

A Sample TABE

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Adult Education Department

Oswego County BOCES

Mexico, New York

The TABE

- is the Test of Adult Basic Education.
- scores are sent to the New York State Education Department in various reports.
- is administered to anyone planning to enter an adult education course.
- has a pretest called the Locator to find out which TABE levels will best determine the tester's skills.
- is an assessment of the basic skills in reading, math, and language.
- is a timed test.
- scores are given in grade equivalents. For example, a score of 8.3 is a score that an average eighth grader in the third month of school should achieve.
- results are used by the teachers to help students raise their skill levels for entry into training courses and to prepare students for the GED exam.

The questions enclosed in this sample TABE are to give an idea of what the actual TABE may look like. There are three main sections: reading comprehension, math computation and math application (which allows use of a calculator), and language skills. Each part of the test is timed. There is a preprinted answer sheet for the tester to fill in the circle of his/her chosen answer.

* Some samples are from earlier TABE Forms 5 and 6.

The following website is free for further
practice on TABE-type questions.

www.testprepreview.com

(Select **TABE** from the left column on the opening page.)

Reading TABE

Excerpt from Ginger and Jasmine Tea by Anita Torres

The first big turning point came shortly after I completed my studies at Cambridge. I was doing botanical research in Sumatra when I fell ill with a rare tropical disease.

The last rays of the setting sun slanted through the door of my grass hut. In great misery, I watched as the old village healer entered, blocking out the light. She cautioned me to sip slowly as she offered me a wooden bowl and its brew of native herbs. Within an hour, my fever had broken, and I drifted off into a peaceful sleep.

Review of Ginger and Jasmine Tea

Ginger and Jasmine Tea, the story of distinguished biochemist Anita Torres, provides a rare glimpse of the forces that shaped the career of a great scientist. From her early days as a student of the flora of the Montana plains, to the day she received an international prize in biochemistry, Torres's story is clear and compelling prose.

Acknowledging the value of native and folk remedies used throughout the world, Torres recounts how she and others discovered such modern medicines as penicillin and reserpine. She emphasizes science's indebtedness to natural remedies that have been used for centuries before being recognized and synthesized by scientists.

1. Why did Torres go to Sumatra?
 - A. to study plants
 - B. to write a book
 - C. to cure an illness
 - D. to learn languages
2. What was given to Torres when she lay ill in her grass hut?
 - F. penicillin
 - G. medicinal tea
 - H. synthesized herbs
 - J. sun-heated liquids
3. Which one of the following is an *opinion*?
 - A. I was doing botanical research in Sumatra when I fell ill with a rare tropical disease.
 - B. I watched as the old village healer entered, blocking out the light.
 - C. The story... provides a rare glimpse of the forces that shaped the career of a great scientist.
 - D. Torres recounts how she and others discovered such modern medicines as penicillin and reserpine.
4. The book excerpt is probably from
 - F. an autobiography.
 - G. a geography text.
 - H. a botanical reference book.
 - J. a history of Southeast Asia.
5. The main purpose of the review is to
 - A. interest readers in how Torres made discoveries.
 - B. give an impression of the content and style of the book.
 - C. describe research that has led to the discovery of modern medicines.
 - D. tell about Torres's scientific achievements.

NEON TAPESTRY

From city roof I see the evening rise
With flame-swirled skies.
Below I see the careless flight of airborne litter,
Lighted by flashing signs' electric glitter.
A carnival of lights and sounds I see unfolding at my feet,
With tourists, beggars, shoppers moving through
the crowded downtown streets
Where ambulances whine and racing taxis beep.
Above shine wheeling sky-dome's glimmering stars.
Below fly home-bound workers in their bantam cars.

6. In this poem the city is described by someone, who is
- F. driving a car.
 - G. walking on a street.
 - H. riding in an airplane.
 - J. standing on a rooftop.
7. The phrase "I see the careless flight of airborne litter" means that the person sees
- A. an airplane dropping leaflets from the sky.
 - B. pigeons swooping up scraps in the street.
 - C. people throwing confetti on a parade.
 - D. trash being blown by the wind.
8. The phrase "electric glitter" describes
- F. bolts of lightning.
 - G. blinking lights on signs.
 - H. sparks from trolley cars.
 - J. headlights on cars and buses.
9. Which of the following best describes the city in this poem?
- A. a spot of quiet solitude
 - B. a hive of mysterious danger
 - C. a pace of frantic activity
 - D. a prison of unending boredom
10. The title is a commendable one because it describes
- F. homebound workers use bright rugs in their cars.
 - G. interwoven movement and light.
 - H. people have to walk somewhere.
 - J. neon lights color the sidewalks.

