Nurses need to be both numerate and literate to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. During our interview and selection days you'll complete a numeracy test and a literacy test.

**What do the tests involve?**

The literacy test lasts for 40 minutes. There are two elements to the literacy test: a twenty minute multiple choice comprehension and a twenty minute essay on a subject of our choice. The essay title will relate to healthcare and the NHS. The maximum score for the comprehension test is 30 and the pass mark is 18/30. The maximum score for the essay test is 10 and the pass mark is 6/10.

The numeracy test lasts for 30 minutes. It includes addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as well as conversion of decimals to fractions, and fractions to decimals. The maximum score for the test is 30 and the pass mark is 18/30.

**What happens if I don't pass the tests?**

You need to pass the numeracy test to proceed to the interview stage. We are unable to consider applicants who do not achieve the pass mark in any of the tests.

The decision not to grant an interview as a result of the tests is final and the University will be unable to enter into any individual discussion or correspondence with regards the result achieved.

If you fail one or more parts of the test this will be indicated in the rejection information you will receive from UCAS.
The following are examples of the type of questions you will have, on the day. You will have 20 minutes for the test and there will be five sections, A, B, C, D and E (total marks: 30).

This sample test has the same five sections but with less questions (total marks: 20) and should be completed, therefore, in approximately 13 minutes.

A - COMPLETING SENTENCES

From the lists below, put a ring round the letter which corresponds to the most appropriate choice for insertion into the following sentences.

1. Before taking blood pressure, ensure the patient ______ comfortable.
   
   a. is
   b. was
   c. ,
   d. (nothing to insert)

2. ______ admission, the patient expressed concern about the impending operation.
   
   a. When
   b. For
   c. On
   d. Through
B - TENSES

From the choice below, put a ring round the letter corresponding to the most appropriate word or words you would use, in order to complete the sentence correctly:

1. She ________ on holiday, at present.
   a. was
   b. is
   c. be
   d. will be

2. In the past, several nurses _________ late for their shifts.
   a. will be
   b. have been
   c. was
   d. would

C - ‘YES’ or ‘NO’?

Put a ring round ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ to indicate whether you think the apostrophe, in the sentences below, has been correctly positioned, or not.

1. Yes  No  A caring nature, for a nurse, is an essential attribute. It’s importance cannot be underestimated.

2. Yes  No  He was prescribed paracetamol to reduce his temperature but the drugs’ effectiveness should be monitored.
D - COMPLETING THE PASSAGE

Complete the following passage by inserting the most appropriate words.

Use only one word to make sense of the sentences.

Use only simple, everyday words.

Two hundred years or so ago, “medicine,” in this country, (1) ________ a fairly limited affair. There (2) ________ centres of refuge and care which (3) ________ been established since the 12th century, run by (4) ________ church and funded by charitable donations (5) ________ there was neither local (6) ________ national provision of health care.

As medicine advanced (7) ________ a science and treatments became (8) ________ effective,

it was called (9) ________ to play a much bigger role in the welfare of the population.
E - COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and put a ring round the letter (see next page) which provides the best answer.

In 1898, a struggling author, concocted a novel about a fabulous Atlantic liner – far larger than had ever been built. He filled it with rich people and then wrecked it, one cold winters night, on an iceberg. Fourteen years later, a ship remarkably similar to the one in the novel, was built by Harland and Wolff, in Belfast, for the British shipping company, the White Star Line. Both were about the same size and tonnage and could carry a similar number of people. Both had lifeboats for only a fraction of the passengers and crew and both were labelled as ‘unsinkable.’

On the 10th April, 1912, the real ship left Southampton on her maiden voyage to New York. On her way she, too, struck an iceberg and went down on a freezing April night. As the sea closed over the largest and most glamorous ship in the world with a list of passengers collectively worth, at the time, $250 million, the awful statistics of the tragedy were engraved on maritime history. Of the 2,206 passengers and crew, only 703 were saved. 65% of the passengers saved were First Class ticket holders. The ship had only half the number of lifeboats for the people she carried.

This White Star liner was the “Titanic.” The ship in the novel was called the “Titan”.

1. The style of writing in the passage is best described as
   a. Satirical
   b. Persuasive
   c. Informative
   d. Amusing

2. What was the main contributing factor to the loss of life on both ships?
   a. They were both thought of as unsinkable
   b. It was a maiden voyage
   c. There were too many passengers on board
   d. There were insufficient lifeboats
3. There is a **grammatical mistake** on line 3. Should the word be changed to
   a. winter’s
   b. winters’

4. Does the phrase ‘struggling author’ in the first line of the passage **mean**
   a. One who struggled to write
   b. One whose work was not considered to be very good
   c. One who found it hard to make money from his writing
   d. One who struggled with other authors

5. What was the name of the **owners** of the “Titanic?”
   a. Harland and Wolff
   b. A British shipping company
   c. The White Star Line
   d. A ship builder in Belfast

**END OF THE LITERACY TEST**
Sample numeracy questions

These are sample numeracy questions only. The test you will sit on your interview and selection day covers the categories illustrated below. It will have 30 questions and take 30 minutes to complete. Calculators are not permitted. This sample has 20 questions. It should be completed, therefore, within 20 minutes.

Solve the following:

1. \[1907 + 83.46 =\]
2. \[7.2 - 3.33 =\]
3. \[42.3 \times 2.74 =\]
4. \[1.4 \div 7 =\]

Convert to decimals:

5. \[\frac{3}{8} =\]
6. \[\frac{2}{25} =\]

Convert to simple fractions:

7. \[0.28 =\]
8. \[0.075 =\]

Which of the following fractions is bigger?

9. \[\frac{1}{4} \text{ or } \frac{3}{8} =\]

Convert the following:

10. \[1.5g = mg\]
11. \[2750mg = g\]

Solve the following:

12. \[30\% \text{ of } 150 =\]
13. \[12\frac{1}{2}\% \text{ of } 100 =\]
14. \[\frac{4}{5} \text{ as a percentage } =\]
15. \[0.4 \text{ as a percentage } =\]
16. \[\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{2} =\]

Simplify the ratio:

17. \[24: 8\]
18. \[3: 18\]

Convert the following:

19. \[1.15 \text{ a.m. to 24-hour time}\]
20. \[21:50 \text{ to 12-hour (am/pm) time}\]

(Answers on the next page)
Sample numeracy questions - answers

1. 1990.46
2. 3.87
3. 115.902
4. 0.2
5. 0.375
6. 0.08
7. 7/25
8. 3/40
9. 3/8
10. 1500
11. 2.75
12. 45
13. 12.5
14. 80%
15. 40%
16. 1/6
17. 3:1
18. 1:6
19. 01:15
20. 9.50 p.m.