



EDUCATION

What are the New York State Tests?

January 22nd, 2019
PS 174 William Sidney Mount
Presented by: Marie Russell
MRussell3@schools.nyc.gov



State Test Information: Students

- Students in third through fifth grade will take the NYS ELA and Mathematics Assessments
- Certain English Language Learners are exempt from the NYS ELA. If you have questions about an exemption please contact your child's classroom or ELL teacher
- Fourth grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment. A future workshop will be held to provide additional information



State Test Information: Dates

- ELA
 - Tuesday, April 2nd & Wednesday, April 3rd
- Math
 - Wednesday, May 1st & Thursday, May 2nd
- Spring Recess: April 19th-April 26th (please avoid extending your family vacation beyond these dates).

Timing

- Tests are untimed
- Students will be provided as much time as necessary to complete each test session
- Students may work for as long as they need, as long as they are working productively
- On average, students in grades 3-4 will likely need approximately 60-70 minutes of working time to complete Session 1 and 70-80 minutes of working time to complete Session 2
- Students in grades 5-8 will likely need approximately 80-90 minutes of working time to complete Session 1 and 90-100 minutes of working time to complete Session 2
- If students are still working, but most of their class has completed the test, they may be moved to another room to finish



Types of Questions - ELA

Multiple Choice (1 point)

Students read a passage and answer multiple choice questions about the passage. Questions could be factual, inferential, checking for meaning, or interpretative.

Short Answer (2 points)

Students write a short response, one or two sentences, to answer a question relating to the story.

Extended Response (4 points)

Students write a longer essay, often comparing two passages. These questions will sometimes compare characters, situations, or settings. Students must use evidence based from the texts to support their answers.

EDUCATION



2019 Grades 3–5 English Language Arts Tests

Length of Texts	
Grade 3	500-600 words
Grade 4	600-700 words
Grade 5	700-800 words

3rd & 4th Grade Format

2019 Grades 3-4 English Language Arts Test Design

	Session 1	Session 2	Total
	Reading	Writing	
Passages	4	3	7
Multiple-Choice Questions	24	0	24
Short-Response Questions	0	6	6
Extended-Response Questions	0	1	1
	Total Number of Literary Passages		3-4
	Total Number of Informational Passages		3-4



5th Grade Format

2019 Grades 5-6 English Language Arts Test Design

	Session 1	Session 2	Total
	Reading	Writing	
Passages	5	3	8
Multiple-Choice Questions	35	0	35
Short-Response Questions	0	6	6
Extended-Response Questions	0	1	1
	Total Number of Literary Passages		3-5
	Total Number of Informational Passages		3-5



Advice for Students - ELA

TIPS FOR TAKING THE TEST

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

- Be sure to read all the directions carefully.
- Most questions will make sense only when you **read the whole passage**. You may read the passage more than once to answer a question. When a question includes a quotation from a passage, be sure to keep in mind what you learned from reading the whole passage. You may need to review **both** the quotation and the passage in order to answer the question correctly.
- Read each question carefully and think about the answer before choosing your answer or writing your response.
- For written-response questions, be sure to
 - clearly organize your writing and express what you have learned;
 - accurately and completely answer the questions being asked;
 - support your responses with examples or details from the text; and
 - write in complete sentences using correct spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.
- For the last question in this test book, you may plan your writing on the Planning Page provided but do NOT write your final answer on this Planning Page. Writing on this Planning Page will NOT count toward your final score. Write your final answer on the lined response pages provided.

Sample Multiple Choice Question

- 6 “Paper plates are for babies,” said Stella. She felt like being mean, because her shark kite could hardly fly.
- 7 Just then Stella noticed a fluffy pink jellyfish kite sailing overhead, bobbing a little as it passed Robby’s paper plate. Stella wished she could trade her shark for that jellyfish.
- 8 Stella wound the string of her fallen kite around its spool. Then, holding the string near the shark’s belly, she started running. If she could catch a tiny breeze, her kite would fly.

