1 Samuel Passage Quiz

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. In 1 Samuel 1:19–20, who gives Samuel his name?
   - A. Hannah
   - B. Elkanah
   - C. Eli
   - D. Peninnah

   Correct answer: A. Hannah
   Hannah gives birth to Samuel and names him. The account connects her choice with the request she made in prayer.

2. In 1 Samuel 7:15–17, Samuel travels to several towns as a judge. To which town does he return because his home is there?
   - A. Gilgal
   - B. Bethel
   - C. Ramah
   - D. Mizpah

   Correct answer: C. Ramah
   Samuel visits Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah on his circuit. He returns to his home in Ramah, where he also serves as a judge.

3. What change in leadership do the elders ask Samuel to make in 1 Samuel 8:4–6?
   - A. Make Samuel’s sons joint rulers.
   - B. Appoint a king to govern them.
   - C. Give each town its own king.
   - D. Replace the elders with traveling judges.

   Correct answer: B. Appoint a king to govern them.
   The elders ask Samuel for a king who will govern them as kings govern other nations.

4. Why do Saul and a servant first set out in 1 Samuel 9:3–5?
   - A. To buy grain for their household.
   - B. To bring gifts to the elders in Ramah.
   - C. To gather sheep for a family celebration.
   - D. To look for Saul’s father’s missing donkeys.

   Correct answer: D. To look for Saul’s father’s missing donkeys.
   Kish tells his son Saul to take a servant and look for the lost donkeys. They search several places before Saul suggests going home.

5. Which of Jesse’s sons does Samuel anoint in 1 Samuel 16:6–13?

A. Eliab
B. David
C. Abinadab
D. Shammah

Correct answer: B. David
Samuel asks if Jesse has another son after meeting the older brothers. Jesse sends for his youngest, David, and Samuel anoints him.

6. In 1 Samuel 2:18–19, what does Samuel’s mother make and bring for him when she visits each year?

A. A small robe
B. A woven basket
C. A pair of sandals
D. A sleeping mat

Correct answer: A. A small robe
Samuel’s mother makes him a small robe and brings it when she comes with her husband for the yearly offering.

7. In 1 Samuel 10:20–24, Saul is selected in front of the people but cannot be found at first. Where do they find him?

A. Among the people from another tribe
B. At his father’s home
C. Beside the town gate
D. Among the baggage

Correct answer: D. Among the baggage
The account says Saul is hiding among the baggage. The people bring him out to stand before the assembly.

8. What reason does 1 Samuel 18:1–3 give for the covenant, or formal agreement, between Jonathan and David?

A. David promises Jonathan a place in his household.
B. Saul asks Jonathan to negotiate an agreement.
C. Jonathan cares deeply for David.
D. Jonathan is preparing to return to David’s hometown with him.

Correct answer: C. Jonathan cares deeply for David.
The passage connects the covenant to Jonathan’s affection for David. It describes him caring for David as deeply as he cares for himself.

9. What favor does David ask of the king of Moab in 1 Samuel 22:3–4?

A. Let David’s parents stay with the king.
B. Send a messenger to bring Samuel to Moab.
C. Let David’s brothers visit him at court.
D. Give David a permanent home in Moab.

Correct answer: A. Let David’s parents stay with the king.
David asks the king to take in his father and mother while he waits to see what will happen. His parents stay with the king during this period.

10. What term does Saul use for David when he hears David’s voice in 1 Samuel 24:16–17?

A. Cousin
B. Brother
C. Teacher
D. Son

Correct answer: D. Son
Saul addresses David as his son in this conversation. He goes on to credit David with treating him well.

11. In 1 Samuel 12:3–5, Samuel invites the people to report any wrong he has done. Which summary fits their response?

A. They say he accepted payments and ask him to repay them.
B. They say he took animals and ask him to return them.
C. They say he took nothing from them and treated them fairly.
D. They ask the new king to investigate before they respond.

Correct answer: C. They say he took nothing from them and treated them fairly.
The people say Samuel has taken nothing from anyone and has treated them honestly. They then agree that their response has been witnessed.

12. How do Saul’s first assumption and Jonathan’s later explanation for David’s empty seat differ in 1 Samuel 20:24–29?

A. Saul assumes David is in Bethlehem. Jonathan says David is ritually unclean.
B. Saul assumes David is ritually unclean. Jonathan says David asked to attend a family offering in Bethlehem.
C. Saul assumes David is caring for his father. Jonathan says David is meeting Samuel in Ramah.
D. Saul assumes David forgot the meal. Jonathan says David is meeting the elders in Ramah.

Correct answer: B. Saul assumes David is ritually unclean. Jonathan says David asked to attend a family offering in Bethlehem.
Saul first assumes David is unclean. When asked the next day, Jonathan gives the explanation that David requested leave for a family offering in Bethlehem.

13. Which sequence follows the events in 1 Samuel 25:14–20?

A. Abigail leaves, a servant tells her the news, and she sends provisions back home.
B. Abigail sends provisions ahead, a servant tells her the news, and she follows.
C. A servant tells Abigail the news, she leaves, and the provisions follow her.
D. A servant tells Abigail the news, she sends provisions ahead, and she follows.

Correct answer: D. A servant tells Abigail the news, she sends provisions ahead, and she follows.
A servant reports what happened. Abigail gets provisions ready, tells her servants to go ahead, and then sets out herself.

14. In 1 Samuel 29:3–11, who objects to David and his men coming along, and who tells David to leave at daybreak?

A. The Philistine leaders object, and Achish gives David the instruction.
B. Achish objects, and the Philistine leaders give David the instruction.
C. The Philistine leaders object, and Saul gives David the instruction.
D. Saul objects, and Achish gives David the instruction.

Correct answer: A. The Philistine leaders object, and Achish gives David the instruction.
The Philistine leaders raise the objection with Achish. Achish later tells David to set out with his men once it is light.

15. Which note correctly identifies both David’s decision about dividing the recovered goods and what the narrator says followed in 1 Samuel 30:21–25?

A. The group that stayed with the supplies received the larger share, and that became a rule in Israel.
B. Each person in either group was to receive the same share for this occasion alone.
C. Each person in either group was to receive the same share. This became a rule in Israel.
D. The group that continued with David received the entire share for this occasion alone.

Correct answer: C. Each person in either group was to receive the same share. This became a rule in Israel.
David sets the same share for each person who continued with him or stayed with the supplies. The narrator says this became a rule in Israel.