6

Ohio

OST

English Language Arts Practice Tests

for Grade 8

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

6 Ohio OST Grade 8

English Language Arts (ELA)

Practice Tests

A Complete Guide To Building English Language Mastery And Excelling On The OST Assessment

Read

Track the central idea and gather evidence that matters.

Revise

Slow down, test your thinking, and make stronger choices.

Reflect

Build a repeatable routine across all six tests.

Build the habits that strong readers use every day.

Six tests give students enough repetition to build habit, reflection, and control without losing momentum.

Reza Nazari

Built for deliberate practice and steady revision

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

The Big Day

Your Test Day Playbook.

Calm is a skill. This is how to bring it with you.

◯ The Night Before

- Pack everything tonight. Pencils, eraser, water, ID, approved calculator if needed.
- Do light review only — a single short passage. No new material. No all-nighter.
- Eat something familiar. Tonight is not the night to experiment with anything new.
- Phone out of the room an hour before bed. Protect your sleep like it is part of the grade.

◯ The Morning Of

- Eat protein and complex carbs. Skip the sugar spike — the crash comes during the test.
- Move your body for five minutes. Walk, stretch, shake out your hands. Lower the nerves.
- Arrive early enough to settle, not so early that waiting builds up pressure.
- At the door, four slow breaths: *in for four, hold for four, out for six.* It works.

During the Test

- **Preview the questions**, then read the passage hunting specific answers.
- **Answer every question.** A guess has better odds than a blank — always.
- **Skip hard ones and return.** Easy points protect your time budget. Come back with fresh eyes.
- **Trust your first read.** Change an answer only when you find concrete evidence, not a hunch.
- **Pace by section, not by question.** Check the clock every few minutes, not every question.
- **If anxiety spikes, breathe and reset.** Ten slow seconds saves ten lost minutes.
- **Save 2–3 minutes at the end.** Review flagged items, confirm your bubbled answers.

One last thing.

High school starts soon, but you do not have to wait for it to begin showing up as the reader and writer you want to be. Test day is just a window. Open it, show your thinking clearly, and step through. The next version of you is already on the other side.

— Reza Nazari

Table of Contents

★ Practice Test 1 ____ 10
★ Practice Test 2 ____ 38
★ Practice Test 3 ____ 65
★ Practice Test 4 ____ 93
★ Practice Test 5 ____ 120
★ Practice Test 6 ____ 146
Practice Test Answer Keys ____ 173
Practice Test Answers and Explanations ____ 176

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

10) How does Jordan change over the course of the story?

(A) He begins as an expert editor and ends frustrated with student interviews.
(B) He moves from valuing energy and confidence alone to understanding that good audio also depends on clarity and restraint.
(C) He decides radio is too technical to be creative.
(D) He starts out disliking microphones but learns to enjoy performing.

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

11) Which statement best expresses a theme of the story?

(A) Effective communication often requires leaving space for meaning, not just filling every moment with sound.
(B) Interviews work best when hosts speak more than their guests.
(C) Fast talking is the most persuasive style on the radio.
(D) Silence is useful only when an audio file contains mistakes.

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

12) In paragraph 3, what does the author suggest by saying clarity was the condition that allowed personality to matter?

(A) People only notice personality when sound levels stay low.
(B) Editing software controls how confident a host appears.
(C) Personality should be removed from all formal interviews.
(D) A speaker's style is most effective when listeners can clearly understand what is being said.

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

13) Why does the author include Jordan cutting several of his own clever-sounding transitions in paragraph 4?

(A) To show that Jordan is learning to value the listener's understanding over his own performance
(B) To suggest that the adviser prefers shorter programs only because of time limits
(C) To explain why Jordan plans to quit the station
(D) To prove that transitions are never useful in radio interviews

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

14) How are the story and poem most alike?

(A) Both show that effective communication depends partly on restraint and space, not just loudness or speed.
(B) Both argue that microphones distract from real communication.
(C) Both focus on a host preparing for a live debate competition.
(D) Both suggest listeners prefer silence to spoken language.

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

15) Which **TWO** lines from the poem best support the idea that strong communication makes room for understanding?Select **TWO** correct answers.

(A) I thought volume meant arrival,
(B) leave air around the sentence,
(C) that the bright voice wins by entering first.
(D) trust the quiet that carries it.
(E) What reaches someone clearly

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

16) How does the mood of the poem shift from beginning to end?

(A) From joy to bitterness
(B) From embarrassment to humor
(C) From fear to relief
(D) From assertive certainty to measured understanding

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

17) What shared message do the story and poem convey?

(A) Public speaking should always sound informal and unplanned.
(B) Clear communication often depends on knowing when not to crowd the message.
(C) Listeners mainly care about the confidence of the speaker.
(D) Recorded audio is less meaningful than face-to-face conversation.

Use the story and poem to answer this question.

18) Which sentence best summarizes the story?

(A) While editing student interviews for the school radio station, Jordan learns that strong broadcasting depends on clarity and timing as much as confidence and energy.
(B) Jordan joins the radio station and immediately becomes its best editor.
(C) A faculty adviser bans improvisation during school interviews.
(D) Jordan records a transit interview that fails because of broken equipment.