The following is a letter to a commission director. Use it to do numbers 11 through 14.

Leslie Baird, Director
Public Transportation Commission
458 Fielding Street
Farleigh, IL 60607

Dear Ms. Baird,

I am writing on behalf of the citizens of Colville, who depend on public transportation. We urge you to reconsider your decision to drop bus line 12.

Line 12 serves the senior citizens living at Crescent Complex. Many of these people do not own cars and depend on the bus to go to town. Owning and operating a vehicle is expensive; parking and gas alone cost more than bus fare.

Many workers at Dickenson Power Plant also use line 12. These people will be required to drive if the line is dropped. Forcing more people to drive will only increase traffic congestion.

According to the commission's report, line 12 is operating in the black. Given these facts, there does not seem to be sufficient reason to eliminate line 12.

Please don't leave us stranded in order to add more city routes. Those of us in remote areas need public transportation just as much as those who live in the city.

Sincerely,
Susan Clay
Susan Clay

11. Which of the following gives the reason that Susan Clay feels the decision to drop line 12 is wrong?
- A. Line 12 is a heavily-traveled route.
 - B. Public employees will lose their jobs.
 - C. People have not been given enough time to find alternative transportation.
 - D. Citizens of Colville depend on public transportation.
12. Which of the following is an *opinion*?
- F. Line 12 is operating in the black.
 - G. There is not sufficient reason to eliminate line 12.
 - H. Parking and gas are more expensive than bus fare.
 - J. Many of the senior citizens living at Crescent Complex don't own cars.
13. Leslie Baird is the director of the
- A. Crescent Complex.
 - B. Dickenson Power Plant.
 - C. Colville's citizen's group.
 - D. Public Transportation Commission.
14. What does "operating in the black" mean?
- F. making a profit
 - G. running buses only at night
 - H. using buses that are painted black
 - J. keeping the community in the dark concerning important decisions

Math Computation

1. $612 + 53 =$

- a. 1142
- b. 666
- c. 61, 253
- d. 665
- e. None of these

2. $800 - 543 =$

- f. 367
- g. 267
- h. 257
- j. 263
- k. None of these

3. $313 \times 4 =$

- a. 1232
- b. 1332
- c. 1252
- d. 1242
- e. None of these

4. $6 \overline{)4230}$

- f. 76
- g. 705
- h. 760
- j. 750
- k. None of these

5.
$$\begin{array}{r} 203.60 \\ + 45.09 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- a. 348.69
- b. 258.69
- c. 242.69
- d. 267.51
- e. None of these

6. $59 - 0.073 =$

- f. 58.973
- g. 58.927
- h. 59.927
- j. 58.73
- k. None of these

7.
$$\begin{array}{r} 6.5 \\ \times 3.07 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- a. 19.955
- b. 199.95
- c. 9.507
- d. 9.57
- e. None of these

8. $3.36 \div 16 =$

- f. 0.021
- g. 0.21
- h. 2.01
- j. 2.1
- k. None of these

9. 12% of \square is 72.

- a. 60
- b. 600
- c. 8.64
- d. 86.4
- e. None of these

10. 60% of 10 =

- f. 6.0
- g. 0.6
- h. 60.0
- j. 0.06
- k. None of these

11. $9 \frac{7}{8} - 5 \frac{5}{8} =$

- a. $4 \frac{2}{16}$
- b. $4 \frac{1}{4}$
- c. $4 \frac{3}{8}$
- d. $4 \frac{1}{2}$
- e. None of these

12. $1 \frac{2}{5} + 7 \frac{3}{4} =$

- f. $8 \frac{5}{20}$
- g. $9 \frac{3}{20}$
- h. $8 \frac{5}{9}$
- j. $9 \frac{3}{10}$
- k. None of these

13. $3 \frac{1}{8} \times 1 \frac{8}{25} =$

- a. $3 \frac{1}{25}$
- b. $1 \frac{8}{25}$
- c. $4 \frac{1}{8}$
- d. $4 \frac{1}{33}$
- e. None of these

