

Information about the 6th Grade Mathematics MEAP Test and Tips for Taking the Mathematics Test

The Mathematics MEAP Test is based upon the Grade Level Content Expectations for Mathematics for Fifth Grade. The content for the 6th grade test is as follows:

Number and Operations

Measurement

Data and Probability

Students are assessed on their understanding of and fluency with division of whole numbers on the following topics:

- Understand division of whole numbers
- Multiply and divide whole numbers
- Find prime factorizations of whole numbers
- Multiply and divide by powers of ten
- Know, and convert among, measurement units within a given system
- Find and interpret mean and mode for a given set of data

Students are assessed on their understanding of and fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions and decimals on the following topics:

- Add and subtract fraction using common denominators
- Solve applied problems with fractions

Students are assessed on their ability to analyze properties of two-dimensional shapes, including angles, on the following topics:

- Find areas of geometric shapes using formulas
- Know the meaning of angles, and solve problems
- Solve problems about geometric shapes

There are 61 multiple-choice questions. There are two sections to the test. The test is untimed. Calculators are not permitted on the first part of the test, but are permitted on Part 2. However, questions do not depend on a student having a calculator. There is open space in the test booklet for students to use as scratch paper.

- Read the problem carefully before you try to solve it.
- Ask yourself, "What is the question asking me to do?"
- You may want to use one of the following problem solving strategies:
 - #1 Use a pattern to solve a problem

- #2 Identify the missing information that prevents a solution to the problem
- #3 Match a problem to a number sentence to solve a problem
- #4 Use objects to act out the solution to a problem
- #5 Use logic to solve a problem
- #6 Use Guess and Check (Test) to solve a problem
- #7 Solve an easier problem first, then solve the original problem
- #8 Make an organized list to solve a problem
- #9 Make a map or a diagram to solve a problem
- #10 Make a table to solve a problem

- Look at any operation sign to determine if you should add, subtract, multiply, or divide.
- Pick the operation you will use.
- Note all the facts in a word problem
- Estimate the answer. Then cross out any answer choices that are not reasonable.
- Choose the correct or best answer from among the four answer choices for multiple-choice questions and mark the correct response in your answer folder.
- If you are stuck on a problem, circle the number of the problem or mark the question with a * and then come back to it later. Remember to also skip this question on your answer folder and come back to it later.
- Don't give up. Sometimes the easiest questions are at the end of the test.
- Guess *only* if you really don't know the answer.
- Answer all questions.
- Take your time – no one will know who finished first when the tests are corrected.
- Check your answers at the end of each testing session.

*Information about the 6th Grade Reading MEAP Test
and
Tips for Taking the Reading Test*

The Reading MEAP Test is based upon the Grade Level Content Expectations for English Language Arts for Fifth Grade. The test has three scored parts. Each part is untimed.

Part 1 has 22 multiple choice questions. **Part 2** has 8 multiple choice questions and one short written response. **Part 3** has 22 multiple choice questions and two short written responses. The short written responses are intended to measure comprehension, not writing.

Students are asked to read selections and then answer multiple-choice questions about them and to provide a written response. A sample reading written response over a reading selection entitled **Wild Ponies** might be:

- Describe the ponies' habitat in three ways
- Describe the pony auction using three details from the selection
- Explain how the ponies live using three facts from the text.

Before you read the selections:

- Remember what you already know about the topic.
- Look at the title.
- Look at any headings.
- Look at any pictures and their captions.
- Look at any charts.
- Read the summary, if included.
- Read the questions.

While you read the selections:

- Read carefully to find the answers to the questions.
- Mark answers as you find them in the selection.
- Think about what the author's purpose was for writing the article.
- Look for descriptions the author uses to describe and compare things.
- Underline, highlight, or write notes in your test booklet as you read the selection.

After you read the selections:

- Answer the questions.
- Go back and reread to find answers you don't remember.
- Cross out wrong answers in the test booklet.

- Skip over questions you are stuck on. (Mark the question with a * or circle it and come back to it later. Remember to also skip this question on your answer folder and come back to it later.)
- Answer all questions.
- Take your time ---- no one will know who finished first when the tests are corrected.
- Check your answers.

As you write your short responses, do the following:

- Identify the topic – What am I being asked to do?
- Brainstorm – Think of as many ideas as you can that go with the question.
- Choose a strategy/plan for organizing your ideas – This may be done by clustering, webbing, listing, etc.
- Organize your ideas – Think about what ideas you want in your writing, what order will make the most sense, and what are the most important ideas you want to include in your writing.
- Select the main idea – Write a beginning topic sentence that states your main idea. This sentence must clearly tell the reader what you are going to write about.
- Stick to the topic – Be sure that every part of your writing relates to the topic.
- Read through your response to see if you should add or delete any information in your writing.
- Ask yourself if you clearly responded to the task.

Information about the 6th Grade Social Studies MEAP Test and Tips for Taking the Social Studies Test

The Social Studies MEAP Test is based upon the Michigan Curriculum Framework benchmarks for 3rd-5th Grade Social Studies. The Social Studies test assesses student knowledge in the areas of history, economics, geography, and civics in a multiple-choice format. There are 55 multiple-choice questions on the test and it is untimed.

Tips for Multiple-Choice Questions on the Social Studies Test

First

- **Identify the topic of the text** – Look at the title and any boldface print to help you determine what the article is about. Think about the topic and everything you already know about it before you begin to read.

OR

- **Identify the topic of the graph, chart, picture or statement** – Think about what you already know about the topic before interpreting the information

Next

- **Read the questions before reading the article or interpreting the graph, chart, or statement** – This will help you search for evidence/information for specific answers as you read the text or study the graph/chart.

Then

- **Read carefully** – If you do not understand the text, go back and reread the information
- **Mark answers as you are reading the article**

Tips for Answering Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Read the question stem carefully.
2. Ask yourself, "What is the question asking me to do?"
3. Read all answer choices.
4. Cross out incorrect or illogical answers.
5. Read any remaining choices again.
6. Determine the answer and mark the correct response in your answer folder.
7. If you are stuck on a problem, circle the number of the problem or mark the question with a * and come back to it later. Remember to also skip this question in your answer booklet and come back to it later.

8. Don't give up. Sometimes the easiest questions are at the end of the test.
9. Guess *only* if you don't know the answer.
10. If you are not sure of an answer, mark your BEST choice.
11. Answer all questions.
12. Take your time. No one will know who finished first when the tests are corrected.
13. Check your answers.