

Computer-Based Released Items Grade 6 MCAS English Language Arts Spring 2022

The spring 2022 grade 6 English Language Arts test was administered in two primary formats: a computer-based version and a paper-based version. The vast majority of students took the computer-based test. The paper-based test was offered as an accommodation for students with disabilities who are unable to use a computer, as well as for English learners who are new to the country and are unfamiliar with technology.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is releasing items from both versions of the test to provide information about the knowledge and skills that students are expected to demonstrate.

- Released items from the **computer-based test** are available online at mcas.pearsonsupport.com/released-items. The computer-based released items are collected in a mini test called an ePAT (electronic practice assessment tool). Items in the ePAT are displayed in TestNav 8, the testing platform for the computer-based tests.
- Released items from the **paper-based test** are available in PDF format on the Department’s website at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/testitems.html.

This document provides information about each released item from the *computer-based test*, including: reporting category, standard(s) covered, item type, item description, and correct answer (for selected-response items only). Information about unreleased operational items is also presented in this document.

A Note about Testing Mode

Most of the operational items on the grade 6 ELA test were the same, regardless of whether a student took the computer-based version or the paper-based version. In places where a technology-enhanced item was used on the computer-based test, an adapted version of the item was created for use on the paper test. These adapted paper items were multiple-choice or multiple-select items that tested the same ELA content and assessed the same standard as the technology-enhanced item.

**Grade 6 English Language Arts
Spring 2022 Computer-Based Released Operational Items**

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description	Correct Answer (SR)**
1	Reading	RI.6.5	SR	Analyze how a paragraph contributes to the development of ideas in an article.	A
2	Reading	RI.6.4	SR	Identify context to support the meaning of a phrase.	A
3	Language	L.6.2	SR	Determine the function of punctuation used in a sentence.	A
4	Reading	RI.6.4	SR	Determine the author's tone in an article.	D
5	Language	L.6.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a word in context and choose evidence from a passage that supports the meaning.	D;C
6	Reading	RL.6.4	SR	Determine how a phrase impacts meaning in a passage.	C
7	Reading	RL.6.3	SR	Analyze how an idea about a character is developed in a passage.	A
8	Reading	RL.6.3	SR	Analyze a character's feelings in a passage.	A
9	Reading	RI.6.8	SR	Determine how a statement made in a fictional passage could be supported by evidence from an informational article.	B
10	Reading	RI.6.9	SR	Identify how a concept developed in an article is similar to a concept developed in a passage.	D
11	Reading	RI.6.6	SR	Determine a point of view shared by the authors of an article and a passage on the same topic and choose supporting evidence.	A;C
12	Language, Writing	L.6.1, L.6.2, L.6.3, W.6.2, W.6.4	ES	Write an essay that explains how an idea is developed in an article and a passage; use information from both texts to support the explanation.	
13	Reading	RI.6.8	SR	Determine how the author supports a specific claim in an article.	D
14	Reading	RI.6.5	SR	Determine the effect of a particular sentence structure in a portion of an article.	D
15	Reading	RI.6.2	SR	Identify a detail that supports a central idea in an article.	A
16	Language	L.6.5	SR	Analyze figurative language in an article.	C
17	Reading	RI.6.7	SR	Analyze a photograph to further understand a key idea presented in an article.	A
18	Reading	RI.6.1	SR	Determine a question that is unanswered in an article.	C
19	Reading	RI.6.3	SR	Determine unique and shared characteristics of animals described in an article.	<i>see page 4</i>

* ELA item types are: selected-response (SR) and essay (ES).

**Answers are provided here for selected-response items only. Sample responses and scoring guidelines for essay items will be posted at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/default.html.

Grade 6 English Language Arts
Spring 2022 Computer-Based Unreleased Operational Items

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description
20	Reading	RL.6.5	SR	Analyze how a specific paragraph in a passage contributes to the development of the plot.
21	Reading	RL.6.5	SR	Analyze how a specific paragraph helps develop a passage.
22	Language	L.6.2	SR	Determine the function of punctuation used in a sentence.
23	Language	L.6.5	SR	Analyze the effect of figurative language in a passage and choose a detail in the passage that creates a similar effect.
24	Reading	RL.6.4	SR	Determine the tone of a passage based on a portion of the text.
25	Reading	RL.6.6	SR	Analyze how an author reveals a character's point of view.
26	Reading	RL.6.4	SR	Analyze the impact of word choice in a passage.
27	Reading	RL.6.1	SR	Make an inference about a character in a passage.
28	Reading	RL.6.3	SR	Analyze how a character feels at different points of a passage.
29	Reading	RL.6.6	SR	Analyze how an author uses point of view to develop a character.
30	Reading	RL.6.2	SR	Determine a theme of a passage.
31	Language, Writing	L.6.1, L.6.2, L.6.3, W.6.2, W.6.4	ES	Write an essay explaining the methods used by an author to make a passage interesting; use details from the passage to support your explanation.

* ELA item types are selected-response (SR) and essay (ES).

Correct Answer for CBT Item #19: Technology-Enhanced Item

Characteristic	Zorilla	Crested Rat	Both
hair sometimes appears to be gray	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
gives off smell	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has black and white stripes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
hairs contain small openings	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>