## - NSCAS <br> NEBRASKA STUDENT-CENTERED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

NSCAS-Alternate

## Practice Test

English Language Arts (NSCAS-AAELA), Mathematics (NSCAS-AAM), and Science (NSCAS-AAS)

## Grade 5 <br> ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Nebraska Department of Education provides districts and schools with tools to assist in delivering focused instructional programs aligned to the state assessment system. These tools include Table of Specifications documents, administration manuals, and grade-specific practice tests. This practice test is a useful tool for Nebraska educators in the preparation of local instructional programs and the statewide NSCAS Alternate Assessment.

## PURPOSE AND USES

This practice test contains test questions (items) that have been written to align to the assessment extended indicators that are based on the Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. The test questions provide examples of the types of questions that will appear on an operational NSCAS Alternate Assessment in ELA, mathematics, and science. All practice test questions have been through a rigorous review process to ensure alignment with the assessment extended indicators. The purpose of the practice test is to ensure that students and test administrators have the opportunity to become familiar with a variety of items and to confirm that each student has appropriate access to any accommodations needed prior to test day.

## DOK

In addition to being aligned to the extended indicators, the practice test items were also developed with a particular emphasis on cognitive complexity, or depth of knowledge (DOK). The DOK level is provided for each item in this practice test in the Administrator's Test Booklet information. DOK measures the level of cognitive demand required to complete an assessment item. The following descriptions show the expectations of the DOK levels in greater detail. NSCAS Alternate items are classified based on DOK stages-subsets of the four DOK levels. The stages include responding, reproducing, recalling at DOK 1, and basic reasoning at DOK 2.

- Level 1, Stage 2 requires students to display the ability to copy, replicate, repeat, reenact, mirror, or match text.
- Level 1, Stage 3 requires the ability to recite or recall facts or information.
- Level 2, Stage 4 requires processing beyond recall and observation. This requires both comprehension and subsequent processing of text as well as making decisions on how to approach a problem. It also involves ordering and classifying text as well as identifying patterns, relationships, and main points.


## ITEM FORMAT

The NSCAS Alternate is composed of multiple-choice (MC) items to assess the student's mastery of the Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Extended Indicators. All MC items have three answer choices: two distractors and one correct answer. Distractors represent common misconceptions, incorrect logic, common misinterpretations, unsound reasoning, casual reading, etc. A correct response to an MC item is worth one point.

## DESCRIPTION OF PRACTICE TEST ITEMS

The practice tests contain the test administrator's directions for each item with the information outlined below. The practice tests are organized by content area in a given grade with the Administrator's Test Booklet for all items appearing first, followed by the Student Test Book at the end.


| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.RP.4 <br> Summarize <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this story. Indicate. <br> Sarah went to the store. She bought eggs, flour, and sugar. She also <br> bought chocolate chips. Sarah used the ingredients to bake cookies <br> for her friends. Her friends enjoyed eating the cookies. |
| ASK | Which sentence is a summary of the story? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. Sarah bought eggs at the store. <br> B. Sarah used many ingredients. <br> C. Sarah made cookies for her friends. |

Sarah went to the store. She bought eggs, flour, and sugar. She also bought chocolate chips. Sarah used the ingredients to bake cookies for her friends. Her friends enjoyed eating the cookies.

## Sarah bought eggs at the store.

## Sarah used many ingredients.

## Sarah made cookies for her friends.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.RP.6 <br> Inferential Questions <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this story. Indicate. <br> Maddie looks at the clock. The school art show begins in one hour. <br> Her art teacher picked two of her drawings to be in the show. Maddie <br> likes to draw flowers. She uses many bright colors. Maddie hopes to <br> win another ribbon. |
| ASK | How does the reader know that Maddie is good at art? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. Maddie looks at the clock. <br> B. Maddie likes to draw flowers. <br> C. Maddie hopes to win another ribbon. |

## Question 2

Maddie looks at the clock. The school art show begins in one hour. Her art teacher picked two of her drawings to be in the show. Maddie likes to draw flowers. She uses many bright colors. Maddie hopes to win another ribbon.


Maddie looks at the clock.


Maddie likes to draw flowers.


