

MCA Paper Student  
Readiness Tool  
Grades 5–6



## Symbols on the Test

You will see the following symbols in your test book:



This symbol means you can continue answering questions on the next page.



This symbol means you have finished a segment of the test. You must wait until you are told to go to the next segment.





This symbol indicates where to place the sticker given to you by the Test Monitor to seal a finished segment.



## Mathematics Test General Information

Put sticker  
here

- Your test will contain different segments. Segment pages look like this:

<b>Segment 1</b> You will be told when to begin this segment. You <b>MAY NOT</b> use a calculator for this segment. 	<b>Segment 2</b> You will be told when to begin this segment. You <b>MAY</b> use a calculator for this segment. 

- You are allowed to use a calculator for certain segments of the test. These symbols tell you whether a calculator is allowed.



**Allowed**



**Not Allowed**

- You can write notes in your test book or on scratch paper, but you must answer each question in the test book.
- Your mathematics test includes multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blank questions.

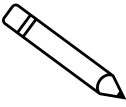
**Go on to the next page.** 

For multiple-choice questions, circle the answer in your test book. The sample below shows you how to do this.

**Sample Question Answered in Test Book:**

Add.

$$1 + 1$$



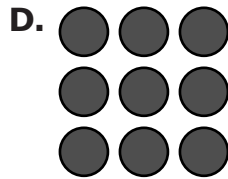
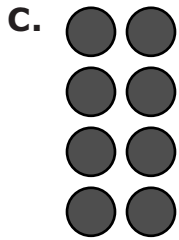
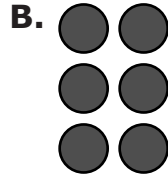
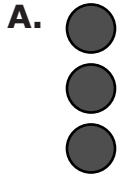
- A. 1
- B. 2**
- C. 3
- D. 4

**Go on to the next page.** 

## Practice

Practice answering this multiple-choice question by circling option B.

1. Which model shows 6?

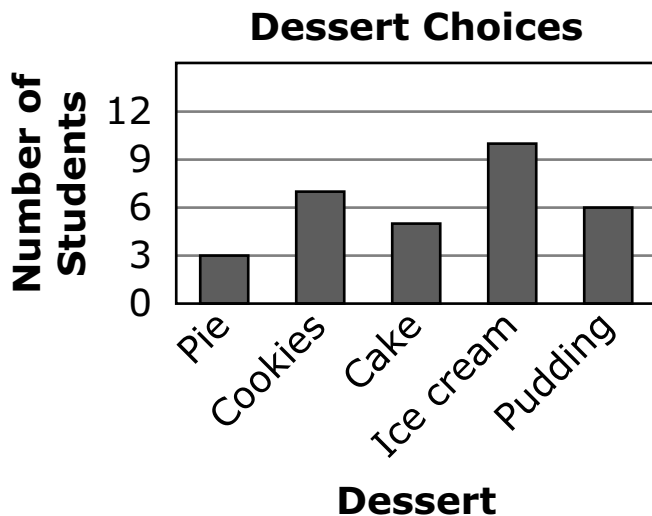


Go on to the next page. 

## Practice

Practice answering this multiple-choice question by circling option C.

2. Students were asked to vote for their favorite dessert.



Which dessert received the most votes?

- A. Cookies
- B. Cake
- C. Ice cream
- D. Pudding

Go on to the next page.

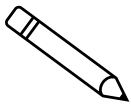
For fill-in-the-blank questions, you will need to write the answer in the space provided. You can also use this space to solve the question. The sample below shows you how to do this.

Note: Every fill-in-the-blank question includes instructions about which numbers and symbols can be used in your answer. It is important to follow these instructions when writing your answers.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:

Please write your answer in the space below the question. You may use the digits: 0–9 and the symbols: slash for a fraction bar (/) and a decimal (.). If your answer is a mixed number, you must change it to an improper fraction or a decimal.

What is  $15,000 + 1$ ?


$$\begin{array}{r} 15000 \\ + \quad \quad 1 \\ \hline 15001 \end{array}$$

Go on to the next page.

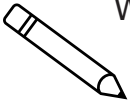


For some fill-in-the-blank questions, you will need to write answers with decimals. The sample below shows you how to do this.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:

Please write your answer in the space below the question. You may use the digits: 0–9 and the symbols: slash for a fraction bar (/) and a decimal (.). If your answer is a mixed number, you must change it to an improper fraction or a decimal.

What is  $\frac{1}{4}$  written as a decimal?



0.25

Go on to the next page.