14. $21 \div \frac{3}{7} =$

- f. 9
- g. 7
- h. 1
- j. 49
- k. None of these

15. $17 + (-9) =$

- a. 8
- b. 26
- c. -26
- d. -8
- e. None of these

16. $7 - -4 =$

- f. 11
- g. -3
- h. 3
- j. -11
- k. None of these

17. $-3 \times -6 =$

- a. 18
- b. -18
- c. 9
- d. -9
- e. None of these

18. $\frac{-48}{8}$

- f. 56
- g. 6
- h. -6
- j. -56
- k. None of these

19. $4^2 \times 9 + 1 =$

- a. 25
- b. 90
- c. 49
- d. 75
- e. None of these

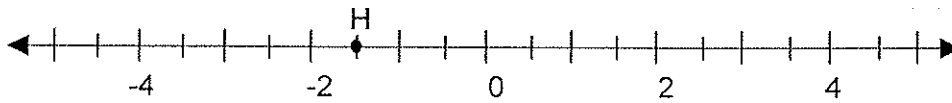
20. Simplify.

$3(7k^2 + k) - 5k =$

- f. $24k^3 - 5k$
- g. $21k^2 + 2k$
- h. $21k^2 - 2k$
- j. $21k^3 - 5k$
- k. None of these

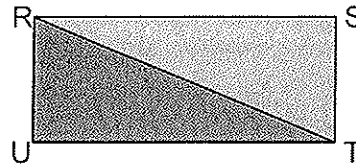
Math Application

1. What number is represented by point H on this number line?



- a. $-1\frac{1}{2}$
b. -1
c. $-1\frac{1}{2}$
d. $-1\frac{3}{4}$
2. Which of these is the correct way to write seven thousandths?
- f. 0.007
g. 7,000
h. 0.700
j. 0.070
3. A recipe calls for two pounds of hamburger. Jerry has one fourth of that. How many *ounces* of hamburger does Jerry have?
- a. 6 oz.
b. 8 oz.
c. 12 oz.
d. 16 oz.

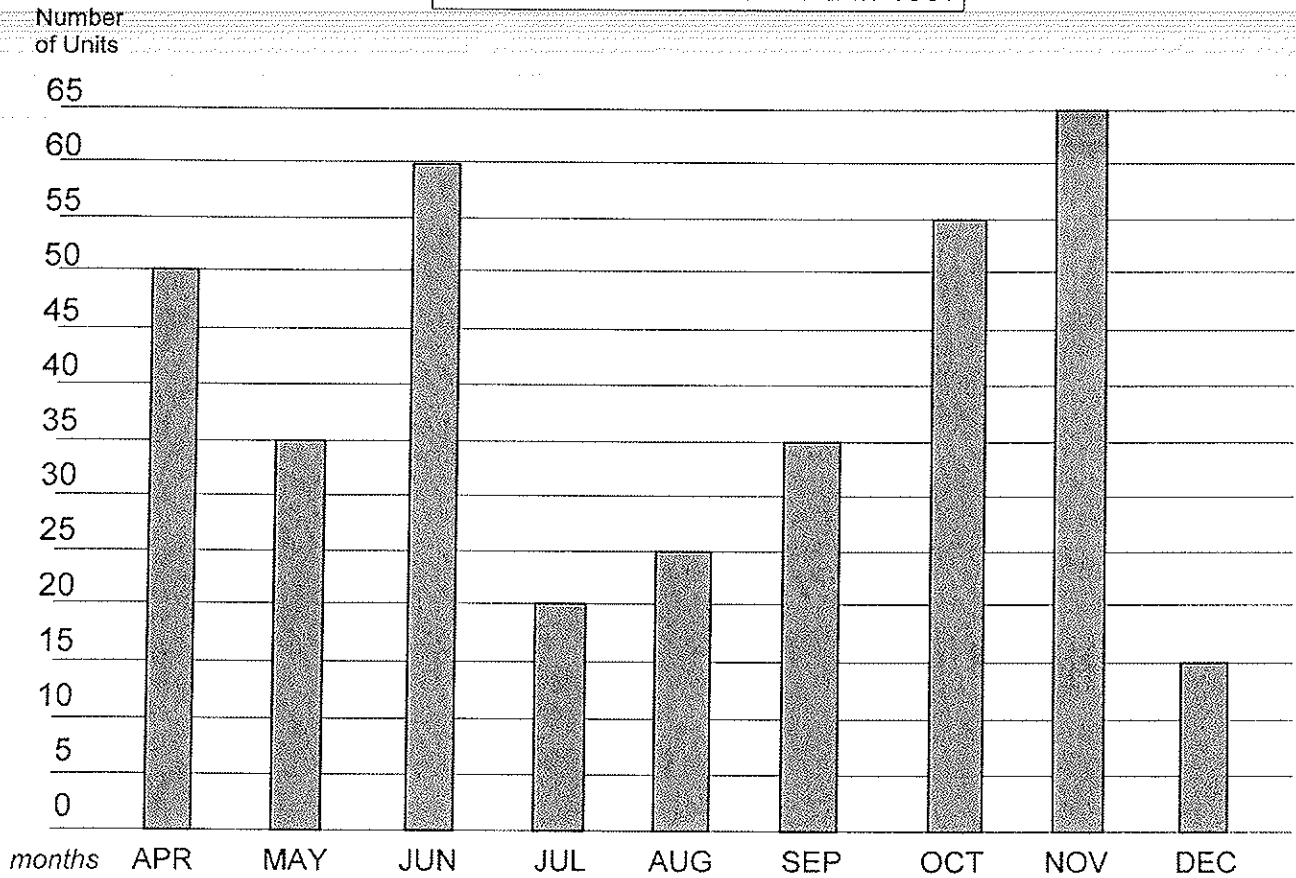
Rectangle RSTU is a design for a tabletop. Line segment RS is 30 inches and line segment ST is 18 inches.