Maddie hopes to win another ribbon.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.RI.3 <br> Author's Purpose <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this paragraph. Indicate. <br> Skyscrapers are very tall buildings with many floors. They are usually <br> found in big cities. It takes many people to build a skyscraper. Some <br> people work in skyscrapers. People also live in apartments that are <br> skyscrapers. |
| ASK | Why did the author write this paragraph? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. to tell a story about someone working <br> B. to give information about tall buildings <br> C. to convince people to live in apartments |

Skyscrapers are very tall buildings with many floors. They are usually found in big cities. It takes many people to build a skyscraper. Some people work in skyscrapers. People also live in apartments that are skyscrapers.

## to tell a story about someone working

to give information about tall buildings

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.RI.4 <br> Text Features <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 2 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is part of a glossary from a book about volcanoes. Indicate. <br> The glossary gives the meanings of some words in the book. <br> Follow along as I read this glossary from the book about volcanoes. <br> Indicate. <br> Glossary. Ash, small pieces of rocks and minerals that blow out of a <br> volcano. Lava, hot melted rock that erupts from a volcano. Vent, the <br> opening where lava and ash escape. |
| ASK | Where can a reader find the meanings of unknown words? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. title page <br> B. glossary <br> C. chapter headings |

## Glossary <br> ash-small pieces of rocks and minerals that blow out of a volcano Iava-hot melted rock that erupts from a volcano <br> vent-the opening where lava and ash escape

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.V.1.b <br> Affixes <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this sentence. Indicate. <br> Mr. Jones drove nonstop from Omaha to Kansas City. <br> The prefix "non-" has a line under it. Indicate. <br> The prefix "non-" means "not." |
| ASK | What is the meaning of "nonstop" in this sentence? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. long stops <br> B. no stops <br> C. many stops |


| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.V.2.c <br> Synonyms <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this story. Indicate. <br> I watched our dog race across the yard. He tried to catch a rabbit. <br> The rabbit found a bush and crawled under it. <br> The word "race" has a line under it. |
| ASK | Which word means the same as "race"? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. drag <br> B. lift <br> C. run |

I watched our dog race across the yard. He tried to catch a rabbit. The rabbit found a bush and crawled under it.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.W.1.b <br> Commas in a Series <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Commas are used to separate three or more items in a list. Here are <br> three sentences that list bread, cheese, and milk at the end of each <br> sentence. Indicate. |
| ASK | Which sentence uses commas correctly? <br> Indicate and read answers by pointing to and pausing at each <br> comma. <br> A. She will buy bread, cheese, and milk. <br> B. She will buy, bread cheese and milk. <br> C. She will buy bread cheese and, milk. |

## She will buy bread, cheese, and milk.

## She will buy, bread cheese and milk.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator LA_E.5.W.3.b <br> Precise Words <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read this sentence. Indicate. <br> The juice from the food dripped down my chin. <br> The word "food" has a line under it. Indicate. |
| ASK | Which word is more precise than the word "food"? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. bread <br> B. crackers <br> C. fruit |

The juice from the food dripped down my chin.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.N.2.a <br> Equivalent Fractions <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read these sentences. Indicate. <br> Laura is eating a cookie. She ate one-half of her cookie. Here is <br> Laura's cookie. Indicate. |
| ASK | Which picture shows a fraction that is equal to one-half? <br> Indicate and read answers. |
| A. one-fourth |  |
| B. two-fourths |  |
| C. three-fourths |  |

Laura is eating a cookie. She ate $\frac{1}{2}$ of her cookie. Here is Laura's cookie.


| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.N.3.b <br> Multiply Fractions <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 2 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a model of one-third times one-third equals one-ninth. <br> Indicate. <br> Here is the problem one-third times one-third equals one-ninth. <br> Indicate. |
| ASK | What is the answer to one-third times one-third? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. one-third <br> B. one-ninth <br> C. five-ninths |


$\frac{1}{9}$
$\frac{5}{9}$

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.N.3.d <br> Authentic Fraction Problems <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Andy ate two-fifths of a granola bar before school. Indicate two-fifths. <br> After school, he ate one-fifth more of the same granola bar. Indicate <br> one-fifth. |
| ASK | How much of the granola bar did Andy eat altogether? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. two-fifths <br> B. three-fifths |
| C. four-fifths |  |


