5 Maryland MCAP

English Language Arts

Grade 6

Practice Tests



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Small Steps, Big Gains! Small Steps, Big Gains!

Practice Master Achieve

Reza Nazari

Grade 6 · Maryland MCAP

5 Realistic Maryland MCAP Grade 6 English Language Arts Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for MCAP Preparation and Academic Confidence

Built for steady confidence and dependable first-pass practice.

Reza Nazari

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During the Test

- **Skim the questions first**, then read the passage with purpose.
- **Never leave a question blank.** A careful guess can be right; empty is always wrong.
- **Stuck? Circle it and move on.** Easier points are waiting. Come back when your brain is fresh.
- **Trust your first read.** Changing answers without a real reason almost always hurts.
- **Watch the clock but do not stare at it.** Glance every few questions. That is enough.

One last thing.

When you sit down on test day, remember: you are not starting this test alone. Every passage you read, every question you untangled, every morning you chose to open this book — all of it is sitting there in your head, on your team. Now go show it what you can do.

— Reza Nazari

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Grade 6 English

English Language

1

Questions: Varies by section **Duration:** No time limit

Important Test Information

These practice items are designed for Grade 6 English Language practice. Expect close reading, vocabulary in context, evidence-based reasoning, and language-revision work throughout the book.

Test-Taking Tips:

- Read the question stem carefully before you compare answer choices.
- Return to the passage whenever the best answer depends on evidence.
- Use a second pass for the hardest items instead of forcing a rushed guess.

Remember: Take your time, stay calm, and do your best. You've prepared well for this practice—you've got this!

Scan Me

(D) Both texts suggest that immediate results matter more than what lasts over time.

Read the article. Then answer questions 17–23.

The Bison Come Back

1 Before the late eighteen-hundreds, great herds of American bison moved across the plains in numbers that reached into the millions. Within a few decades, hunting reduced that number to fewer than one thousand. Many scientists at the time feared the bison would disappear entirely.

2 A handful of ranchers, along with a few early conservationists and Native nations, worked quietly to save the remaining animals. They fenced small herds, shared pairs between ranches, and protected them from further loss. In 1905, the American Bison Society formed to bring groups together and publish what they learned.

3 Today, bison live again in places they had been missing for more than a century. Some live in national parks; others roam land managed by Native tribes and by state wildlife agencies. Their return is slow and steady rather than dramatic, and it depends on careful choices about space, disease, and food.

4 Bison are sometimes called "keystone" species because so many other parts of a grassland depend on them. Their heavy hoofprints press seeds into soil. Their dust baths create small patches that become homes for insects, lizards, and ground-nesting birds. Where bison return, the grass grows in a different way.

5 The recovery has not been simple. Bison need more open space than most animals, and some neighbors of bison herds worry about disease or wandering animals. Tribal nations, state agencies, and private ranchers spend time each year in meetings that are patient and sometimes tense.

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6 Still, bison have become a symbol of what careful, long-term work can accomplish. What was once a rare sight is now part of many school field trips, and a few tribes have begun to restore hunting traditions that had nearly been lost. The prairie is not what it once was, but it is again a place where bison belong.

17) Which statement best expresses the central idea of the article?

(A) Bison were never in real danger of disappearing.
(B) The slow recovery of bison shows how careful work by many groups can bring a species back.
(C) Bison recovery is complete, and herds are now everywhere on the plains.
(D) The story of bison is mainly about ranches that failed.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

18) Why does the author include the early work of ranchers, conservationists, and Native nations?

(A) To show that only one group saved the bison.
(B) To show that the early recovery depended on cooperation among different groups.
(C) To argue that national parks caused the decline of bison.
(D) To suggest that bison were never hunted.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

19) What does the word *keystone* most nearly mean in paragraph 4?

(A) a key that opens locks
(B) a species that many other species depend on
(C) a rare mineral found in grasslands
(D) an animal that is easily replaced

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

20) Which detail best supports the idea that bison shape the prairie?

(A) Bison were once reduced to fewer than one thousand animals.
(B) Their heavy hoofprints press seeds into soil, and their dust baths create small patches.
(C) Bison live in several national parks.
(D) Some tribal nations manage bison herds.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

21) Which sentence from the article best supports the idea that recovery has not been easy?

(A) Many scientists at the time feared the bison would disappear entirely.
(B) Tribal nations, state agencies, and private ranchers spend time each year in meetings that are patient and sometimes tense.
(C) Their return is slow and steady rather than dramatic.
(D) Where bison return, the grass grows in a different way.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

22) **This question has two correct answers.** Choose the **two** sentences from the article that **together** best support the idea that bison recovery depends on careful cooperation and produces lasting benefits for the land.

(A) "Before the late eighteen-hundreds, great herds of American bison moved across the plains in numbers that reached into the millions."
(B) "Tribal nations, state agencies, and private ranchers spend time each year in meetings that are patient and sometimes tense."
(C) "In 1905, the American Bison Society formed to bring groups together and publish what they learned."
(D) "Where bison return, the grass grows in a different way."