Test Yourself

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This edition of "Test Yourself" features questions of the type that might be found on the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Principles and Practice of Land Surveying Exam (PLS). The PLS exam is a six-hour open book exam that contains 100 questions (administered in a four-hour morning and two-hour afternoon session). Like the FLS exam discussed on p. 66 of *The American Surveyor* Charter Issue, the PLS exam has a multiple choice format with four possible answers to each question.

The PLS exam tests for "basic principles of land surveying analysis in making judgments based upon all evidence and information presented in each question." The candidate is instructed to select the best answer from the four choices. Some of the questions posed on this page, therefore, require judgment. Select the best response within the confines of the question asked. Do not "read into the question" any extra information or think of "what ifs" that would modify the question. Choose the best answer.

The PLS exam contains 100 questions, which you are given six hours to complete. These five questions, therefore, would represent 5 percent of the exam, so give yourself 18 minutes to answer these questions.

For answers to the questions (and much more), please visit our website at: *www.TheAmericanSurveyor.com*. Good luck!

For more information about the PLS exam and its contents, visit the NCEES website at www.ncees.com.

1. Following are several suggested statements concerning proportionate measurement:

1. Proportionate measure is a rule of last resort.
2. Proportionate measure may be used to alter senior rights.
3. Proportionate measure begins and ends at the nearest monument on each side of an excess or deficiency.
4. Proportionate measure may be protracted.
5. Proportionate measure should be applied to equitably distribute a provable error found to be a blunder.

The following group contains statements that are all correct:

a. 1, 3
b. 1, 3, 5
c. 1, 3, 4, 5
d. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

2. Your client requests a conference with you to discuss the relationship between boundary locations and fences. You should advise the client that fences have control as to boundary location when

a. the fences mark the property of adjoiners whose property has been created simultaneously.
b. they are less than 20 years old as from the time of the original survey.
c. the adjacent land owners, as arbitrated by the surveyor, decide that the location is controlling.
d. the fences were built in accordance with the original survey and boundaries are otherwise uncertain.

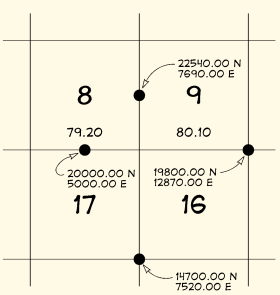
3. You are a land surveyor whom many years ago prepared an "As Built" plan, without certification, for a developer that showed the then recently completed improvements on a parcel of land with relationships to the boundary lines. The developer now asks you to certify the boundary locations as part of a real estate transaction.

If another surveyor had done the original boundary survey for that parcel, you should

a. call your attorney for advice.
b. certify the previous survey.
c. offer to conduct a boundary survey of the tract, which would carry a current certification.
d. if the developer offers enough money, certify the previous survey.

4. Using BLM procedure, the coordinates for the lost N1/4 corner of Section 16 shown below are

a. 19,863.33 N; 10,236.80 E.
b. 19,866.54 N; 10,251.74 E.
c. 19,866.92 N; 10,236.80 E.
d. 19,867.15 N; 10,227.55 E.



Note: Coordinates shown are your measured (in feet). Other dimensions are GLO.

" ● " indicates proven GLO corner position

5. On your recorded survey, a drafting error on the width of similar lots was made on the rear line, *i.e.*, 63' wide dittoed for 10 lots and it should have been 65' wide. The overall length was correct. How should this problem be corrected?

a. Correct the error on the individual lot survey.
b. Change the recorded survey in red ink.
c. Record a correcting survey.
d. The error cannot be corrected.