- 20** In paragraphs 6 through 8, what do you know as the reader that Robby does not know?
- A** Stella wishes she could trade her kite for a jellyfish kite.
 - B** Stella has to run to make her kite fly.
 - C** Paper plate kites are easier to fly than other kites.
 - D** Paper plate kites are easier to make than shark kites.



Sample Short Answer Question

2 Charlie does most of the talking, telling us about the things we'll see. He's been a couple times already, and since Rose and I are first timers, we nod our heads, nibble cookies, and listen. Charlie's excitement captures us like lightning bugs until we're glowing and buzzing with anticipation. Before I know it, we pull up in front of a store on Seventh Street. A huge sign in the window says: SEE THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD. HAVE SOME LAUGHS. ENJOY THE FINEST SONG AND DANCE ACTS AND MUCH MORE FOR ONLY 5 CENTS.

25 Why does Emily say that she and her friends are “glowing and buzzing with anticipation” in paragraph 2 of “Excerpt from *Wheels of Change*”? Use **two** details from the story to support your response.



Sample Extended Response Question

42

In “Excerpt from *Printer’s Ink*” and “Excerpt from *Young Ben Franklin*,” what quality about Ben Franklin is emphasized in both articles? How does each author support this quality about Ben Franklin? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a quality about Ben Franklin that is emphasized in both articles
 - explain how each author supports this quality about Ben Franklin
 - use details from **both** articles to support your response
-



Types of Questions - Math

Multiple-Choice (1-point)

Students select the correct response from four answer choices.

Short-response (2-points)

Students write an answer to an open-ended question and may be required to show their work.

Extended-response (3-points)

Students may be required to explain, in words, how they arrived at their answers.

Some test questions target more than one standard or assess an entire cluster. As such, many individual test questions assess September-to-April standards in conjunction with May-June standards from past grades.

Mathematics Test Format

2019 Grade 3 Test Design

Session	Number of Multiple- Choice Questions	Number of Short-Response Questions	Number of Extended-Response Questions	Total Number of Questions
---------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------

1 25 0 0 25

Session	Number of Multiple- Choice Questions	Number of Short-Response Questions	Number of Extended-Response Questions	Total Number of Questions
---------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------

1 30 0 0 30

Session	Number of Multiple-Choice Questions	Number of Short-Response Questions	Number of Extended-Response Questions	Total Number of Questions
---------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------



Advice for Students - Mathematics

TIPS FOR TAKING THE TEST

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

- Read each question carefully and think about the answer before writing your response.
- You have been provided with mathematics tools (a ruler and a protractor) and a reference sheet to use during the test. It is up to you to decide when each tool and the reference sheet will be helpful. You should use mathematics tools and the reference sheet whenever you think they will help you to answer the question.
- Be sure to show your work when asked.



Mathematical Tools

No Calculators. Students are provided with the following materials for the test:

3rd Grade - Ruler

4th Grade - Ruler & Protractor

5th Grade - Ruler, Protractor & Reference Sheet

Grade 5 Mathematics Reference Sheet

CONVERSIONS

1 mile = 5,280 feet

1 mile = 1,760 yards

1 pound = 16 ounces

1 ton = 2,000 pounds

1 cup = 8 fluid ounces

1 pint = 2 cups

1 quart = 2 pints

1 gallon = 4 quarts

1 liter = 1,000 cubic centimeters

FORMULAS

Right Rectangular Prism

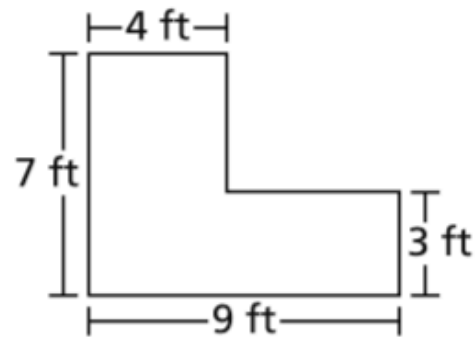
$V = Bh$ or $V = lwh$

Sample Math Question

- Multiple choice

31

The shape of Cindy's flower garden is shown below.



What is the area, in square feet, of Cindy's flower garden?