## Practice

Practice answering this question in the space provided by writing 0.3.

**Please write your answer in the space below the question. You may use the digits: 0–9 and the symbols: slash for a fraction bar (/) and a decimal (.). If your answer is a mixed number, you must change it to an improper fraction or a decimal.**

3. What is the difference between 0.6 and 0.3?

**Go on to the next page.** 

For some fill-in-the-blank questions, the answer may be a mixed number. It is important to change mixed numbers into improper fractions or decimals because the space bar character is not an accepted symbol. If an answer is given as a mixed number, it will be marked as incorrect. The sample below shows you how to do this.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:

Please write your answer in the space below the question. You may use the digits: 0–9 and the symbols: slash for a fraction bar (/) and a decimal (.). If your answer is a mixed number, you must change it to an improper fraction or a decimal.

What is the sum of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 4.25?

$$3\frac{1}{2} + 4.25$$

$$3\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{4}$$

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

$$7\frac{3}{4} = \frac{31}{4}$$

Go on to the next page. 

## Practice

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here

Practice answering this question in the space provided by converting the answer  $10 \frac{7}{8}$  to an improper fraction or a decimal. The improper fraction is  $\frac{87}{8}$ , and the decimal is 10.875.

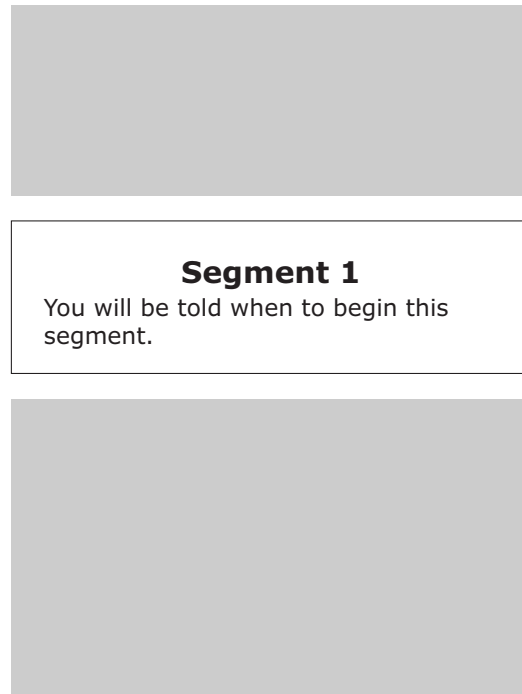
**Please write your answer in the space below the question. You may use the digits: 0–9 and the symbols: slash for a fraction bar (/) and a decimal (.). If your answer is a mixed number, you must change it to an improper fraction or a decimal.**

4. Add  $6\frac{1}{2}$  and  $4\frac{3}{8}$ .




## Reading Test General Information

- Your test will contain different segments. Segment pages look like this:



Put sticker  
here

- In each segment, you will read a passage or passages before answering questions. There are different types of passages, such as poems, stories, and articles.
- You can write notes in your test book or on scratch paper, but you must answer each question in the test book.
- Your reading test includes multiple-choice questions only.

**Go on to the next page.** 

Instructions are included at the top of each passage. Read the passage. Then answer each multiple-choice question by circling the answer in your test book. The sample below shows you how to do this.

Read this article about bats. Then answer the questions. Some questions may ask you about certain paragraphs. The paragraphs are numbered on the left side.

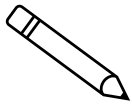
## Creatures of the Night

written for the  
Minnesota Department of Education

- 1 What is that flying around in the dark? Is it a bird? Is it a mouse? Is it a flying mouse?
- 2 Popular myths make bats seem frightening. However, they are actually helpful creatures in danger of vanishing. Disease and human beings are threats to bats. Most bats live only ten to twenty years. For these reasons, bats face an uncertain future. Hopefully, people will take notice of these interesting and useful creatures before they disappear from the planet.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:

According to paragraph 2, how long do most bats live?



- A. Five to nine years
- B. Ten to twenty years**
- C. Thirty to forty years
- D. Fifty to one hundred years

Go on to the next page.

## Practice

Practice answering this multiple-choice question by circling option C.

Read this article about bats. Then answer the questions. Some questions may ask you about certain paragraphs. The paragraphs are numbered on the left side.

### Creatures of the Night

written for the  
Minnesota Department of Education

Put sticker  
here

- 1 What is that flying around in the dark? Is it a bird? Is it a mouse? Is it a flying mouse?
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1. Which creatures is this article about?


