answer is B. This pair is NOT identical.*



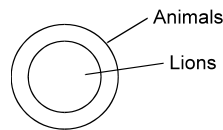
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- Sample 3    (-) (-)                    (A)    (-) (-)  
                   ) -) -)                    (B)    ) -) -)  
                   -) (- ((                    (C)    -) (- ((  
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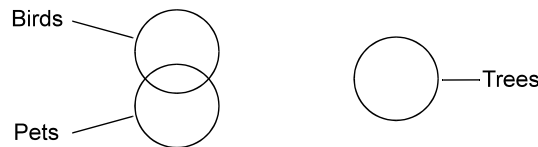
The correct answer is D. This pair is NOT identical.

### ❖ DRAWING RELATIONSHIPS

This test measures your ability to recognize the relationship among things. This will show your ability to determine the relationship of diagrams among three words. Sometimes people show how things are related to each other by drawing pictures of overlapping circles. For example, if certain things, let's say lions, all belong to a large group of things, let's say animals, you could draw the relationship as follows:



In these drawings, the relative size of the circle does not matter. The drawing above does not mean that most animals are lions, but that all lions are animals. That is why the circle representing lions is shown entirely within the circle that represents animals. Now, take the relationship among three groups of different things: birds, pets and trees. These should be drawn as follows:



This drawing shows that no trees are either pets or birds, but some birds are pets and some pets are birds. You will have 8 minutes to work on 20 problems. Below are some sample problems:

1. Rose, Flower, Pencil

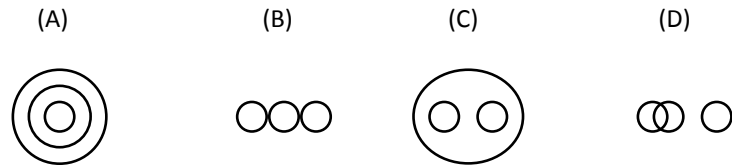
- (A)                    (B)                    (C)                    (D)
- 

The correct answer is A. This diagram illustrates that rose is a subset of flower, and pencil is not related to either one.



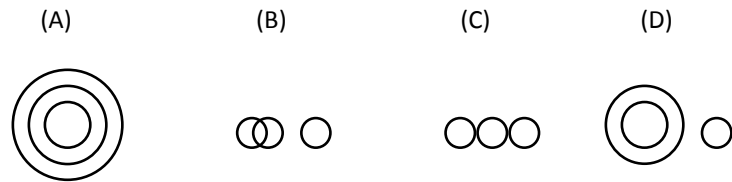
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2. Man, Woman, Human



The correct answer is C. This diagram illustrates that no man is a woman, and no woman is a man; however, they are both human.

3. Secretaries, Men, Book



The correct answer is B. This diagram illustrates that some secretaries are men and some men are secretaries but book is not related to either one.

### ❖ FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS

This test measures your ability to follow both written and verbal instructions. As you work on following the written directions, you will be interrupted from time to time by a tape recording giving you verbal directions to follow. You will have 10 minutes to follow 15 written and 10 spoken directions.

The written directions will be based on a table similar to the one below:

	Column				
	R	S	T	U	V
Row R	3	2	3	4	5
Row S	1	5	1	2	3
Row T	2	3	4	5	3
Row U	4	1	2	3	1
Row V	5	4	5	1	2



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Tape player says:

1. "Mark the number that is always just above 1.

(A) 2 (B) 3 (C) 4 (D) 5

The correct answer is B.

2. Mark the number just to the right of the middle number of Row S.

(A) 1 (B) 2 (C) 4 (D) 5

The correct answer is B.

3. Mark the number that is just above the 2 in Column T."

(A) 1 (B) 3 (C) 4 (D) 5

The correct answer is C.

## ❖ READING ACCURACY

This test is designed to measure your ability to read and comprehend the meanings of words as used in a sentence. Each of the sentences in this test contains clues to the meaning of an underlined word in the sentence. You are asked to complete a statement about the underlined word, choosing the best answer from four suggested answers. You will have 9 minutes to work on 20 problems. Below are some sample questions:

1. Since John had no formal training in electronics, it was difficult for him to comprehend the problem that developed after the storm.

Comprehend means:

(A) look at

(B) understand

(C) purchase

(D) enjoy

The correct answer is B.



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2. John knew from the dismal look on the face of the police officer that the situation was serious.

Dismal means:

- (A) bright
- (B) cheerful
- (C) cheerless
- (D) Distant

The correct answer is C.

3. The students asked the teacher many questions because they were trying to elicit as much information as possible about the test.

Elicit means:

- (A) acquire
- (B) hide
- (C) hold
- (D) forget

The correct answer is A.

4. The teacher's answers were purposely vague, since she did not want to reveal too much.

Vague means:

- (A) definite
- (B) slim
- (C) obscure
- (D) clear

The correct answer is C.



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## WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST?

At AT&T, our goal in testing is not to cause you to fail; rather, our intent is to set our employees up for success. Remember, we succeed when you succeed. All information necessary to complete the TAB is provided. There are no specific materials you should study in order to prepare yourself. However, if you pay close attention to the instructions, you will increase your chances of performing well and thus show your aptitude for the job.

## HOW WILL THIS TEST BE ADMINISTERED?

A member of our Staffing team will provide you with the time and location for your testing session. Try to arrive at the location at least 15 minutes before your scheduled test time to give yourself time to relax before the test begins. You may want to bring a jacket or a sweater in case the temperature in the testing location is not to your liking. Feel free to ask questions before the test begins, and be sure you understand the format of the TAB.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PERFORM MY BEST ON THE TEST?

- ✓ Read questions carefully.
- ✓ Think - reason out your answer.
- ✓ Answer questions you are sure of first.
- ✓ Reject immediately those answers you know are incorrect.
- ✓ Don't change your answers unless an obvious mistake has been detected.
- ✓ Be aware of the time (make a mental note of the time when the test begins and pace yourself accordingly).

## SUMMARY

When you succeed in your job, AT&T succeeds as a company! Successful completion of the TAB qualifies you for possible placement into jobs requiring this test. Additional testing may be required for certain positions. See job briefs in your area for additional testing requirements for titles you are interested in.

**Thank you for your interest in starting (or expanding) your career at AT&T!**

**AT&T and its affiliates support and comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other Federal and State laws that specifically assist individuals with disabilities. If you have a limiting disability and need special testing arrangements, please ask your local Employment Office or Placement Bureau personnel for information about the testing accommodation process.**