

SECTION 1

GRAMMAR AND USAGE

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer the questions that follow.

THE NASSAU PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM: A CRASH COURSE IN HISTORY



If you want to increase your knowledge of the history of Nassau and The Bahamas, you should visit the Nassau Public Library and Museum, which is a three-floor structure on Shirley Street. There, the enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff will ensure that your trip is worthwhile.

- 5 In fact, if you wish, your history lesson may begin with a brief study of the library itself, as it is one of Nassau's more historic buildings.

Between 1798 and 1799, it was constructed as a jail and workhouse, the second prison in New Providence. In 1873, the structure was converted to a library, the first library in New Providence.

- 10 Although a few alterations have been made to the building occupying the Nassau Public Library and Museum since its construction, its original physical features basically remain the same.

- 15 One of its remaining original features is its octagonal or eight-sided shape. The octagonal shape made it possible for the building to be divided into eight prison cells on the first and second floors. These cells now contain books and other library materials. Each cell has its own window, allowing for cross breezes – which is a much appreciated feature in a crowded room without air conditioning!

- 20 In days of old, a bell would be rung in the cupola, the round structure at the top of the building, to summon Members of Parliament to parliamentary meetings. However, this does not happen today, although the House of Parliament is still only a stone's throw away.

From the third floor you can enjoy a postcard view of one of Nassau's busiest shopping areas. The Nassau Public Library and Museum has been renovated to include modern technology, like the computer and internet. Repairs are being made and workmen are restoring the building and furniture.

- 25 Now that you have been given a smidgen of the library's history, you may consider researching a bit more history of The Bahamas. There's no need to worry, for the library contains a variety of materials, including The Bahamas' first newspaper, "The Royal Gazette", published in the 1700's. The library also safe-keeps other documents and artifacts, all of which are several hundred years old. You can rely on these to enlighten you about The Bahamas and its people.
- 30

Adapted from *What's On – the Ultimate On Line Guide to The Bahamas*
www.whatsonbahamas.com

CLOZE EXERCISE

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences with a single word so as to complete the sense. The word you use should be made out of a word already used in the passage.

If you want to increase your knowledge of the history of Nassau and The Bahamas, the Nassau Public Library and Museum, a three-floor- structure on Shirley Street, should be visited. The staff's (1) _____ (line 3) and knowledge will ensure that your trip is worthwhile.

Between 1798 and 1799, the building was constructed as a jail and workhouse, the second prison in New Providence. In 1873, the structure was converted to a library, the first library in New Providence. Although the Nassau Public Library and Museum has been (2) _____ (line 10), its original physical features basically remain the same.

One of its remaining original features is its octagonal or eight-sided shape. The octagonal shape made it possible for the (3) _____ (line 14) of the building into eight prison cells on the first and second floors. These cells now contain books and other library materials. Each cell has its own window, which (4) _____ (line 16) cross breezes. This is a much appreciated feature in a crowded room without air conditioning!

In the (5) _____ (line 18) days, a bell could be heard (6) _____ (line 18) in the cupola at the top of the building. It rang to summon Members of Parliament to parliamentary meetings. However, this does not happen today, although the House of Parliament is still only a stone's throw away.

From the third floor you can enjoy a postcard view of a very (7) _____ (line 21) shopping area in Nassau. The Nassau Public Library and Museum has been renovated to include modern technology, like the computer and internet. Repairs are being made and workmen are restoring the building and furniture.

Now that you have been given a smidgen of the library's history, you may consider researching more about The Bahamas. There's no need to worry, for the library contains (8) _____ (line 27) materials, including The Bahamas first newspaper, "The Royal Gazette", published in the 1700's. The library also safe-keeps other documents and artifacts which are several hundred years old. There are a number of documents and artifacts that are quite (9) _____ (line 29) in enlightening people about the (10) _____ (line 30) people.

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Section 1 – Total Marks [10]

[Turn over