6 Nebraska NSCAS Growth

English Language Arts Practice Tests

for Grade 5

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



- Real Practice. Real Results.
- Small Steps, Big Gains!
- Practice Smart. Score Higher:
- Detailed Explanations
- Practice
- Master
- Achieve

Reza Nazari

Grade 5 · Nebraska · NSCAS Growth

6 Nebraska Grade 5
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for NSCAS Growth Preparation and Academic Confidence

Reza Nazari

Copyrighted Material

Copyright © 2026

Effortless Math Education Inc

Published by Effortless Math Education
www.effortlessmath.com

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the author, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law, including Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act.

This publication is independently produced and has no official connection to any state, district, or national testing program.

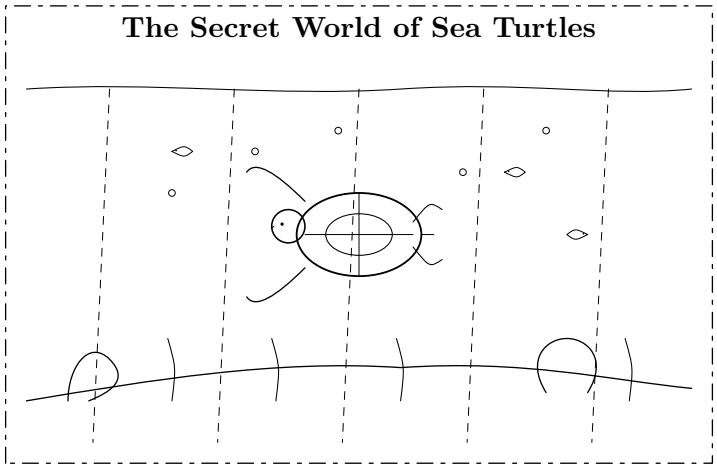
Test names and organizational names used herein are the property of their respective trademark holders.

Copyright © 2026

Copyrighted Material

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 1–9.

The Secret World of Sea Turtles



A gentle sea turtle glides through sparkling water, surrounded by coral, tropical fish, and waving seaweed.

1 Sea turtles have swum in Earth's oceans for more than one hundred million years. These ancient animals have hard shells to protect their soft bodies, powerful flippers for swimming, and a remarkable sense of direction that guides them across entire oceans.

2 Every few years, female sea turtles return to the very beach where they were born. They crawl out of the water at night, dig a nest in the warm sand, and lay up to one hundred eggs. Then they gently cover the eggs and return to the sea.

3 About two months later, the eggs hatch. The tiny hatchlings dig out of the sand and race toward the ocean. They follow the bright horizon above the water to find their way to the sea. This journey, called a hatchling run, mostly happens at night so the babies stay cool and avoid predators.

Conflict? Win the read.
Scan Me

4 Sea turtles face many dangers. Bright lights near beaches can confuse hatchlings, causing them to go the wrong way. Plastic bags floating in the water look like jellyfish, one of the turtle's favorite foods. When turtles swallow plastic by mistake, it can make them dangerously ill.

5 People around the world are working hard to protect sea turtles. Some volunteers turn off bright lights during nesting season. Others pick up plastic trash from beaches and water. Scientists also attach small tags to turtles to track their journeys across the sea. Every small effort truly helps these remarkable animals survive.

Read this dictionary entry.

ancient *adjective*

1. very old; belonging to a time long ago
2. small and delicate
3. filled with sharp sounds
4. light and easy to carry

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

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

Use the passage "The Secret World of Sea Turtles" to answer this question.

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

(A) Scientists attach small tags to turtles to track their journeys.
(B) Sea turtles are the most fascinating creatures in all the ocean.
(C) Hatchlings follow the bright horizon to find the sea.
(D) Female sea turtles return to the beach where they were born.

Use the passage "The Secret World of Sea Turtles" to answer this question.

3) Why does the author use a **problem-and-solution** structure in paragraphs 4 and 5?

(A) To compare sea turtles to other ocean animals
(B) To show why jellyfish are the most dangerous ocean creature
(C) To describe the dangers turtles face and show how people are helping them
(D) To explain the steps for building a sea turtle nest

Use the passage "The Secret World of Sea Turtles" to answer this question.

4) What is the central idea of this article?

(A) All ocean animals should be kept as pets in aquariums.
(B) Sandy beaches are more useful than coral reefs.
(C) Jellyfish are the most important food for all ocean creatures.
(D) Sea turtles are ancient ocean animals that face real dangers, but people are working to protect them.

