7 Full-Length Nevada Smarter Balanced

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 · Nevada · Smarter Balanced

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

Full-Length Practice for Smarter Balanced 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.

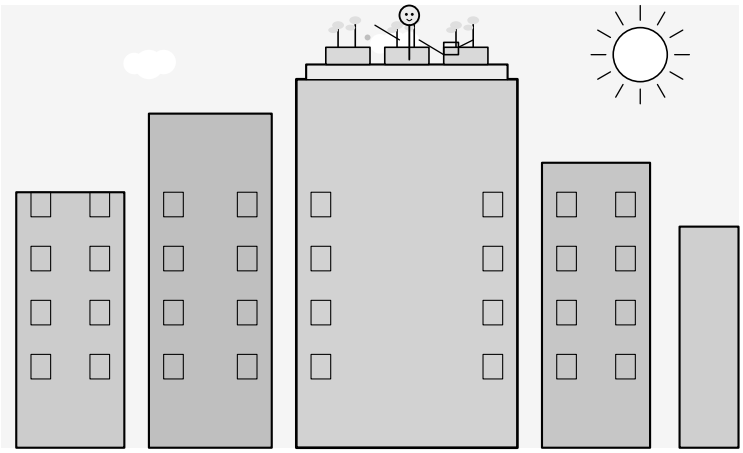
Test-Taking Tips:

- 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!

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

The Rooftop Garden Above the City



A bright garden grows high above busy streets, turning a city rooftop into a green space full of life.

1 From the sidewalk, most people notice only the tall gray building and its rows of shining windows. They do not expect to find a garden at the very top. But above the traffic and buses, boxes of soil, climbing vines, and bright flowers stretch across the roof.

2 A rooftop garden is a garden planted on top of a building. Some rooftop gardens grow vegetables such as lettuce, tomatoes, and peppers. Others are filled with flowers that attract bees and butterflies.

3 These gardens do more than look beautiful. Plants can help cool the roof on hot days by blocking strong sunlight. They can also hold some rainwater for a short time, which means less water rushes into city drains all at once.

4 A rooftop garden needs careful planning. Workers must make sure the roof is strong enough to hold soil, water, containers, and tools. Gardeners also need to choose plants that can grow in wind, heat, and shallow soil.

5 Students from a nearby school visit one rooftop garden each month. They pull weeds, taste herbs, and watch bees moving from flower to flower. The trip helps them learn that even crowded cities can make room for living things.

Read this dictionary entry.

attract *verb*

1. to draw something closer
2. to push something away
3. to make a loud buzzing sound
4. to hide under the ground

1) Which meaning of the word *attract* is used in paragraph 2?

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

Use the passage "The Rooftop Garden Above the City" to answer this question.

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

(A) Some rooftop gardens grow lettuce and tomatoes.
(B) Plants can help cool the roof on hot days.
(C) Students visit one rooftop garden each month.
(D) Rooftop gardens are the most exciting part of any city.



Mega owls? Tame the tone.
Scan Me

17) What does the word *steadies* mean in line 12?

(A) Makes calmer and more secure
(B) Hides in a drawer
(C) Breaks into pieces
(D) Washes with water

Use the poem "Little Light on the Stairs" to answer this question.

18) What is the most likely reason the poet describes the lamp as "one small square of care" in line 4?

(A) To show that the wall needs painting
(B) To show that the light feels comforting and protective
(C) To explain that the lamp is broken
(D) To prove that the stairs are wide

Use the poem "Little Light on the Stairs" to answer this question.

19) Which sentence best describes how the speaker feels about the stairway light?

(A) Annoyed because the lamp is too bright and hurts the speaker's eyes
(B) Eager to race up the stairs without looking where to step
(C) Comforted and safer because the small light steadies the dark and makes the climb less frightening
(D) Confused about how to turn on any lights inside the house

Use both "The Violin Case in the Hall" and "Little Light on the Stairs" to answer this question.

Adverb tables? Scan for waves. Scan Me

20) What do the violin and the stairway light have in common?

(A) Both belong to a school newspaper
(B) Both are used during a race
(C) Both are hidden in a garden
(D) Both give the characters a feeling of comfort and meaning

Use both "The Violin Case in the Hall" and "Little Light on the Stairs" to answer this question.

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

(A) Both endings show that something small can have a powerful effect
(B) Both endings explain how to fix an object
(C) Both endings introduce a loud crowd
(D) Both endings warn the reader about storms

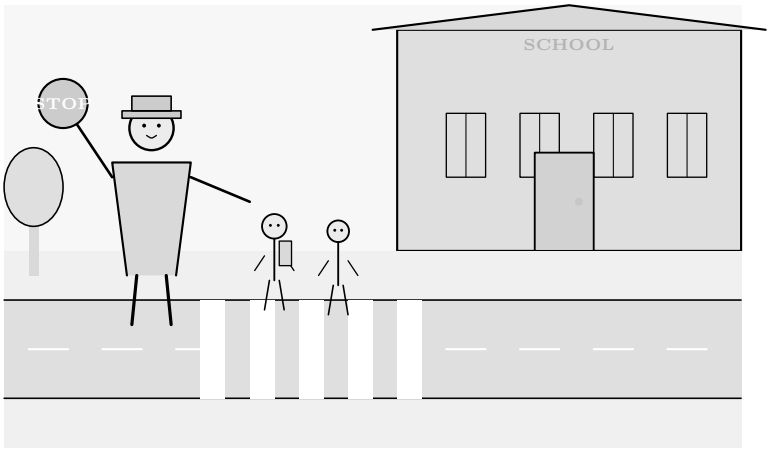
Use both "The Violin Case in the Hall" and "Little Light on the Stairs" to answer this question.

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

(A) Both texts happen outside in a storm
(B) Both texts show that ordinary things can hold more meaning than people first expect
(C) Both texts explain how to climb stairs safely
(D) Both texts are about winning a music contest

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

The Morning Job of a Crossing Guard



A crossing guard helps children safely cross a busy street on their way to school each morning.

1 Before the first bell rings, many children must cross streets, pass driveways, and walk beside busy traffic to get to school. One adult who helps make that trip safer is the crossing guard.

2 A crossing guard stands near the street before and after school. Wearing a bright vest, the guard watches for groups of students, waits for traffic to stop, and then signals when it is safe to cross.

3 Crossing guards need to pay close attention. They look both ways, notice turning cars, and watch for people on bicycles or scooters. Even on rainy or windy mornings, they stay alert.

4 The job is not only about holding a sign. Crossing guards also greet students, remind them to use the crosswalk, and encourage safe habits. Over time, many children learn to check traffic more carefully because of these daily reminders.