

A photograph of a classroom scene. In the background, a chalkboard has the word "EDUCATION" written in white chalk. In the foreground, a green apple is visible, and to its right, a clear plastic container holds several colorful markers (yellow, blue, red). The entire scene is framed by a dark green, curved border that transitions into a solid green background for the rest of the slide.

EDUCATION

What are the New York State Tests?

January 24th, 2016

P.S. 174 Q

Presented by: Rich Bebenroth and Marie Russell



EDUCATION

State Test Information: Students

- Students in third through fifth grade will take the NYS ELA and Mathematics Assessment.
- Certain English Language Learners are exempt from the NYS ELA. If you have questions about exemption please contact your child's classroom or ELL teacher.
- Fourth grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment. An additional workshop will be held to provide information.



EDUCATION

State Test Information: Dates

- ELA
 - March 28,29,30 Tuesday-Thursday
- Math
 - May 2,3,4 Tuesday-Thursday

Spring Recess April 8th-April 18th (Please avoid extending your family vacation).



EDUCATION

Timing

- Tests are untimed
- Students may work for as long as they need, as long as they are working productively
- If a student is still working, and the rest of their class has completed the test, they may be moved to another room to complete their test



EDUCATION

Types of Questions ELA

Multiple Choice

Students read a passage and answer multiple choice questions about the passage. Questions could be factual, inferential, checking for meaning, or interpretative.

Short Answer

Students will write a short response, one or two sentences, to answer a question relating to the story.

Extended Response

Students will write a longer essay, often comparing two passages. These sometimes will compare characters, situations, or settings.

Samples from: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/released-2016-3-8-ela-and-mathematics-state-test-questions>



EDUCATION

Multiple Choice Sample

- 18 “Min,” said Porch, “your vibrato is not something that is there, I mean that exists, like fingernails, or hair about to grow longer. It is something you can work at, yes, and think about, yes, but it is much more like . . .” Porch folded his arms, “like understanding something for the first time, or suddenly knowing what a book you’re reading is all about.” He peered at Minna. “It is like a light going on over your head. Do you know what I mean?”
- 19 “No,” said Minna, staring at Porch. She was thinking about her past life; the moments along the way when she needed something to make things right. When she was seven it had been a plaid skirt, at ten it had been a bicycle. Then it had been her first full-size cello. Now it was a vibrato. Would it end there?
- 20 “You will understand,” said Porch. “You will.” He tapped her knee. “Ready for Mozart?”

3

Read these sentences from paragraph 18 of the story.

He peered at Minna. “It is like a light going on over your head.”

What does the phrase “a light going on over your head” mean as it is used in paragraph 18?

- A a new way of understanding
- B something that is above you
- C a way someone helps you out
- D something that happens after hard work



EDUCATION

Short Answer Question

- 32 How does the first map contribute to the understanding of “Rushing West”? Use **two** details from the article to support your response.



EDUCATION

Extended Response Question

34

Jack's feelings about the sheep change at different times in the story. When do his feelings change? Why do his feelings change? Use details from the story to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- explain when Jack's feelings about the sheep change in the story
- explain why Jack's feelings change
- use details from the story to support your response



EDUCATION

State Test Information: English language Arts

This table reflects 2016 data, 2017 is not released yet.
We do not anticipate any changes.

2016 Grade 3 Common Core English Language Arts Test Design					
	Day 1	Day 2		Day 3	
	Book 1	Book 2		Book 3	Total
	Reading	Reading	Writing	Writing	
Passages	4	1	2	3	10
Multiple-Choice Questions	24	7			31
Short-Response Questions			2	5	7
Extended-Response Questions			1	1	2
	Total Number of Literary Passages				3-7
	Total Number of Informational Passages				3-7



EDUCATION

State Test Information: English language Arts

This table reflects 2016 data, 2017 is not released yet.
We do not anticipate any changes.