Using the information above, answer questions 4 and 5.

4. What is the area of rectangle RSTU?
- f. 96 sq. in.
g. 270 sq. in.
h. 540 sq. in.
j. 720 sq. in.
5. What is the sum of the measure of angle RST + angle RUT?
- a. 360
b. 110
c. 270
d. 180
6. A container is losing moisture at 6.3 milliliters a week. Which of these is the best estimate of the moisture that will be lost in 8.25 weeks?
- f. 5 milliliters
g. 50 milliliters
h. 500 milliliters
j. 5000 milliliters

Number Of Used Units Sold In 1987



Study the chart above. Use the chart to answer questions 7 through 10.

7. How many more units were sold in June than in July?
 - a. 45
 - b. 40
 - c. 60
 - d. 50

8. What is percent of the units sold per month that are below 40 units?
 - f. 40%
 - g. 35%
 - h. $55 \frac{5}{9}\%$
 - j. $66 \frac{2}{3}\%$

9. What is the ratio of November units to July units?
 - a. 3:1
 - b. 13:4
 - c. 9:2
 - d. 3:13

10. According to the graph information, what is the mean (*average*) number of units sold per month?
 - f. 38
 - g. 40
 - h. 44
 - j. 48

People on the street were asked what drink they preferred for a midmorning break. The results are tallied in the box below.

Poll Results on Choices of Drinks

Drink Choice	Number of Responses
Coffee	500
Tea	200
Cocoa	50
soft drink	550
other drinks	75
water	125

Use the information above to answer questions 11 through 13.

11. What percent of the people surveyed preferred coffee as their mid-morning drink?
 - a. 25%
 - b. 70%
 - c. 37.5 %
 - d. $33 \frac{1}{3}\%$

12. What is the probability of a person from the survey group preferring water or some other drink?
 - f. $\frac{2}{15}$
 - g. $\frac{3}{5}$
 - h. $\frac{2}{13}$
 - j. $\frac{5}{6}$

13. Of the people surveyed, how many did not prefer water or some other drink?
 - a. 200
 - b. 700
 - c. 1300
 - d. 1500

14. Which of the following angle measurements forms an isosceles triangle?
 - f. $40^\circ, 90^\circ, 40^\circ$
 - g. $70^\circ, 50^\circ, 50^\circ$
 - h. $100^\circ, 30^\circ, 50^\circ$
 - j. $112^\circ, 34^\circ, 34^\circ$

15. A hiker needs to climb a cliff but wants to know its height first. He notices that a two-foot shrub has a shadow of three feet. At the same time, the cliff casts a shadow of thirty-six feet. About how high is the cliff?
 - a. 18 feet
 - b. 24 feet
 - c. 28 feet
 - d. 32 feet

16. The odometer on the family car read 57,896.7 when it started the day. At the end of the day, the car had traveled 211.8 miles. What was its odometer reading at the end of the day?