$\frac{4}{5}$

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.N.3.e <br> Subtract Fractions <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a model of three-fifths minus two-fifths. Indicate. |
| ASK | What is three-fifths minus two-fifths? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. one-fifth |
|  | B. two-fifths <br> C. three-fifths |



$$
\frac{3}{5}-\frac{2}{5}
$$

$\frac{1}{5}$
$\frac{2}{5}$
$\frac{3}{5}$

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.A.1.a <br> Multiplication <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> • Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is the multiplication problem eleven times two. Indicate. |
| ASK | What is eleven times two? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br>  <br> A. nine <br> B. fifteen <br> C. twenty-two |

$11 \times 2$

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.A.1.c <br> Estimate the Sum of Decimals <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 2 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is the number sentence two and four tenths plus five and seven <br> tenths equals "blank." Indicate. <br> Two and four tenths is close to two. Indicate. <br> Five and seven tenths is close to six. Indicate. <br> Two plus six equals eight. Indicate. |
| ASK | What is the estimated answer for two and four tenths plus five and <br> seven tenths? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. two <br> B. six <br> C. eight |



| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.A.1.d <br> Order of Operations <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is the expression one plus three times four. Indicate. There are <br> parentheses around one plus three. Indicate. <br> The parentheses indicate the first step to evaluating this expression. |
| ASK | What is the first step to evaluating this expression? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. one plus four <br> B. one plus three |
| C. four times four |  |

$$
(1+3) \times 4
$$

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator MA_E.5.G.2.c <br> Ordered Pairs <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a coordinate plane with three points plotted. Indicate. |
| ASK | What is the location of point D? <br> Indicate point D and read answers. <br>  <br> A. two, two <br> B. four, four <br> C. four, one |



| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.3.1.D-b <br> Mixed Substance <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a picture that shows water mixed with flour to form a new <br> substance called paste. Indicate. <br> A new substance is formed when two or more substances are mixed <br> together and cannot be taken apart. |
| ASK | Which other combination makes a new substance? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. vinegar and baking soda <br> B. peanuts and raisins |
| C. buttons and beads |  |


water +

flour

vinegar and baking soda
peanuts and raisins
buttons and beads

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.11.3.A-c <br> Gravitational Force <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a picture of a ball on a table. Indicate. |
| ASK | What will happen to the ball if it is pushed? <br> Indicate and read answers. |
|  | A. The ball will float above the table. <br> B. The ball will fall to the floor. <br> C. The ball will stay where it is. |



| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.11.3.B-C <br> Difference in Brightness <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a picture of a lamp and a candle. Indicate. <br> They both produce light. |
| ASK | What is true about the light produced? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. The lamp is brighter. |
|  | B. The candle is brighter. <br> C. The brightness is the same. |



## The lamp is brighter.

The candle is brighter.
The brightness is the same.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.11.3.C-a <br> Seasonal Differences <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | -Place student test page in front of the student. <br> Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a table titled "Daylight in Nebraska." Indicate. <br> The table shows about how many hours of daylight there are for one <br> day in each season. Indicate and read each row in the table. |
| ASK | Which season has the most hours of daylight? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. winter <br> B. summer <br> C. autumn |

## Daylight in Nebraska

| Season | Day | Daylight Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \% wher winter | December 22 | 9 hours |
| ) spring | March 22 | 12 hours |
| \% ${ }^{\text {cum }}$ summer | June 22 | 15 hours |
| \& autumn | September 22 | 12 hours |

$Q^{4 n}$
summer

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.3.1.D-b <br> Mixed Substances <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | - Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read these sentences. Indicate. <br> Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, <br> flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it <br> in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the <br> oven and eat it. |
| ASK | What happens when eggs, flour, sugar, and oil are mixed together <br> and baked in the oven? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. The ingredients do not mix. |
| B. A new food item is created. <br> C. Oil separates and sits on top. |  |

Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the oven and eat it.

