7 Full-Length Vermont VTCAP

English Language Arts (ELA) Practice Tests

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

Grade 5



Practice Master Achieve

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Grade 5 · Vermont · VTCAP

7 Vermont Grade 5
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for VTCAP Preparation
and Academic Confidence

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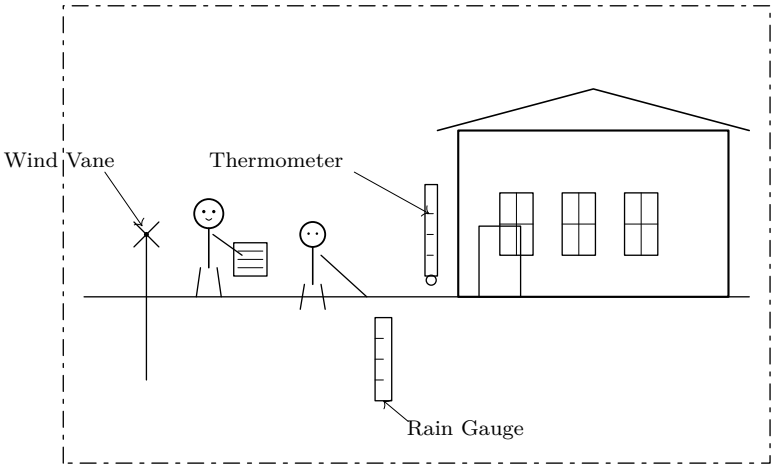
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Read the passage below. Then answer questions 1–8.

The Weather Watchers Club



1 At Brookside School, a group of fifth graders started the Weather Watchers Club after noticing how quickly recess conditions could change from one day to the next. They wanted to understand why one afternoon felt still and warm while the next brought sharp wind and dark clouds. What began as a simple science project soon became one of the most practical parts of the school week.

2 Each morning before the first bell, two club members head outside with clipboards. They check the thermometer, study the cloud cover, and measure any rain collected in a clear gauge beside the garden. Then they record their observations in a shared notebook. By Friday, the club has built a detailed picture of the week's weather.

3 The students also built simple tools to sharpen their observations. They made a wind spinner that whirls when air moves across the playground, painted a cloud chart to help classify what they saw overhead, and kept a small ruler near the back steps to measure puddles after storms. None of the tools were complicated, but together they helped the club turn quick guesses into useful evidence.



Ballad leads? Scan for pace.
Scan Me

4 Before long, the class began to notice patterns. A windy morning was often followed by cooler temperatures later in the day. Dark gray clouds usually gathered before steady rain. After several sunny afternoons in a row, the garden soil near the fence turned dry and cracked. The students were not just watching the weather anymore. They were learning how it affected the world around them.

5 The Weather Watchers Club also became useful to the whole school. On rainy mornings, members wrote short weather updates for the announcements so teachers could plan recess and dismissal. On especially hot days, they reminded classes to carry water bottles outside. Younger students especially liked hearing whether it would be a good day for sidewalk chalk, bubbles, or indoor games.

6 Mrs. Patel, the science teacher, says the club proves that careful observation can turn an ordinary day into a discovery. Now, whenever a breeze picks up or clouds begin to gather, students glance out the windows with new attention. For them, the sky has become a changing text full of clues they know how to read.

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1) What is the **central idea** of the article?

(A) Rain gauges are the most important school tool.
(B) Brookside Elementary only studies science outside.
(C) The Weather Watchers Club helps students observe weather and learn from it.
(D) Kindergartners like bubbles more than weather.

Scan Me
Mini grids? Ace every writing.

Use the article "The Weather Watchers Club" to answer this question.

2) What does the word *patterns* mean as it is used in paragraph 4?

(A) Bright colors painted on paper
(B) Tools used for measuring rain
(C) A kind of strong storm
(D) Repeated happenings that can be noticed

Use the article "The Weather Watchers Club" to answer this question.

3) Why does the author include the details in paragraph 3?