- f. 58,108.5
- g. 57,684.9
- h. 58,684.9
- j. 60,014.7

17. Which of these fractions is in lowest terms?

- a. $\frac{17}{34}$
- b. $\frac{6}{27}$
- c. $\frac{9}{28}$
- d. $\frac{14}{32}$

18. What number could w represent to make this inequality true?

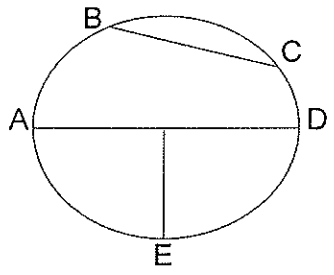
$w + 6 > 9$

- f. the number 3 only
- g. the number 6 only
- h. any number less than 3
- j. any number greater than 3

19. Richard bought 6 cans of beans at \$0.49 each, a beef roast for \$8.99, and 2 gallons of milk at \$2.98 a gallon. Which of the following represents how much his purchases totaled?

- a. $6 + 2 \times (\$0.49 + \$8.99 + \$2.98)$
- b. $6 \times \$0.49 + \$8.99 + 2 \times \$2.98$
- c. $6 \times \$0.49 + \$8.99 + \$2.98$
- d. $6 + \$0.49 + \$8.99 + 2 + \$2.98$

20. In the circle to the right, line segment AD is called the



- f. circumference.
- g. arc.
- h. diameter.
- j. hypotenuse.

21. A store is open from 7:30 am to 10 pm. For how long is the store open each day?

- a. 3 hours 30 minutes
- b. 11 hours 30 minutes
- c. 13 hours 30 minutes
- d. 14 hours 30 minutes

22. Which of the following is another way to write 5,820,000?

- f. 5.82×10^4
- g. 5.82×10^5
- h. 5.82×10^6
- j. 5.82×10^7

Language Skills

For numbers 1 and 2 decide which part of the sentence, if any, has a word that needs a capital letter.

1. Oscar Hammerstein wrote | the lyrics for | The sound of Music |
A B C
and other famous musicals. None
D E

2. Ralph said, | "we fixed | the radiator | of your car." None
F G H J K

For numbers 3 through 5 decide which punctuation, if any, is needed in the sentence.

3. As he crossed the finish line, Rick gasped, "I've won"
A ! B , C ? D " E None
4. "Would you like to sit by the window? the waiter asked me.
F . G " H , J : K None
5. Yes, these coats are supposed to be warm as well as waterproof.
A " B ; C ! D ' E None

For numbers 6 through 9, choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

6. Of all the contestants, Miss Wyoming was gowned the
F expensivest.
G expensively.
H more expensively.
J most expensively.
7. None of the rooms in the front part of the building _____ by the smoke last night.
A are damaged
B were damaged
C was damaged
D have been damaged
8. The volume of letters the United States Post Office processes _____ staggering.
F is
G are
H were
J have been
9. Anita was pleased to know that _____ had done everything correctly.
A she
B her
C hers
D herself

For number 10 through 13, choose the sentence that is written correctly and shows correct the correct capitalization and punctuation. Be sure the sentence you choose is complete.

10. F He lies the rose on the table.
G The rose lays there for several minutes.
H Laura lays a vase down for the rose.
J The rose lain in the vase the rest of the day.
11. A The Brauns gave vegetables to friends that were ready to eat.
B The healthy vegetables cooked for the picnic.
C The people ate on the picnic table with watermelon.
D It's always a pleasure to eat fresh, green beans with butter.
12. F Bradley loved music conducting several events a month.
G Musicians, following his lead, played the beloved music.
H Conductors' meetings being only every other month because of their length.
J The importance of good music when studying notes.
13. A The drab-looking restaurant served gourmet meals.
B The meals were gourmet the restaurant looked drab.
C Serving gourmet meals in the drab-looking restaurant.
D In the drab-looking restaurant which serves gourmet meals.

For numbers 14 though 16, read the underlined sentences. Choose the sentence that *best* combines those sentences into one.

14. The transit bus always passes our house at 7 am.
The newspaper carrier always passes our house at 7 am.
F The transit bus and the newspaper carrier always pass at 7 am.
G The transit bus carrying our newspaper carrier always passes our house at 7 am.
H At 7 am, the transit bus passes and the newspaper carrier passes our house at the same time.
J The transit bus and the newspaper carrier always pass our house at 7 am.
15. Cora pushed the elevator button.
Cora waited for the elevator to return to the lobby.
A Cora pushed the button and it returned to the lobby.
B Cora pushed the button and Cora waited for the elevator to return to the lobby.
C Cora pushed the elevator button, and then she also waited to return to the lobby.
D Cora pushed the button and waited for the elevator to return to the lobby.
16. The committee met in the conference room.
The committee discussed the project.
The meeting lasted for two hours.
F Meeting in the conference room for two hours, the committee discussed the project, too.
G The committee met in the conference room for two hours and discussed the project.
H The committee discussed the project, which was in the conference room for two hours.
J The committee discussed the project, and the committee also met in the conference room for two hours.

