7 Full-Length District of Columbia DC CAPE

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 · District of Columbia · DC CAPE

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Full-Length Practice for DC CAPE 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!



Reading books?
Scan for facts.

Scan Me

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

The Amazing Life of Sea Turtles

1 Sea turtles are among the oldest animals on Earth. They have lived in the ocean for more than 100 million years. These amazing reptiles can grow very large, and some weigh as much as 2,000 pounds.

2 Sea turtles spend most of their lives in the water, but female turtles must come to shore to lay their eggs. Each mother digs a deep nest in the sand with her flippers. She lays many eggs, covers them with sand, and then returns to the sea.

3 After about two months, the baby turtles, called hatchlings, crack out of their shells. They dig up through the sand and scramble toward the ocean. This is a dangerous trip. Birds, crabs, and other predators may attack them before they reach the water.

4 Sea turtles also help keep ocean habitats healthy. Some sea turtles eat jellyfish, which helps keep jellyfish populations under control. Others feed on seagrass, helping keep underwater grass beds healthy for other sea animals.

5 People in many places are working to protect sea turtles. Some beaches have rules against bright lights at night because the lights can confuse hatchlings. Volunteers also watch over nests and protect them from danger. These efforts are helping more sea turtles survive.

Read this dictionary entry.

scramble *verb*

1. to move quickly using hands and feet
2. to mix things together in a messy way
3. to compete eagerly for something
4. to cook eggs by stirring them

1) Which meaning of the word *scramble* is used in paragraph 3?

(A) Definition 1
(B) Definition 2
(C) Definition 4
(D) Definition 3

Use the passage "The Amazing Life of Sea Turtles" to answer this question.

2) Which sentence is an **opinion**?

(A) Sea turtles have lived in the ocean for more than 100 million years.
(B) Sea turtles are the most interesting animals in the ocean.
(C) Volunteers protect nests from danger.
(D) Female turtles come to shore to lay their eggs.

Use the passage "The Amazing Life of Sea Turtles" to answer this question.

3) What is the most likely reason the author uses a **problem-and-solution** structure in paragraph 5?

(A) To describe the steps sea turtles follow when laying eggs
(B) To compare sea turtles with other ocean animals
(C) To show the dangers sea turtles face and how people are helping
(D) To explain how sea turtles find food in the ocean

Hot bits? Scan to grow. Scan Me

Use both "The Old Baseball Glove" and "What Remains" to answer this question.

18) Based on the ending of the story and the ending of the poem, what will Marcus and the speaker of the poem most likely do next?

(A) Both will stop using the objects forever.
(B) Both will keep and care for the objects they received.
(C) Both will give their objects away right away.
(D) Both will hide the objects so no one can see them.

Use both "The Old Baseball Glove" and "What Remains" to answer this question.

19) By the end of the story and the poem, what is the most likely reason that both Marcus and the speaker decide to hold on to the objects they received?

(A) They think the objects will be worth a lot of money someday.
(B) The objects help them feel close to family members from the past.
(C) They keep the objects because they have nothing else to use.
(D) They want to show the objects to as many people as possible.

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 20–26.





How Bees Make Honey

Busy Bees

1 Honeybees are some of the hardest-working insects on Earth. A single bee may visit many flowers during its lifetime, yet make only a tiny amount of honey. Honey may seem simple, but it takes the work of many bees to make it.

From Flower to Hive

2 The process begins when worker bees fly out to collect nectar, a sweet liquid found inside flowers. A bee uses its long tongue to sip the nectar and stores it in a special part of its body called the honey stomach.

3 When the bee returns to the hive, it passes the nectar to another bee. This happens again and again. As the nectar moves from bee to bee, chemicals begin to change it. Water in the nectar slowly evaporates.

Capping the Honey

4 When the nectar becomes thick enough, the bees place it into small wax cells in the honeycomb. Then they fan the cells with their wings to help more water evaporate. When the honey is ready, they seal the cells with wax caps.

5 The honey stored in these cells provides food for the colony, especially in winter when flowers are not blooming. People have collected honey from beehives for thousands of years.

6 Bees are important for more than just honey. As they move from flower to flower collecting nectar, they also carry pollen. This process, called pollination, helps plants produce fruits, vegetables, and seeds.

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20) What is the central idea of this article?

(A) Bees work together to make honey and also help plants grow.
(B) Bees are the largest insects in the world.
(C) Honey is only made during the winter months.
(D) People have gathered honey from beehives for thousands of years.

Use the passage "How Bees Make Honey" to answer this question.

21) The author organizes this article by —

(A) comparing bees with other insects
(B) describing the honey-making process in order
(C) explaining why bees are hard to study
(D) listing the names of different kinds of bees

Use the passage "How Bees Make Honey" to answer this question.

22) What does the word *evaporates* mean as it is used in paragraph 3?

(A) freezes into a solid
(B) turns into a gas and goes into the air
(C) mixes with another liquid
(D) becomes sweeter and thicker right away

Use the passage "How Bees Make Honey" to answer this question.

23) In which section of the article would a reader most likely find information about how honey is sealed and stored?

(A) Busy Bees
(B) Capping the Honey
(C) The first and second sections only
(D) From Flower to Hive