2016 Grade 4 Common Core English Language Arts Test Design					
	Day 1	Day 2		Day 3	
	Book 1	Book 2		Book 3	Total
	Reading	Reading	Writing	Writing	
Passages	4	1	2	3	10
Multiple-Choice Questions	24	7			31
Short-Response Questions			2	5	7
Extended-Response Questions			1	1	2
	Total Number of Literary Passages				3-7
	Total Number of Informational Passages				3-7



EDUCATION

State Test Information: English language Arts

This table reflects 2016 data, 2017 is not released yet.
We do not anticipate any changes.

2016 Grade 5 Common Core English Language Arts Test Design					
	Day 1	Day 2		Day 3	
	Book 1	Book 2		Book 3	Total
	Reading	Reading	Writing	Writing	
Passages	5	1	2	3	11
Multiple-Choice Questions	35	7			42
Short-Response Questions			2	5	7
Extended-Response Questions			1	1	2
	Total Number of Literary Passages				3-8
	Total Number of Informational Passages				3-8



EDUCATION

State Test Information: Timing Mathematics

This table reflects 2015 data, 2016 is not released yet.
Proposed shorter times and less questions and passages for 2016

Third and fourth grade

Book	Number of Multiple-Choice Questions	Number of Short-Response Questions	Number of Extended-Response Questions	Total Number of Questions
1	22	0	0	22
2	22	0	0	22
3	0	5	3	8
Total	44	5	3	52

Fifth grade

Book	Number of Multiple-Choice Questions	Number of Short-Response Questions	Number of Extended-Response Questions	Total Number of Questions
1	22	0	0	22
2	23	0	0	23
3	0	6	4	10
Total	45	6	4	55

EDUCATION



Types of Questions Math

- Multiple choice

1

Which expression could be used to find the total number of circles shown below?



- A** $2 + 20$
- B** 2×20
- C** $2 + 10$
- D** 2×10

Sample from 3rd grade NYS released questions



EDUCATION

Types of Questions Math

- Short Answer

A cargo ship is carrying nine shipping crates. Each crate is equal in mass, and the total mass of all nine crates is 4,707 kilograms. What is the mass, in kilograms, of each crate?
Show your work.

Sample from 4th grade NYS released questions



EDUCATION

Types of Questions Math

- Extended Response

There are 12 players on a new softball team. Before the team starts playing games, the team must pay a total registration fee of \$572. Along with the registration fee, the team will also need to spend a total of \$1,240 on equipment. To pay for the cost of the registration fee and the equipment, the players held a car wash and raised \$786. They then decided to sell candles for \$9.50 per candle to cover the remaining costs. If each player sells the same number of candles, how many candles must each player sell?

Show your work.

Sample from 5th grade NYS released questions



EDUCATION

Ways to help your child at home

- Provide a quiet space for homework. Make sure supplies are available – paper, scissors, glue, crayons, pens, pencils, etc.
- Set up routines and reinforce good habits. – homework time, reading time, etc.
- Encourage your child to read to you. Have books and magazines around the house.
- Visit your local library. Borrow books and magazines in different genres.
- Be a good listener – ask your child about the activities they are doing at school.
- Reinforce the skills and concepts your child is learning at school, e.g. math skills through cooking and shopping, writing notes, etc.
- Give your child as many different experiences as possible – take trips to museums, the zoo, shows, etc.



EDUCATION

Test Taking Tips

- Do not put undue pressure on your child.
- Make sure they get a good night's sleep.
- Make sure they eat breakfast the day of the test.
- Do not send your child to take the test if they are not feeling well (there are makeup days).
- Your child should bring three sharpened #2 pencils with erasers, but no “lucky pencils” or “special erasers” as they can be a distractor.
- Let them know that once the test is over, it is a normal day and the test is just a small part of that day.



EDUCATION

Links

- <http://engageny.org/resource/test-guides-for-english-language-arts-and-mathematics>
- <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/CommonCoreLibrary/default.htm>
- <http://www.engageny.org/resource/released-2016-3-8-ela-and-mathematics-state-test-questions>