6 Nebraska NSCAS Growth

English Language Arts Practice Tests

for Grade 3

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



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Grade 3 · Nebraska · NSCAS Growth

6 Nebraska Grade 3
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for NSCAS Growth 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!

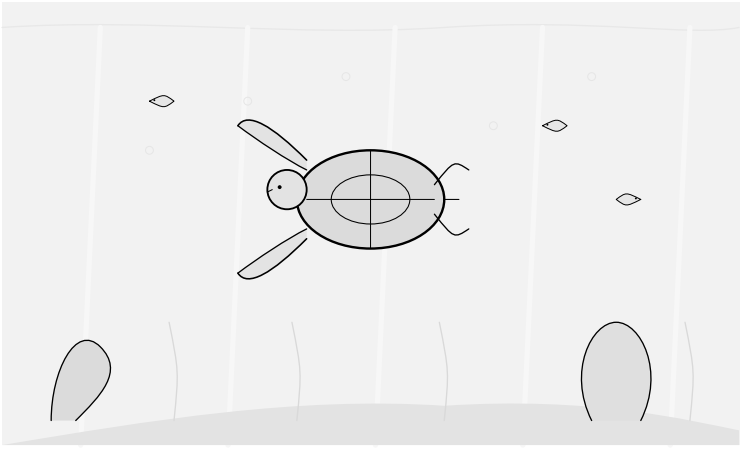


Slow answers? Scan for hats.

Scan Me

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.

Scan Me
Neat reviews? Scan for cats.

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



Zany tips? Scan for ones.
Scan Me

Wind Song

The wind does not walk on any road,
It has no door, no bag, no key.
It tumbles through the maple tree
And carries every leaf to me.

It shakes the fence, it finds a crack,
It whistles past my open ear.
I cannot see it coming first,
But always know when it is near.

It lifts the kite above the hill,
Turns every puddle into glass.
It smooths the cool along my cheek
And makes the tall grass bow and pass.

No one can hold it, none can keep,
It slips through every reaching hand.
And yet of all invisible things,
The wind is what I understand.



Neat quotes?
Spot the mood.
Scan Me

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

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

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 a close understanding of the wind and notices it even though it cannot be seen or held
(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 angry that the wind tears down every fence and maple tree

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

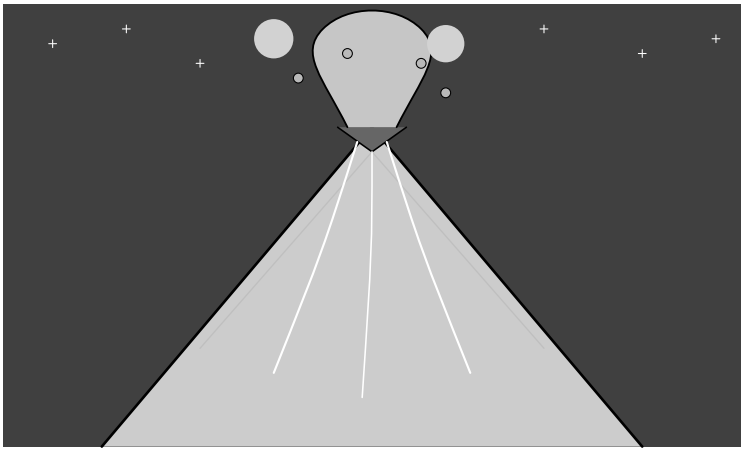
Use both "The Dragon Kite" and "Wind Song" to answer this question.

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

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

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.



Spring graphs? Scan for fun.
Scan Me