## The ingredients do not mix.

## A new food item is created.

## Oil separates and sits on top.

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.3.1.A-b <br> Properties of Matter <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | Place student test page in front of the student. <br> Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Follow along as I read these sentences. Indicate. <br> Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, <br> flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it <br> in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the <br> oven and eat it. |
| ASK | Which ingredients are parts of the cake Monica and her uncle made? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. eggs and sugar |
| B. salt and pepper |  |
| C. milk and water |  |

STUDENT TEST BOOK Science Grade 5

Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the oven and eat it.

salt and
pepper

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.8.2.C-a <br> Flow of Energy <br> DOK Level 1, Stage 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a food chain. Indicate. <br> Some fish get energy from eating plants. Other fish get energy from <br> eating smaller fish. |
| ASK | What gets energy from the plant? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. big fish <br> B. Sun <br> C. small fish |



big fish


Sun

small fish

| Administrator's <br> Test Booklet | Indicator SC_E.5.8.2.C-c <br> Food Chains <br> DOK Level 2, Stage 4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Prepare | • Place student test page in front of the student. <br> - Call student's attention to the page. |
| SAY | Here is a food chain. Indicate. <br> Some fish get energy from eating plants. Other fish get energy from <br> eating smaller fish. |
| ASK | What will happen to the small fish if plants are removed? <br> Indicate and read answers. <br> A. The small fish will eat the big fish. <br> B. The small fish will have no food. <br> C. The small fish will get energy from the Sun. |



The small fish will eat the big fish.

The small fish will have no food.

The small fish will get energy from the Sun.

## NSCAS-Alternate

## Grade 5 Practice Administration Manual

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# NSCAS <br> NEBRASKA STUDENT-CENTERED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM 

## NSCAS-Alternate Practice Test

English Language Arts (NSCAS-AAELA), Mathematics (NSCAS-AAM), and Science (NSCAS-AAS)

## STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

## Grade 5

## O) NSCAS

NSCAS-ALTERNATE
English Language Arts

Sarah went to the store. She bought eggs, flour, and sugar. She also bought chocolate chips. Sarah used the ingredients to bake cookies for her friends. Her friends enjoyed eating the cookies.

## Sarah bought eggs at the store.

Sarah used many ingredients.

Sarah made cookies for her friends.

Maddie looks at the clock. The school art show begins in one hour. Her art teacher picked two of her drawings to be in the show. Maddie likes to draw flowers. She uses many bright colors. Maddie hopes to win another ribbon.


Maddie looks at the clock.


Maddie likes to draw flowers.


Maddie hopes to win another ribbon.

Skyscrapers are very tall buildings with many floors. They are usually found in big cities. It takes many people to build a skyscraper. Some people work in skyscrapers. People also live in apartments that are skyscrapers.
to tell a story about someone working
to give information about tall buildings
to convince people to live in apartments

## Glossary <br> ash-small pieces of rocks and minerals that blow out of a volcano lava-hot melted rock that erupts from a volcano vent-the opening where lava and ash escape

chapter headings

Mr. Jones drove nonstop from Omaha to Kansas City.

I watched our dog race across the yard. He tried to catch a rabbit. The rabbit found a bush and crawled under it.

# She will buy bread, cheese, and milk. 

She will buy, bread cheese and milk.

She will buy bread cheese and, milk.

The juice from the food dripped down my chin.

## O NSCAS

## NSCAS-ALTERNATE MATHEMATICS

Laura is eating a cookie. She ate $\frac{1}{2}$ of her cookie. Here is Laura's cookie.


$\frac{1}{3}$
$\frac{1}{9}$
$\frac{5}{9}$

$\frac{2}{5}$

$\frac{3}{5}$


$\frac{1}{5}$
$\frac{2}{5}$
$\frac{3}{5}$

## $11 \times 2$

15
22
$2.4+5.7=$
$\downarrow \downarrow$
$2+6=8$

6
8

## $(1+3) \times 4$



## O) NSCAS

## NSCAS-ALTERNATE SCIENCE


vinegar and baking soda
peanuts and raisins
buttons and beads



The Iamp is brighter.
The candle is brighter.
The brightness is the same.

## Daylight in Nebraska

| Season | Day | Daylight Hours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | December 22 | 9 hours |
| \% spring | March 22 | 12 hours |
| (2, summer | June 22 | 15 hours |
| © ${ }^{3}$ ) ${ }^{\text {autumn }}$ | September 22 | 12 hours |

Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the oven and eat it.

The ingredients do not mix.

A new food item is created.

Oil separates and sits on top.

Monica and her uncle are making a cake. They mix together eggs, flour, sugar, and oil. Then they put the mixture into a pan and place it in the oven to bake. When the cake is done, they take it out of the oven and eat it.

milk and
water


big fish


Sun

small fish


The small fish will eat the big fish.

The small fish will have no food.

The small fish will get energy from the Sun.

## NSCAS-Alternate

## Grade 5

## Student Practice Test Booklet

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