7 Full-Length Colorado CMAS

English Language Arts (ELA) Practice Tests

A Complete Guide to Building Mastery and Excelling on the English Test

Grade 3



Practice Master Achieve

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Grade 3 · Colorado · CMAS

7 Colorado Grade 3
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for CMAS Preparation
and Academic Confidence

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Grade 3 English

English Language

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Questions: Varies by section **Duration:** No time limit

Important Test Information

These practice items follow the style of third-grade English Language assessments. Formats can vary by section: you may see reading passages and graphics, different kinds of questions, or other tasks—follow the instructions on each page.

Test-Taking Tips:

- Read each question and every answer choice before you decide.
- Look back at the reading material or graphic when a question is based on them.
- Work carefully—there is no time limit on these practice tests, so use the time you need.

Remember: Take your time, stay calm, and do your best. You've prepared well for this practice—you've got this!

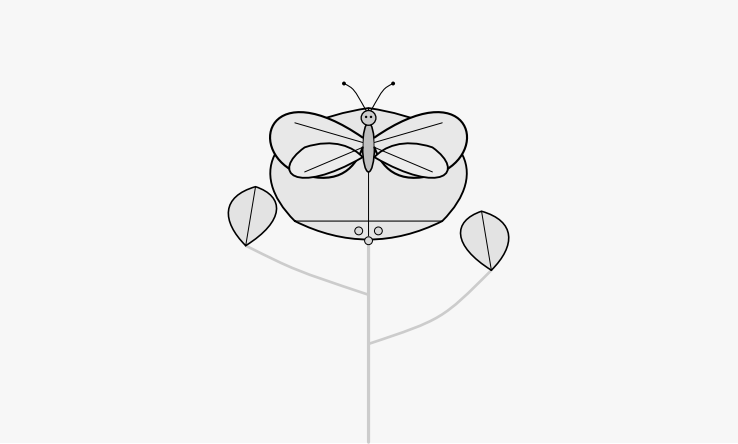


Icy shots?
Spot the clue.

Scan Me

Read the passage and the illustration below. Then answer questions 1–8.

1)



A Monarch Butterfly resting on a milkweed leaf

The Amazing Journey of the Monarch Butterfly

1 Every autumn, something extraordinary happens across North America. Millions of monarch butterflies begin a journey of up to 3,000 miles—from the forests of Canada and the United States all the way to the mountains of central Mexico. Scientists call this journey a *migration*. No other butterfly in the world travels as far as the monarch.

2 Before a monarch can fly anywhere, it must go through one of nature's most astonishing changes. A monarch begins its life as a tiny egg on a milkweed leaf. After hatching, the caterpillar spends two weeks eating milkweed and growing. Then it forms a shell called a *chrysalis*. Inside, its body transforms completely. About ten days later, a beautiful orange-and-black butterfly emerges, ready to face the world. Scientists call this process *metamorphosis*.

3 Monarchs are champion navigators. They use the position of the sun and a special internal clock to steer south every fall. Amazingly, the butterflies that make the journey have never been to Mexico before—they are born after their grandparents left. Yet they find the exact same forests, and sometimes even the exact same trees, year after year. Scientists are still working to fully understand how this is possible.

4 When monarchs arrive in Mexico, they crowd together by the millions on oyamel fir trees. The trees bend under their weight. The butterflies rest and survive the winter on fat stored in their bodies. In March, as days grow warmer, they begin flying north again, laying eggs on milkweed along the way. No single butterfly completes the whole trip back—it takes two or three generations to reach Canada again.

5 Monarch butterflies face serious dangers. Milkweed plants, which monarchs depend on for food and egg-laying, have been disappearing from farms and roadsides. Forests in Mexico where monarchs spend the winter have been cut down. Because of these threats, monarch populations have dropped sharply in recent decades.

6 People all over North America are fighting back. Schools and neighborhoods plant milkweed gardens to give monarchs places to lay their eggs. Volunteers track and count butterflies to help scientists study the population. When people work together, even the smallest garden can make a difference for one of nature's most remarkable travelers.

Read this dictionary entry.



Warm tips? More on site.

Scan Me

Use the story "The Day Maya Flew" to answer this question.

13) How does paragraph 8 contribute to the plot of the story?

(A) It demonstrates that Maya puts Grandpa's advice into practice by falling and getting back on.
(B) It describes why Grandpa stopped helping Maya practice that day.
(C) It introduces the main conflict between Maya and her grandfather.
(D) It shows that Maya's fear was right—riding is too dangerous.

Use the story "The Day Maya Flew" to answer this question.

14) In the story, what does the **bicycle** most likely represent for both Maya and Grandpa Carlos?

(A) A gift that Maya does not truly appreciate
(B) Freedom and the courage it takes to let go and trust yourself
(C) Something Maya must learn to use to get to school on time
(D) A reminder of how different their lives have been

Read the poem. Then answer questions 15–16.



Try Again

The first time that I tried to swim,
I swallowed half the pool.
I sputtered, choked, and grabbed the wall—
and felt like such a fool.

But Coach said, "*Try it once more, kid,*
the water's on your side."
So I took a breath and let it go
and learning how to glide.

The first time that I tried to skate,
I met the rink up close.
I sat there, blinking at the ice—
a clumsy little ghost.

But Coach said, *"Up you get, champ,*
the ice won't bite, I swear."
So I pushed up on my wobbling blades
and breathed the frozen air.

I've learned that *try again*
are three of the best words there are.
Because the person I am becoming
is made from every scar.

15) What does the word *sputtered* most likely mean in line 3 of the poem?

(A) called out for help in a loud voice
(B) jumped back into the water a second time
(C) coughed and breathed in a broken, uncontrolled way
(D) floated quietly

Use the poem "Try Again" to answer this question.

16) The most likely reason the poet uses the image "a clumsy little ghost" in line 12 is to show that the speaker —

(A) was wearing a white skating costume that reminded people of a ghost
(B) is invisible to everyone else on the skating rink
(C) felt pale, dazed, and out of place after falling on the ice
(D) was the youngest person on the ice that day

Use the poem "Try Again" to answer this question.

17) Which sentence **best** describes how the speaker's feelings **change** from the beginning to the end of the poem?

(A) The speaker begins bored with practice and ends wishing the poem had more rhymes.
(B) The speaker begins angry at the coach and ends refusing to try skating again.
(C) The speaker begins proud of falling and ends afraid of the skating rink.
(D) The speaker begins embarrassed and shaken after falling but ends accepting struggle as part of growing stronger.

Kind gags? Scan for pace. Scan Me