Computer-Based Released Items
Grade 6 MCAS English Language Arts
Spring 2025

The spring 2025 grade 6 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.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is releasing items from both versions of the test to provide information about the knowledge and skills that students are expected to demonstrate.

- Released items from the **computer-based test** are available online at mcas.onlinehelp.cognia.org/released-items.

- Released items from the **paper-based test** are available in PDF format on the Department's website at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/release.html.

This document provides information about each released item from the *computer-based test*, including the following: reporting category, standard(s) covered, item type, item description, and correct answer (for selected-response items only). Sample responses and scoring guidelines for essay items will be posted at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/.

A Note about Testing Mode
Most of the operational items on the grade 6 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.

Grade 6 English Language Arts
Spring 2025 Computer-Based Released Operational Items

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description	Correct Answer (SR)**
1	*Language*	L.6.2	SR	Determine the function of punctuation used in a sentence.	A
2	*Reading*	RI.6.1	SR	Make an inference about a specific idea in the passage.	D
3	*Reading*	RI.6.3	SR	Analyze how an important idea is developed in the passage.	C
4	*Reading*	RI.6.3	SR	Identify a sentence that helps develop a key idea in the passage.	D
5	*Language*	L.6.4	SR	Determine the meaning of a multiple-meaning word in context.	B
6	*Language*	L.6.2	SR	Determine the function of punctuation used in a sentence.	C
7	*Reading*	RI.6.6	SR	Determine the author's purpose for including specific information in the passage.	B
8	*Reading*	RI.6.3	SR	Analyze how an individual's actions are described in the passage.	B
9	*Reading*	RI.6.5	SR	Determine how the title supports ideas in the passage.	A
10	*Reading*	RI.6.6	SR	Determine the author's point of view in the passage and choose evidence that supports the point of view.	B;D
11	*Reading*	RI.6.3	SR	Select details that complete sentences describing key events from the passage.	*see page 4*
12	*Language, Writing*	L.6.1, L.6.2, L.6.3, W.6.2, W.6.4	ES	Write an essay that explains how others supported an individual's goals as described in the passage; use information from the passage to support the explanation.	
13	*Reading*	RL.6.6	SR	Analyze how specific paragraphs contribute to the development of a key idea in the passage.	D
14	*Reading*	RL.6.4	SR	Determine the mood of a section of the passage.	D
15	*Reading*	RL.6.4	SR	Determine how specific paragraphs of the passage help develop a character.	B
16	*Language*	L.6.2	SR	Determine the function of a text feature in a sentence.	A
17	*Reading*	RL.6.3	SR	Determine the reason for the actions of characters in the passage.	A
18	*Reading*	RL.6.3	SR	Determine what is suggested about characters in specific paragraphs from the passage.	D

CBT Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type*	Item Description	Correct Answer (SR)**
19	*Reading*	RL.6.3	SR	Select details from the passage to support specific traits of a character.	*see page 4*

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

**Answers are provided here for selected-response items only. Page 4 of this document provides correct answers for technology-enhanced (TE) items. Sample responses and scoring guidelines for essay items will be posted at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/default.html.

Correct Answer for CBT Item #11: Technology-Enhanced Item

Philo learned about the early efforts of scientists to create television by [reading magazine articles. ▼]

However, he thought their inventions would not work because their devices were too [slow. ▼]

Correct Answer for CBT Item #19: Technology-Enhanced Item

Determined to Help Ryan	Protective of Ryan
"He keeps on thinking up ideas for what I can do in the talent show." (paragraph 15)	"Ray reaches out to hold my hand as we pass the house with the barking dogs." (paragraph 14)