(A) To prove that recess should happen indoors
(B) To compare the school to a museum
(C) To explain how the students built tools to study weather
(D) To show that all tools are expensive

Use the article "The Weather Watchers Club" to answer this question.

4) How is the article mainly organized?

(A) By telling a fantasy story about clouds
(B) By comparing two different schools
(C) By listing every kind of weather in the world
(D) By showing how the club works and what students learned from it

Use the article "The Weather Watchers Club" to answer this question.



Detail turns?
Seal the deal.
Scan Me

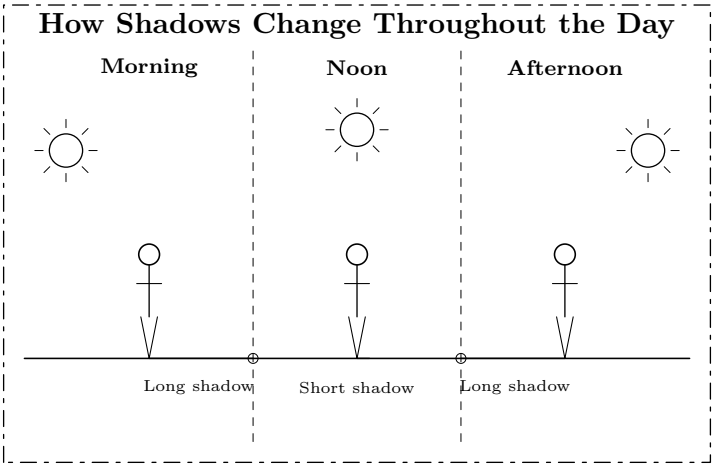
Use both "The Paper Boat Race" and "Stream Song" to answer this question.

19) What important idea is found in both the story and the poem?

(A) Only races make stories interesting.
(B) Paper should never be folded.
(C) Small things can have exciting adventures.
(D) Streams are always dangerous.

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

How Shadows Change



1 Have you ever noticed that your shadow does not stay the same all day? In the morning, it may stretch far across the ground. Around noon, it can shrink until it stays close to your feet. By late afternoon, it grows long again, but it points in a different direction.

2 A shadow forms when an object blocks light. If the sun shines on one side of your body, the light cannot reach the ground on the other side. The dark shape left behind is your shadow.

Myth posters? Feel the mood.
Scan Me

3 Shadows change because the sun appears to move across the sky during the day. In the morning and late afternoon, the sun is lower, so its light strikes at a slant and makes shadows longer. Around noon, the sun is higher overhead, so shadows become shorter.

4 The direction of a shadow changes too. Since the sun appears in different parts of the sky during the day, the shadow points in a new direction as the hours pass. This is why a shadow that points one way in the morning may point somewhere else by the end of the day.

5 People can learn a great deal from shadows. Long ago, some communities used shadows in sundials to help tell time. Today, students can track shadows to learn how sunlight moves across the sky. A simple shadow can teach an important science idea.

6 The next time you are outside on a sunny day, stop and look down. Your shadow is not just following you from place to place. It is changing every time the light above you changes.

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20) What is the **central idea** of the article?

(A) Light never changes.
(B) Shadows change during the day because of the sun's position in the sky.
(C) Only students have shadows.
(D) Noon is the best time to play outside.

Use the article "How Shadows Change" to answer this question.

21) What does the word *forms* mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

(A) Moves underground
(B) Begins to exist
(C) Sings softly
(D) Breaks apart

Use the article "How Shadows Change" to answer this question.

22) Why does the author include the information in paragraph 5?

(A) To explain why clouds are gray
(B) To compare shadows with rain
(C) To show that shadows can be useful for learning
(D) To prove that shadows are dangerous

Use the article "How Shadows Change" to answer this question.

23) Which detail best supports the idea that shadows change in length?

(A) A shadow forms when an object blocks light.
(B) Around noon, the sun is higher overhead, so shadows become shorter.
(C) A shadow may point in a different direction.
(D) People used shadows to tell time.

Use the article "How Shadows Change" to answer this question.

Rhyme words? Scan to start. Scan Me