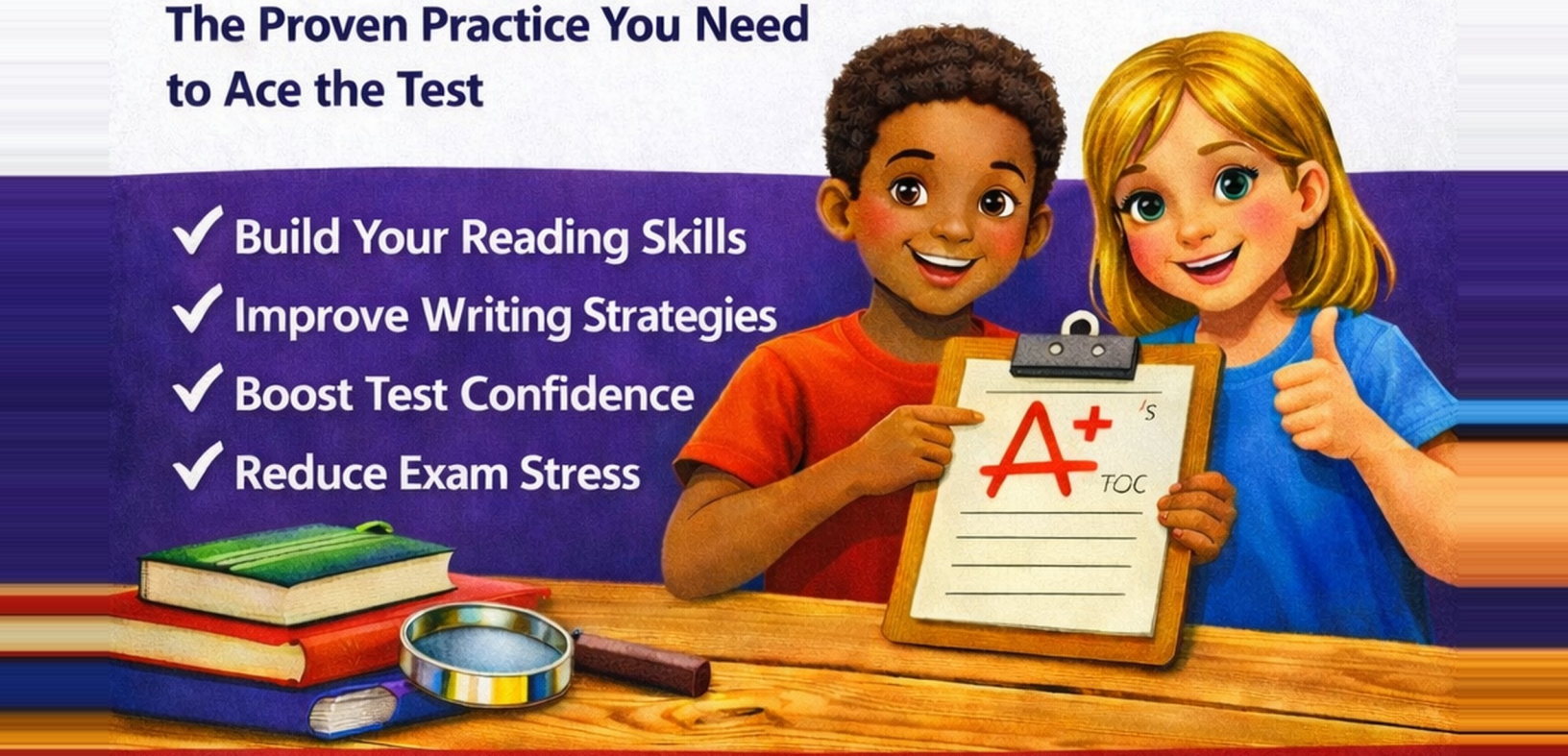
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8 Michigan M-STEP Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) Practice Tests

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Full-Length Practice for M-STEP Preparation and Academic Confidence

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Grade 3 English

English Language

1

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!

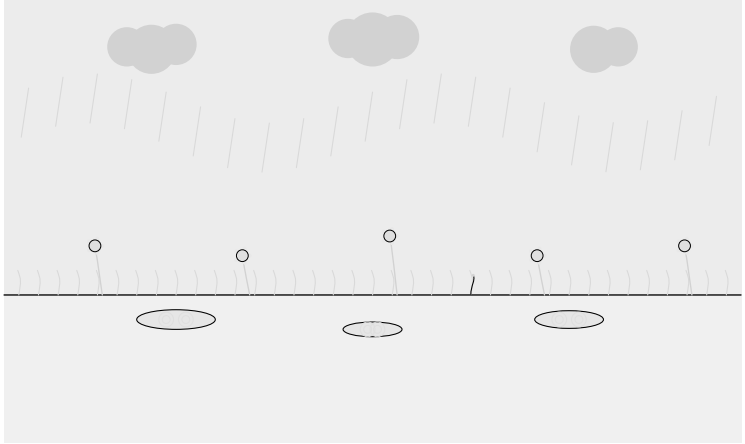


Shy owls?
Hug the book.