For number 17 through 20, look at the underlined part of the sentence. Choose the answer that shows the best punctuation for that part.

17. "This would be a lot easier if we could use a power saw, Pam" said.
A saw, Pam said.
B saw: Pam said.
C saw, Pam said."
D saw," Pam said.
E Correct as it is
18. Follow these directions Take the first off-ramp, turn right at the signal, and drive three blocks.
F directions, Take
G directions; Take
H directions: Take
J directions Take;
E Correct as it is
19. "The storm should arrive, the weather forecaster predicted, by late tonight."
A arrive, the weather forecaster predicted, by
B arrive, the weather forecaster predicted, "by
C arrive," the weather forecaster predicted, "by
D arrive," the weather forecaster predicted," by
E Correct as it is
20. Not everyone of course is convinced.
F everyone of course,
G everyone, of course
H everyone, of course,
J everyone: of course,
E Correct as it is

For numbers 21, 22, 24, and 25, choose the word that means the same, or about the same, as the underlined word.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>21. To <u>bungle</u> is to
A enslave.
B join together.
C mismanage.
D abandon.</p> <p>22. If something <u>precedes</u>, it
A becomes idle.
B falls backwards.
C comes before.
D goes forward.</p> <p>23. Professionals are known by their
A elevation.
B ineptness.
C reports.
D expertise.</p> | <p>24. Something <u>impervious</u>
F is open to attack.
G cannot be affected.
H has a transparent membrane.
J is considered irresponsible.</p> <p>25. If something is <u>perilous</u>, it is
F vacuous.
G dangerous.
H astute.
J valuable.</p> <p>26. If something lasts a moment, it
F goes on a long time.
G happens regularly.
H is gone quickly.
J continues for one minute.</p> |
|--|--|

For numbers 27 through 30, read the letter and look at the numbered underlined parts.
 Choose the answer that shows the best capitalization and punctuation for each part.

1010 Spring Street
 Springfield, IL 62704
 October 25, 1986

Burns Health Insurance Co.
 5210 Riverside Drive
 Chattanooga, TN 37406

Dear Sir:

27

When I enrolled in your group health insurance program, I understood that the premium was to be \$95.00 a month for in-patient treatment out-patient treatment, and dental care.

28

Yesterday, I received a bill for \$230.00 from your office. I believe the bill is incorrect please check it and send me an itemized list of the charges. My account number is 62-940-732.

29

Thank you very much! for your assistance in this matter.

30

Yours truly,

Mary Esperanza

Mary Esperanza

27. A dear Sir
 B Dear Sir
 C dear Sir;
 D Dear Sir.
 E Correct as it is

28. F treatment out-patient,
 G treatment, out-patient
 H treatment: out-patient
 J treatment. Out-patient
 K Correct as it is

29. A incorrect. Please
 B incorrect: please
 C incorrect. please
 D incorrect, please
 E Correct as it is

30. F much; For
 G much. For
 H much, for
 J much for
 K Correct as it is

Sample TABE Answer Key

Reading Comprehension

1. A
2. G
3. C
4. F
5. A
6. J
7. D
8. G
9. C
10. G
11. D
12. G
13. D
14. F

Math Computation

1. d
2. h
3. c
4. g
5. e
6. g
7. a
8. g
9. b
10. f
11. b
12. g
13. c
14. j
15. a
16. f
17. a
18. h
19. e
20. h

Math Application

1. c
2. f
3. b
4. h
5. d
6. g
7. b
8. h
9. b
10. g
11. d
12. f
13. c
14. j
15. b
16. f
17. c
18. j
19. b
20. h
21. d
22. h

Language Arts

1. C
2. G
3. A
4. G
5. E
6. J
7. C
8. F
9. A
10. H
11. D
12. G
13. A
14. J
15. D
16. G
17. D
18. H
19. C
20. H
21. C
22. C
23. D
24. G
25. G
26. H
27. E
28. G
29. A
30. J