



MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Elementary
and Secondary Education

*Release of Spring 2024
MCAS Test Information*

from the

Grade 5 English Language Arts Test

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Massachusetts Department of
Elementary and Secondary Education



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Overview of Grade 5 English Language Arts Test

The spring 2024 grade 5 English Language Arts (ELA) 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. More information can be found on the MCAS Test Administration Resources page at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/admin.html.

Most of the operational items on the grade 5 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.

The Department is not releasing items from the spring 2024 MCAS grades 3–8 tests. Released items from previous years' computer-based tests are available on the MCAS Resource Center website at mcas.pearsonsupport.com/released-items.

Test Sessions and Content Overview

The grade 5 ELA test was made up of two separate test sessions. Each session included reading passages, followed by selected-response questions and essay questions. On the paper-based test, the selected-response questions were multiple-choice items and multiple-select items, in which students select the correct answer(s) from among several answer options.

Standards and Reporting Categories

The grade 5 ELA test was based on Pre-K–5 learning standards in three content strands of the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy* (2017), listed below.

- Reading
- Writing
- Language

The *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy* is available on the Department website at www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/current.html.

ELA test results are reported under three MCAS reporting categories, which are identical to the three framework content strands listed above.

The tables at the conclusion of this document provide the following information about each operational item: reporting category, standard(s) covered, item type, and item description.

Reference Materials

During both ELA test sessions, the use of authorized bilingual word-to-word dictionaries and glossaries was allowed for students who are currently or were ever reported as English learners. No other reference materials were allowed during any ELA test session.

Grade 5 English Language Arts
Spring 2024 Computer-Based Operational Items

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description
1	<i>Language</i>	L.5.2	SR	Determine the purpose of punctuation used in a sentence.
2	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section from the passage.
3	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.1	SR	Make an inference based on information from the passage.
4	<i>Language</i>	L.5.4	SR	Determine the correct meaning of a multiple-meaning word in context.
5	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Determine the purpose of a paragraph in the passage.
6	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section in the passage.
7	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.4	SR	Identify a phrase that helps to determine the meaning of a word from the passage.
8	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.6	SR	Identify evidence that shows the author’s point of view about a topic.
9	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Make an inference based on information from two passages.
10	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Identify an idea developed in a section of one passage and choose evidence from another passage that supports the claim.
11	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Compare ideas presented in two passages.
12	<i>Language, Writing</i>	L.5.1, L.5.2, L.5.3, W.5.2, W.5.4	ES	Write an essay explaining an idea based on information in two passages; use important information from the passages as evidence.
13	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.2	SR	Determine the importance of a setting described in the passage.
14	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Determine the effect of figurative language used in the passage.
15	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Determine the meaning of figurative language used in the passage.
16	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.1	SR	Make an inference about a character based on details from the passage.
17	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section from the passage.
18	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.4	SR	Determine what a sentence suggests about a character in the passage.
19	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of multiple paragraphs in the passage.
20	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.1	SR	Make an inference about a character from the passage.
21	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Determine how the setting contributes to the development of the plot.
22	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.2	SR	Determine a theme of the passage and choose evidence from the passage that supports the theme.
23	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify phrases that summarize the passage.
24	<i>Language, Writing</i>	L.5.1, L.5.2, L.5.3, W.5.2, W.5.4	ES	Write an essay that explains the traits of a character; use important details from the passage as evidence.
25	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Interpret the meaning of figurative language used in the article.
26	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.2	SR	Identify a central idea of a section of the article and select evidence that supports the central idea.
27	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Determine the purpose of a paragraph in the article.
28	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a word in context.
29	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.2	SR	Identify the main idea of a section of the article.
30	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.8	SR	Identify information that supports a specific claim in the article.
31	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the organizational structure of the article.

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

**Grade 5 English Language Arts
Spring 2024 Paper-Based Operational Items**

PBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description
1	<i>Language</i>	L.5.2	SR	Determine the purpose of punctuation used in a sentence.
2	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section from the passage.
3	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.1	SR	Make an inference based on information from the passage.
4	<i>Language</i>	L.5.4	SR	Determine the correct meaning of a multiple-meaning word in context.
5	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Determine the purpose of a paragraph in the passage.
6	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section in the passage.
7	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.4	SR	Identify a phrase that helps to determine the meaning of a word from the passage.
8	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.6	SR	Identify evidence that shows the author’s point of view about a topic.
9	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Make an inference based on information from two passages.
10	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Identify an idea developed in a section of one passage and choose evidence from another passage that supports the claim.
11	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.9	SR	Compare ideas presented in two passages.
12	<i>Language, Writing</i>	L.5.1, L.5.2, L.5.3, W.5.2, W.5.4	ES	Write an essay explaining an idea based on information in two passages; use important information from the passages as evidence.
13	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.2	SR	Determine the importance of a setting described in the passage.
14	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Determine the effect of figurative language used in the passage.
15	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Determine the meaning of figurative language used in the passage.
16	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.1	SR	Make an inference about a character based on details from the passage.
17	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of a section from the passage.
18	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.4	SR	Determine what a sentence suggests about a character in the passage.
19	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify the purpose of multiple paragraphs in the passage.
20	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.1	SR	Make an inference about a character from the passage.
21	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Determine how the setting contributes to the development of the plot.
22	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.2	SR	Determine a theme of the passage and choose evidence from the passage that supports the theme.
23	<i>Reading</i>	RL.5.5	SR	Identify phrases that summarize the passage.
24	<i>Language, Writing</i>	L.5.1, L.5.2, L.5.3, W.5.2, W.5.4	ES	Write an essay that explains the traits of a character; use important details from the passage as evidence.
25	<i>Language</i>	L.5.5	SR	Interpret the meaning of figurative language used in the article.
26	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.2	SR	Identify a central idea of a section of the article and select evidence that supports the central idea.
27	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Determine the purpose of a paragraph in the article.
28	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a word in context.
29	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.2	SR	Identify the main idea of a section of the article.
30	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.8	SR	Identify information that supports a specific claim in the article.
31	<i>Reading</i>	RI.5.5	SR	Identify the organizational structure of the article.

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