



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS & REHABILITATION  
OFFICE OF WORKFORCE PLANNING  
CORRECTIONAL COUNSELOR I**

**WRITTEN EXAMINATION – September 30, 2017  
EXAMINATION PREPARATION TIPS AND SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

This California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) orientation packet provides information specific to the 2017 Correctional Counselor I written examination. You should review this information prior to participating in the examination.

The Correctional Counselor I examination covers all of the essential knowledges, skills and abilities of the Correctional Counselor I classification. This examination gives competitors the opportunity to demonstrate their competency and potential to perform in these classifications. The study guide has been developed to help you respond to job related questions.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION**

The Written Examination requires knowledge of arithmetic, English usage, reading comprehension and Penal Code. Therefore, it is recommended that you review the most current Penal Code.

**GENERAL TIPS FOR PREPARING FOR CORRECTIONAL COUNSELOR I EXAMINATION**

- Review the Job Analysis for the Correctional Counselor I examination. The most critical and frequently performed tasks are identified in the job analysis in addition to the knowledges, skills and/or abilities for the classifications. The Job Analysis can be found on the CDCR website at [www.cdcr.ca.gov](http://www.cdcr.ca.gov). From the home page click on **Jobs**. Then under **General Information for Job Seekers** click on **Job Analysis**. Click on Correctional Counselor I then click on **Background Information and Information Gathering, List of Edited Tasks, and List of Edited Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**.
- Review and study the State Personnel Board (SPB) job specification. This is the legal document for the classifications and states how the classifications are used in general, identifies the knowledges, skills and/or abilities required and lists any other pertinent classification information. The specifications can be found on CalHR's website at [www.jobs.ca.gov](http://www.jobs.ca.gov) and type in **Correctional Counselor I**.
- Find out how and where the classifications are being used to broaden your understanding of the classifications. Do so by talking to an incumbent(s) currently performing the duties of the classifications. By asking, they can provide you with insight of actual on-the-job tasks.

The examination is a competitive process. While you are not expected to know everything, the more prepared you are, the more competitive you should be. Do your research and allow time for preparation.

Good luck!

## WRITTEN EXAMINATION TIPS

- Listen to all of the instructions given by the proctors.
- Carefully read the written test instructions while the proctor reads them aloud.
- Read specific segment instructions carefully to ensure you are answering the question correctly.
- Read the question in its entirety before you look at the answers.
- If you have a question, raise your hand and a proctor will assist you.
- Read all choices carefully before choosing your answer.
- Ensure the question you are answering corresponds to the number on your answer sheet.
- Pace yourself. Make sure you allow yourself time to get back to any unanswered questions.
- Do not spend too much time on questions that you are unable to answer. Move on and return to those questions.
- Review your examination and ensure you answered all questions before turning in your test material.

## SAMPLE QUESTIONS

### SEGMENT 1 – ARITHMETIC

This test segment is designed to measure your ability to correctly compute arithmetic equations.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose one response that **most** appropriately answers each question. Please answer your question using only the information provided.

#### Sample Question #1

1. While conducting your duties as a Correctional Counselor I, a riot erupts involving 324 inmates. You were asked to respond with one case of 400 zip tie restraints. A total of 216 zip tie restraints were utilized. How many zip tie restraints were NOT utilized?
- A. 182
  - B. 184
  - C. 192
  - D. 194

The correct answer is B.

### SEGMENT 2 – ENGLISH USAGE

This test segment is designed to measure your ability to appropriately use English vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose one response that most appropriately answers each question.

#### Sample Question #2

The word **modification** is most similar to:

- A. Reaffirm
- B. Change
- C. Equivalent
- D. Stagnate

The correct answer is B.

### **SEGMENT 3 – READING COMPREHENSION**

This test segment is designed to measure your skill to read a paragraph and be able to draw a conclusion from the information provided and comprehend information presented in written form.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose one response that most appropriately answers each question. Refer to information below to answer question 3.

Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE OFFENSE  
Report #CM0715  
Riverside District Attorney (DA) Trial Brief dated May 9, 2017

The Court, having heard testimony in trial, is familiar with the circumstances surrounding the offense. The following is a summary of the available crime reports and may not accurately reflect testimony and evidence brought forth during trial. On June 7, 2016, at approximately 6:38 a.m., officers and emergency personnel were notified to respond to 1209 Belle Road, in the City of Palm Springs. The caller was neighbor Mary Howe, who initially reported a domestic disturbance, then reported she observed a male holding a female underwater, wherein the female appeared to be unconscious. When the Paramedics arrived, Michelle Gray, age 22, daughter of Frank Taylor and the victim, was crying hysterically and directed them to the backyard Jacuzzi. Once in the backyard, Paramedics observed Mr. Taylor attempting cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the victim, Sandra Taylor, age 50, 57" and 196 pounds. Mr. Taylor was hysterical and stating, "Come on Sandra, come on!" as the victim was lying unconscious and unresponsive on the pool deck. She appeared to have brownish-colored dried vomit around her nose and mouth. The Paramedics took over attempting CPR and intubated her with a hand held respirator. Sandra was transferred to Palm Springs Hospital. An assisting officer asked Mr. Taylor what happened. He stated he came outside and found his wife face down in the spa. She had just returned to the spa after getting another cup of coffee and had been outside for no longer than ten minutes prior to him finding her. He attempted to perform CPR, but had a difficult time. Based on the witness statements and the evidence at the scene, Mr. Taylor was arrested for PC 664/187 Attempted Murder and PC 273.5 Inflict Corporal Injury Spouse/Cohab. After two weeks in intensive care, the victim succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased on June 21, 2016 at 2:45 p.m. Riverside County DA filed charges for PC 187 Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree/Assault with Intent to Commit Murder. After a lengthy trial, the jury was unable to reach a verdict on the initial charges of Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. The District Attorney refiled charges for Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. A new jury was selected and Mr. Taylor was convicted of this charge. He was later sentenced to 25 years to life.

#### **Sample Question #3**

What was Frank Taylor originally arrested for?

- A. Domestic Violence
- B. Attempted Murder/Inflict Corporal Injury Spouse/Cohab
- C. Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree/Assault with Intent to Commit Murder
- D. Attempted Murder/Battery with Serious Injury

The correct answer is B.

## **SEGMENT 4 – PENAL CODE**

This test segment is designed to measure your ability to correctly identify a response to various situations or topics consistent with Penal Code.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose one response that most appropriately answers the situation or topic covered in each question.

### **Sample Question #4**

When a defendant is convicted of an offense punishable by state imprisonment, the court may order the defendant temporarily placed in CDCR for a diagnostic evaluation for a period not to exceed how many days?

- A. 30 days
- B. 60 days
- C. 90 days
- D. 120 days

The correct answer is C. According to California Penal Code, Section 1203.03