- A 23
- B 32
- C 43
- D 47



Sample Math Question

- Short Answer

45

A teacher buys 8 packs of orange erasers and 6 packs of blue erasers for his classroom. There are 24 orange erasers in a pack and 28 blue erasers in a pack. What is the total number of erasers the teacher buys for his classroom?

Show your work.

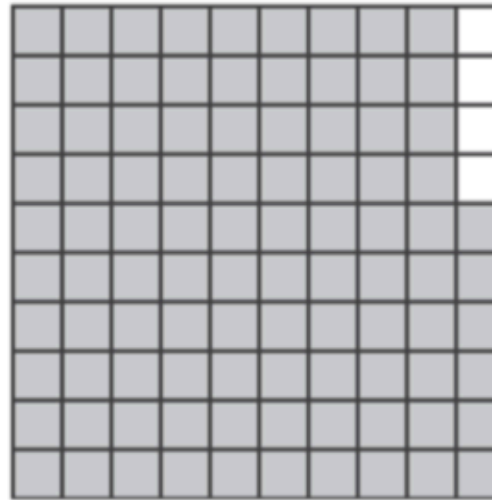
Sample from 4th grade NYS released questions

Sample Math Question

- Extended Response

45

Kia purchased books at a book fair. The shaded part of the decimal grid below represents the part of \$1.00 that she has remaining after purchasing her books.



Kia decides to give all of the money she has remaining to her 3 friends so they can buy some bookmarks which cost \$0.10 each. If Kia gives each of her friends the same amount of money, what is the greatest number of bookmarks that each of her friends can buy?

Show your work.



EDUCATION

Ways to Help Your Child at Home

- Provide a quiet space for homework. Make sure supplies are available - paper, scissors, glue, crayons, pens, pencils, etc.
- Set up routines and reinforce good habits. - homework time, reading time, etc.
- Encourage your child to read to you. Have books and magazines around the house
- Visit your local library. Borrow books and magazines in different genres
- Be a good listener - ask your child about the activities they are doing at school
- Reinforce the skills and concepts your child is learning at school, e.g. math skills through cooking and shopping, writing notes, etc.
- Give your child as many different experiences as possible - take trips to museums, the zoo, shows, etc.

- Types of Informational Texts:

EXPOSITORY	ARGUMENTATIVE	INSTRUCTIONAL	NARRATIVE
Textbooks (science)	Opinion/Editorial Pieces	Training Manuals	(Auto)Biographies
Textbooks (humanities)	Speeches (including those from seated politicians)	Contracts	Histories
Reports	Advertisements	User Guides/Manuals	Correspondence
Tourism Guides	Political Propaganda	Legal Documents	Curriculum Vitae
Product Specifications	Journal Articles	Recipes	Memoirs
Product/Service Descriptions	Government Documents	Product/Service Descriptions	News Articles
Magazine Articles	Legal Documents		Essays
Company Profiles	Tourism Guides		Interviews
Legal Documents	Correspondence		Agendas
Agendas	Essays		
Correspondence	Reviews		
Essays	Memoirs		
Interviews			
Government Documents			
News Articles			

For more information about informational texts, please refer to [Appendix B](#) of the Learning Standards for English Language Arts

(<https://www.engageny.org/resource/appendix-b-common-core-standards-for-elaliteracy-text-exemplars-and-sample-performance>).



Test Taking Tips

- Do not put undue pressure on your child
- Make sure they get a good night's sleep
- Make sure they eat breakfast the day of the test
- Do not send your child to take the test if they are not feeling well (there are makeup days)
- Your child should bring three sharpened #2 pencils with erasers, but no “lucky pencils” or “special erasers” as they can be a distraction
- Let them know that once the test is over, it is a normal day and the test is just a small part of that day

EDUCATION



PS 174 Philosophy on Testing:

It's just another day to show what you know!

EDUCATION

Links

- <https://www.engageny.org/resource/released-2018-3-8-ela-and-mathematics-state-test-questions>
- <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/2018/2018-faq-for-parents-3-8-tests.pdf>
- <https://www.engageny.org/videos-for-parents>
- <http://ps174.org>