Icy start? Scan for mugs. Scan Me

16) What does the word *invisible* mean in line 15?

(A) Very loud and powerful
(B) Perfectly round and smooth
(C) Quick and bitterly cold
(D) Not able to be seen

Use the poem "Wind Song" to answer this question.

17) What does the phrase "turns every puddle into glass" in line 10 most likely mean?

(A) The wind makes puddles look smooth and flat like a mirror
(B) The wind makes all the puddles disappear quickly
(C) The wind breaks puddles into sharp pieces
(D) The wind fills every puddle with pieces of glass

Use the poem "Wind Song" to answer this question.

18) Which sentence best describes what the speaker **feels** about the wind?

(A) The speaker feels angry that the wind tears down every fence and maple tree
(B) The speaker believes wind is easy to catch and keep inside a bag
(C) The speaker is frightened of puddles and refuses to go outside on windy days
(D) The speaker feels a close understanding of the wind and notices it even though it cannot be seen or held

Use both "The Dragon Kite" and "Wind Song" to answer this question.

19) What do the story and the poem have in common?

(A) Both take place entirely inside a school building
(B) Both are mainly about repairing broken objects
(C) Both describe a storm that damages the neighborhood
(D) Both show the wind as something joyful, powerful, and worth celebrating

Brisk robots? Raise the bar.
Scan Me

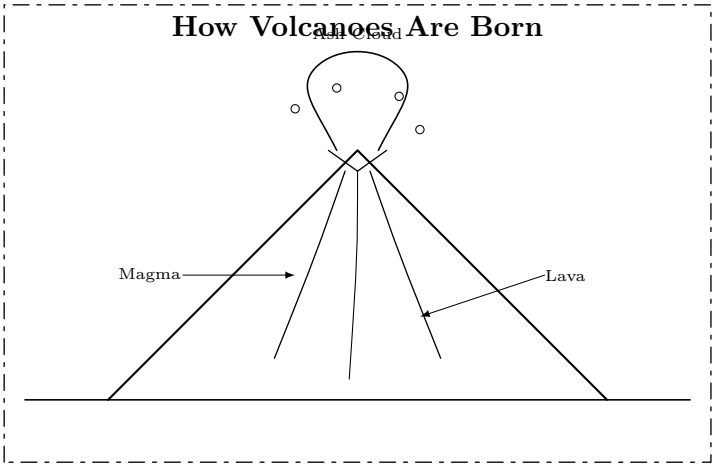
Use both "The Dragon Kite" and "Wind Song" to answer this question.

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

(A) Both endings reveal that someone loses something very important
(B) Both endings describe a powerful thunderstorm arriving
(C) Both endings take place inside on a cold and rainy evening
(D) Both endings show a character feeling a deep and personal connection to the natural world

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 21–29.

How Volcanoes Are Born



A volcano erupts brilliantly against the night sky, sending glowing lava and ash high above the mountain.

1 Deep beneath Earth's surface, rock gets so hot that it melts into a thick, flowing liquid called magma. As magma builds up, pressure pushes it upward through cracks in the ground. When it finally breaks through to the surface, a volcano is born.

2 Once magma flows out of a volcano, it is called lava. Lava can be as hot as 2,200 degrees Fahrenheit. It moves slowly down the sides of the volcano, cooling and hardening as it travels. Over thousands of years, these layers of cooled lava can build an entire mountain.

3 Not all volcanoes look the same. Some are tall and steep, with sides that slope sharply upward. Others are wide and low, shaped like a gentle dome. The shape of a volcano depends on how thick or thin its lava is when it flows.

4 Volcanoes can be very dangerous. An eruption may send ash, rocks, and hot gases high into the air. Lava flows can burn forests and bury roads. However, volcanic soil is extremely rich with minerals, and over time, forests and farms often grow back beautifully in places where lava once flowed.

5 Scientists who study volcanoes are called volcanologists. They use special tools to measure heat and movement deep underground. When a volcano begins to show signs of eruption, scientists can warn nearby communities so people have time to stay safe. Their important work helps people prepare for one of nature's most breathtaking events.

---

21) What is the central idea of this article?

(A) Volcanoes form from melted rock underground and can be both powerful and beneficial.
(B) All volcanoes are shaped like tall, perfectly steep mountains.
(C) Lava cools too slowly underground to ever reach the surface.
(D) Scientists have no way to predict when a volcano will erupt.



Icy keys?
Hear the beat.
Scan Me