5

California CAASPP (Smarter Balanced)

English Language Arts

Grade 3

Practice Tests



Practice Smart. Score Higher.

Small Steps, Big Gains!

Small Steps, Big Gains!

Practice Master Achieve

Reza Nazari

Grade 3 · California · CAASPP

5 California Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for CAASPP Preparation and Academic Confidence

Reza Nazari

Copyrighted Material

Copyright © 2026

Effortless Math Education Inc

Published by Effortless Math Education
www.effortlessmath.com

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the author, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law, including Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act.

This publication is independently produced and has no official connection to any state, district, or national testing program.

Test names and organizational names used herein are the property of their respective trademark holders.

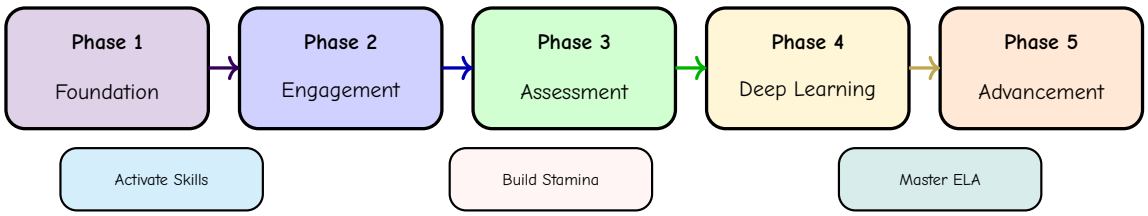
Copyright © 2026

Copyrighted Material

- Each explanation reveals the thinking skill behind the correct answer
- Study the step-by-step reasoning—these strategies apply across similar passages
- For correct answers, compare your reasoning to the explanation to find smarter approaches
- For incorrect answers, trace exactly where your thinking went in a different direction
- Write notes on especially helpful explanations so you can review them again later

Phase 5: Progressive Advancement — Continuing Your Journey

After thoroughly reviewing Practice Test 1, move on to Practice Test 2. Repeat this complete process for each test, watching your skills sharpen with every round.





Big bars?
Scan for stories.
Scan Me

★ Advanced Success Strategies ★

- **Strategic Pacing** - Spread your five tests over several weeks for the best learning and skill retention
- **Spaced Review** - Revisit explanations from earlier tests to reinforce what you have learned
- **Strategy refresh** - Revisit the overview and test-strategy sections whenever you need a reminder about a reading strategy or grammar rule
- **Performance Tracking** - Record your scores across all tests to see your amazing progress grow
- **Collaborative Learning** - Talk through tricky passages with a parent, teacher, or reading partner
- **Growth Mindset** - Welcome mistakes as the best teachers you will ever have
- **Active Reading** - Practice annotating passages with underlines and notes as you read

ELA Skills Covered

Each practice test comprehensively addresses these Grade 3 English standards:

- Reading Literature (stories, poems, and drama—characters, setting, plot, theme, and point of view)
- Reading Informational Text (nonfiction passages—main idea, key details, text features, and text structure)
- Vocabulary and Word Meaning (context clues, multiple meanings, prefixes, suffixes, and root words)
- Language and Grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, punctuation, and capitalization)
- Writing (opinion, informative, and narrative writing—structure, details, and word choice)

Scan Me
Bold tastes? Scan to prove.

- Foundational Skills (phonics, word recognition, and fluency)

★ Critical Insight ★

Excellence as a reader and writer does not come from getting everything right on the first try—it comes from staying curious, asking great questions, and growing through every challenge. You are developing sophisticated thinking skills—a process that takes time, patience, and joyful effort!

Your ELA preparation journey begins right now!

Let's achieve excellence together! ★

Your Path to Reading & Writing Mastery

Strategic Preparation
Plan your practice

Focused Reading
Complete each test

Deep Reflection
Learn from explanations

Excellence is built through joyful, consistent practice!

Your ELA Growth Journey

Test 1 | Test 2 | Test 3 | Test 4 | Test 5

Every practice test transforms you into a stronger reader and writer!



Solar quotes? Scan to learn.

Scan Me

Pre-Test Preparation Strategies

Excellence begins before you ever read the first word of a passage. Implement these preparation strategies:

★ The Night Before: Optimization Protocol ★

- **Adequate Rest:** Sleep 8–10 hours—a well-rested brain reads faster, focuses better, and remembers more.
- **Light Review:** Skim the test strategies in this book briefly, but avoid heavy cramming that creates anxiety.
- **Mental Preparation:** Picture yourself reading each passage with calm focus and understanding every question.
- **Materials Ready:** Lay out your pencils and any permitted materials the night before so the morning is smooth.
- **Positive Mindset:** Remind yourself of all the passages you have read and all the skills you have practiced.

★ Test Day Morning: Peak Performance Routine ★

- **Nutritious Breakfast:** Feed your brain with protein and whole grains—it needs energy to read and think.
- **Arrive Early:** Give yourself extra time to settle in comfortably without any rushing.
- **Positive Self-Talk:** Say aloud: "I am a strong reader. I am prepared. I am ready!"
- **Deep Breathing:** Take three slow, deep breaths to calm any butterflies before you begin.
- **Focus Forward:** Think only about the passage in front of you, one question at a time.

During-Test Strategic Techniques

Once testing begins, these strategies will maximize your reading performance:

Read the Passage	★ Read the whole passage first ★ Underline important details ★ Think about the big idea
Read the Question	★ Find the key words ★ Decide what is being asked ★ Go back to the text for clues
Find Evidence	★ Locate supporting details ★ Use context clues for words ★ Point to proof in the text
Answer Carefully	★ Eliminate wrong choices ★ Use text evidence to decide ★ Write clearly and completely
Move On Confidently	★ Celebrate your progress ★ Stay focused and steady ★ Tackle the next one!



Late tips?
Scan for lugs.

Scan Me