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**Book Information**

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book to prepare for the CLEP Humanities exam and found it very useful. The topics covered were mentioned on the test, which I took and PASSED today. I think this book tends to go into more detail than the actual test did (not that the test was easy), but I found that depth helpful because it’s better to study too much than too little. I purchased this with the official CLEP book also sold on and between the two, all topics covered on the exam were available. The practice tests for this product are helpful - I found that once I took the test, reading the explanation of the answer provided me valuable bits of info directly related to test topics. I recommend the other official CLEP book as a partner to this study guide. Overall, you can’t beat this as an option for college credit - for less than $150 total (books plus test fees) I earned 6 credits and saved myself about $2000 in course fees.

Passed with a 51 taken Dec. 2014 using only this book. Studied a few hrs ea. day for less than a week. Read all of ch 2 (literature), ch 4 (philosophy), ch 5 (music), and a couple pages of ch 3 (art). Didn’t read ch 6 (theater). Did the diagnostic test (access code in book) before finishing reading what I read and scored 46%. Reviewed 50 Qs in practice test 1. Looked up the Circle of Fifths and how iambic pentameter works. That’s all. Honestly, this book wasn’t that great and I had a bit of prior knowledge from high school English classes, my years of piano, and prior to this exam took the Western Civ I CLEP which was helpful here. So I suggest reading that before this if you are like me with 0 prior knowledge of art/architecture history or history in general. The knowledge there helped with chapter 3 here on art & architecture. Chapter 2 is where the content actually starts and is a literature review. Poorly written if you ask me. Doesn’t explain iambic pentameter/poetry very well. Just learn the bold word definitions. You need to at least be familiar with famous authors and works from quite far back until 20th century. You’ll probably be given an excerpt from a play or novel and asked to identify who was the author. You need to know how to answer questions given a poem to read such as “what does the line/word refer to?” Chapter 3 on art was pretty terrible too. Walls of text
and no bolding or subsections. This is where that Western Civ I CLEP book comes into play. Each chapter of that book has a part about the art/architecture at the time (classical, middle ages, renaissance, etc.). Know what buttresses are. You'll need to identify the era of paintings and style and artist. Chapter 4 on philosophy was really short and just a bunch of names and briefly what they're known for. Didn't really get tested on them. Chapter 5 is what I focused the most heavily on because it was easiest for me due to my piano background. Tells you the basics of sheet music/notation and a history of the 6 periods: medieval, renaissance, baroque, classical, romantic, 20th century. Pretty relevant stuff in this chapter so know it all. Chapter 6 is a mystery to me. The breakdown of weight of subject areas is in chapter 1 and accurate to me. Most questions on literature, music, and visual arts. 140 questions in 90 min.

There is a lot of information in this book, so give yourself time to absorb it all. I basically started reading this book without much knowledge on the subject matter. I ended up passing the exam on the first try, barely.

I took my test today and I passed it! The book was very helpful. It gives very detailed information on the variety of subjects that are included in the test. The practice tests were very handy.

Not the greatest resource IMO, but humanities is a very, very broad subject and it's quite possible that no study guide will be adequate for the breadth of knowledge required. Did not feel prepared.

Good material- but Still I needed to read other online material to pass my exam. Good Luck Every CLEPer :)

Great book! Probably the best out there to prepare you for the CLEP humanities. I got a 54 by studying only this book. I recommend this to anyone who wishes to pass the CLEP!

Good information, but lacking other important contributions and titles from its owners/artists/composers/musicians. We shall see how well this book contributes within a week of the exam.

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