Scan Me

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

The Secret Life of Raindrops



Soft rain falls from bright clouds onto grass, flowers, and shiny puddles below.

1 Raindrops may seem small and simple, but they go on an amazing journey. Before a raindrop falls from the sky, it begins as water vapor, an invisible gas floating in the air.

2 High above the ground, air can become very cool. When this happens, water vapor changes into tiny drops of liquid water. These drops gather together to form clouds.

3 As more and more drops join a cloud, some of them become too heavy to stay in the air. Then gravity pulls them down. That is when rain begins to fall.

4 Rain does many important jobs on Earth. It waters plants, fills rivers and lakes, and gives animals something to drink. Rain also helps wash dust from leaves and streets.

5 After rain reaches the ground, its journey is not over. Some water sinks into the soil. Some flows into streams. Some even warms up and rises into the air again as water vapor.

6 This repeating journey is part of the water cycle. It happens again and again all around the world. The next time rain taps on your window, you will know that each raindrop has a story.

Read this dictionary entry.

cycle *noun*

1. a series of events that repeats in the same order
2. a bright color in the sky after rain
3. a heavy object that cannot move
4. a kind of bird that flies at night

1) Which meaning of the word *cycle* is used in paragraph 6?

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

Use the passage "The Secret Life of Raindrops" to answer this question.

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

(A) Rain is the most wonderful weather of all.
(B) Rain can fill rivers and lakes.
(C) Water vapor can change into tiny drops of liquid water.
(D) Gravity pulls heavy drops downward.

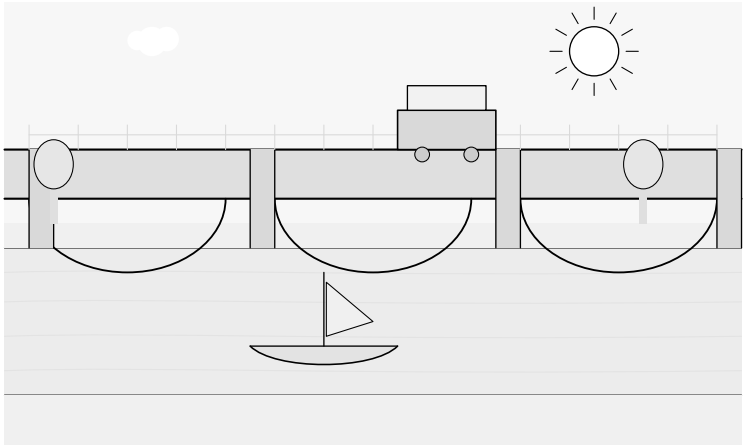


Review claims? Scan for codes.

Scan Me

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 19–26.

How Bridges Help Us



A strong bridge stretches over a river as cars cross above and a small boat moves below.

1 Bridges help people cross places that would otherwise be hard to travel over. A bridge can stretch across a river, a road, a deep valley, or even a railway line.

2 People have built bridges for thousands of years. Long ago, some of the first bridges were simple logs laid across streams. Today, many bridges are made of steel, concrete, or strong cables.

3 Different bridges are designed in different ways. Some are flat and straight. Some arch upward in a curve. Suspension bridges use tall towers and cables to hold up the road below.

4 Engineers are the people who plan and design bridges. They must think carefully about weight, weather, wind, and safety. A bridge has to be strong enough to carry cars, buses, trucks, and people.

Lancy smells? Scan for help.
Scan Me

5 Bridges save time and connect communities. Without them, people might need to travel many extra miles to reach school, work, or stores. Bridges help towns and cities stay connected.

6 The next time you cross a bridge, look around and imagine life without it. You may discover just how important that structure really is.

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19) What is the central idea of this article?

(A) Bridges are important structures that help people travel and stay connected.
(B) People no longer need bridges in modern cities.
(C) Engineers only build roads, not bridges.
(D) All bridges look exactly the same.

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

20) How is the information in paragraph 3 mainly organized?

(A) By listing only opinions about roads
(B) By telling a story about one family crossing a bridge
(C) By giving directions to a town
(D) By describing different types of bridges

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

21) What does the word *connect* mean as it is used in paragraph 5?

(A) To turn steel into wood
(B) To paint a road bright colors
(C) To join places or people together
(D) To hide something under water

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

22) In which paragraph would a reader find information about who designs bridges?

(A) Paragraph 6
(B) Paragraph 2
(C) Paragraph 4
(D) Paragraph 1

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

23) Why does the author include information about early bridges in paragraph 2?

(A) To prove that old bridges were unsafe
(B) To show how bridges have changed over time
(C) To describe a contest for engineers
(D) To explain how rivers were formed

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

24) Which detail **best** supports the idea that bridges are useful to communities?

(A) Some bridges arch upward in a curve.
(B) Bridges can be made of steel or concrete.
(C) Engineers think about wind and weather.
(D) Bridges save time and help people reach school, work, and stores.

Use the passage "How Bridges Help Us" to answer this question.

Big hints? Raise the bar.
Scan Me