7 Full-Length Maryland MCAP

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 · Maryland · MCAP

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

Full-Length Practice for MCAP 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!

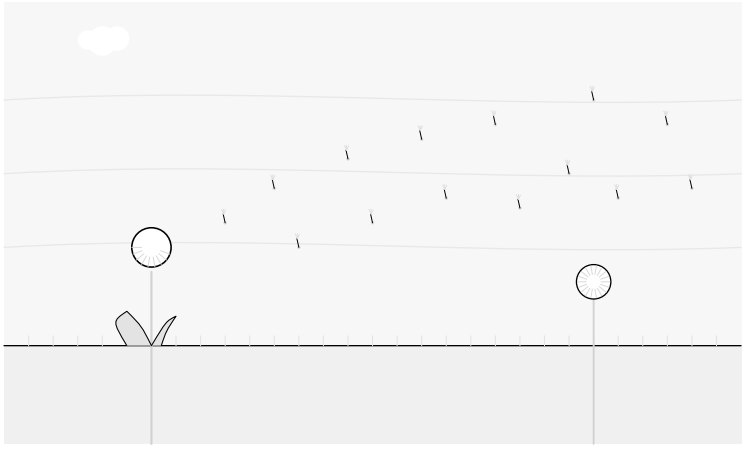


Solar grades?
Scan for mugs.

Scan Me

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 1–10.

How a Small Seed Travels



A dandelion releases tiny seeds into the air, where the wind can carry them to new places.

1 A seed may look small and still, but many seeds are built for travel. They do not have legs, wheels, or wings like birds, yet they can move from one place to another in clever ways.

2 Some seeds travel on the wind. Dandelion seeds are light and fluffy, so even a gentle breeze can lift them into the air. Maple seeds spin like tiny helicopters as they fall, which helps them drift farther from the tree.

3 Other seeds travel by water. A coconut can float across waves until it reaches a beach where it can grow. Seeds from plants near rivers may also wash downstream and settle in muddy soil.

4 Animals help move seeds too. Some seeds stick to fur or feathers and ride along until they drop off. Other animals eat fruit and later leave the seeds in a new place.

5 Traveling helps plants survive. If all the seeds from one plant fell in the same small spot, the young plants would compete for space, sunlight, and water. When seeds spread out, more of them have a chance to grow strong.

Read this dictionary entry.

settle *verb*

1. to come to rest in a place
2. to laugh loudly at a joke
3. to turn bright red
4. to jump high in the air

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

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

Use the passage "How a Small Seed Travels" to answer this question.

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

(A) Maple seeds can spin as they fall.
(B) Some seeds stick to animal fur.
(C) Seeds are the most amazing travelers in nature.
(D) Coconuts can float across water.



Urban sounds? Scan for cats.
Scan Me

17) What does the word *pane* mean in line 7?

(A) A piece of window glass
(B) A warm blanket
(C) A wooden chair
(D) A kind of bird

Use the poem "Winter Window" to answer this question.

18) What is the most likely reason the poet describes frost as having "sketched a silver fern"?

(A) To show that the window is broken
(B) To help readers picture the shape and beauty of the frost
(C) To prove that frost is warm
(D) To explain how to draw a plant

Use the poem "Winter Window" to answer this question.

19) Which sentence best describes how the speaker feels in the poem?

(A) Lonely because the house is cold and the kettle will not turn on
(B) Frightened by the frost on the glass and the birds beyond the yard
(C) Angry and eager to run outside as fast as possible
(D) Calm and thoughtful while noticing the quiet beauty of a winter morning

Use both "The Lantern in the Closet" and "Winter Window" to answer this question.

20) What do Mara and the speaker in the poem have in common?

(A) Both are trying to fix something broken
(B) Both notice quiet beauty in ordinary things
(C) Both are outside in the snow
(D) Both are running late for school



Winter facts? Hear the beat.
Scan Me

Use both "The Lantern in the Closet" and "Winter Window" to answer this question.

21) How are the endings of the story and the poem most alike?

(A) Both endings warn readers about storms
(B) Both endings explain a science experiment
(C) Both endings introduce a loud party
(D) Both endings show a deeper appreciation for something simple

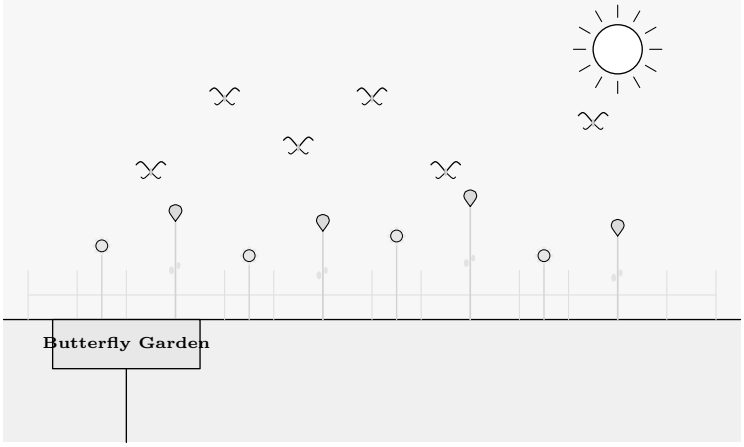
Use both "The Lantern in the Closet" and "Winter Window" to answer this question.

22) Which sentence best describes a similarity between the story and the poem?

(A) Both texts show how a quiet moment can become meaningful
(B) Both texts are about losing an object
(C) Both texts tell how to clean a room
(D) Both texts happen during a picnic

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 23–32.

How the School Garden Feeds Butterflies



Bright flowers in a school garden give butterflies food and a place to visit through the season.

1 When students planted the school garden in spring, they hoped it would look cheerful near the playground. Soon they noticed something else. Butterflies began visiting the flowers almost every day.

2 Butterflies need nectar, which is a sweet liquid found inside flowers. Flowers with bright colors and open shapes can make nectar easier for butterflies to reach.

3 The garden also helps caterpillars. Some butterflies lay eggs only on certain plants, because the caterpillars need those leaves for food after they hatch. A butterfly garden often includes both nectar flowers and leafy plants.

4 Students learned that butterflies do more than decorate the garden. As they move from flower to flower, they may carry pollen. This can help some plants make seeds.

5 By summer, the garden had become an outdoor classroom. Students sketched wings, counted visits, and wrote down which flowers butterflies liked best. The garden taught them that helping wildlife can begin with one small patch of soil.



Rural bytes?
Proof in text.
Scan Me