

Computer-Based Released Items Grade 3 MCAS English Language Arts Spring 2023

The spring 2023 grade 3 English Language Arts test was administered in two formats: a computer-based version and a paper-based version. Most students took the computer-based test. The paper-based test was offered as an accommodation for eligible students who were unable to use a computer.

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 the following: reporting category, standard(s) covered, item type, item description, and correct answer (for released selected-response items only). Information about unreleased operational items is also presented here. Sample responses and scoring guidelines for released essay and constructed-response items will be posted at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/default.html.

A Note about Testing Mode

Most of the operational items on the grade 3 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 3 English Language Arts
Spring 2023 Computer-Based Released Operational Items

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description	Correct Answer (SR)**
1	Reading	RL.3.5	SR	Determine the setting of the passage.	C
2	Reading	RL.3.1	SR	Identify the narrator of the passage.	D
3	Language	L.3.5	SR	Determine the meaning of a multiple-meaning word in context.	B
4	Reading	RL.3.1	SR	Determine the reason for a characters' actions based on details from the passage.	A
5	Language	L.3.4	SR	Identify a sentence that uses a multiple-meaning word in the same way that the word is used in the passage.	D
6	Reading	RL.3.3	SR	Determine what a specific paragraph shows about a character.	B
7	Language	L.3.2	SR	Determine the purpose of punctuation used in the passage.	B
8	Reading	RL.3.3	SR	Determine the cause of an event from the passage.	C
9	Reading	RL.3.4	SR	Interpret what a word suggests about a character in the passage.	C
10	Reading	RL.3.1	SR	Determine which event occurred first in the passage.	B
11	Reading	RL.3.5	SR	Identify solutions to the problems described in the passage.	<i>see page 4</i>
12	Reading	RL.3.2	SR	Determine the central message of the passage.	D
13	Language, Writing	L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, W.3.2, W.3.4	ES	Write an essay explaining how a character's feelings change throughout the passage. Use information from the passage as evidence.	
14	Reading	RI.3.7	SR	Determine which heading would best support a section of the passage.	C
15	Reading	RI.3.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a paragraph from the passage.	C
16	Reading	RI.3.4	SR	Identify the phrase that best helps to determine the meaning of a word in	B
17	Reading	RI.3.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a word in context.	B
18	Reading	RI.3.1	SR	Determine how an individual from the passage accomplishes a task.	B
19	Reading	RI.3.7	SR	Determine the purpose of a text feature in the passage.	A
20	Language	L.3.1	SR	Identify the tenses used in sentences from the passage.	<i>see page 4</i>

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

**Answers are provided here for selected-response items only. Page 4 of this document provides correct answers for technology-enhanced (TE) items. Sample responses and scoring guidelines for essay and constructed-response items will be posted at www.doc.mass.edu/mcas/student/default.html.

Grade 3 English Language Arts
Spring 2023 Computer-Based Unreleased Operational Items

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description
21	Language	L.3.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a multiple-meaning word in context.
22	Reading	RI.3.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a word in context.
23	Reading	RI.3.1	SR	Use information from the passage to demonstrate understanding.
24	Reading	RI.3.7	SR	Identify how a photograph supports information from a section in the passage.
25	Reading	RI.3.3	SR	Determine what a paragraph suggests about an individual based on information from the passage.
26	Reading	RI.3.1	SR	Determine the reason for an individual's action in the passage.
27	Reading	RI.3.3	SR	Identify traits that describe objects from the passage.
28	Language	L.3.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a phrase from the poem and choose another word that suggests the same meaning.
29	Language	L.3.4	SR	Identify the meaning of a prefix as used in a word from the poem.
30	Reading	RL.3.3	SR	Identify a word that describes the main character in the poem.
31	Reading	RI.3.9	SR	Identify an idea shared by the passage and the poem.
32	Reading	RI.3.2	CR	Write a paragraph that explains an individual's idea, using important details from the passage.

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

Correct Answer for CBT Item #11: Technology-Enhanced Item

Description of Problem	Solution
"Dad folded himself over the railing. 'UUUHHHBLEKKK.'" (paragraph 25)	sucking on candies
"Tomas had floated about thirty feet away from the boat." (paragraph 52)	throwing a rope

Correct Answer for CBT Item #20: Technology-Enhanced Item

Sentences in Present Tense	Sentences in Past Tense
"Today, bugs are his business." (paragraph 3)	"When he was a child, he kept tarantulas under his bed." (paragraph 12)
"He herds mosquitoes and bees that bite and sting." (paragraph 2)	"Kutcher loved bugs as a child." (paragraph 3)