- A. Mice
- B. Dogs
- C. Bats
- D. Cats



# SCIENCE ONLY

## Grade 5

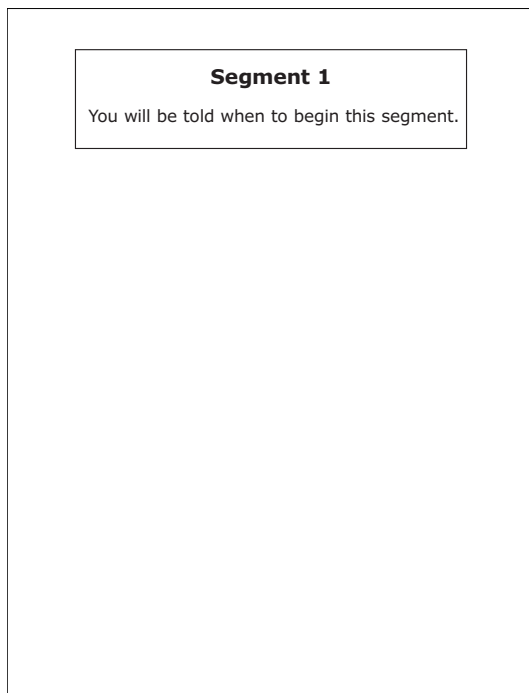
The following section is used only by 5th graders who will take the Science MCA.  
**Do not** use this section unless you are taking the 5th grade Science MCA.

Go on to the next page. 



## Science Test General Information

- Your test will contain different segments. Segment pages look like this:



- You can write notes in your test book or on scratch paper, but you must answer each question in the test book.
- You may use a handheld calculator for some questions.
- Your science test includes scenarios and different types of diagram, graphing, and multiple-choice questions.

Put sticker here

**Go on to the next page.** 

For some diagram questions, you will need to circle the answer you want to choose. The sample scenario below and the sample questions on the next page show you how to do this.

## Sample Scenario and Questions Answered in Test Book:

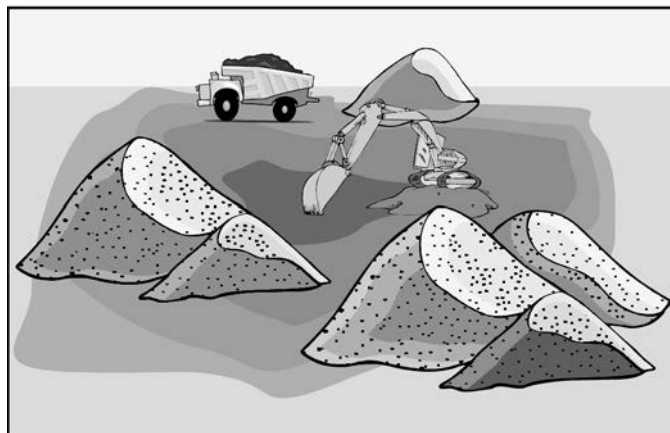
### Sample Scenario

Before this area was mined, the land looked very different.

**Before Mining**



**After Mining**



Go on to the next page. →

## Sample Question

Mining in a forest area can have positive and negative effects. Identify 2 possible negative effects on the environment.

Circle the 2 effects you want to choose.

**Possible Effects**

Discover source of groundwater	Decreases natural habitat
Pollution produced by machines	Find needed resources

## Sample Question

Natural resources are often used to supply energy to peoples' homes. Identify resources that are a source of nonrenewable energy.

Circle each resource you want to choose.

Coal

Water

Oil

Wind

Solar

Go on to the next page.

## Practice

Practice answering this diagram question by circling Cattails and Leech.

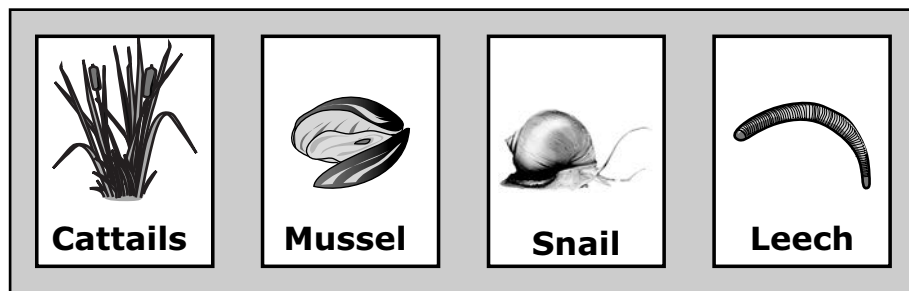
### Scenario

A teacher brings her students to observe a small pond. They notice many kinds of animals, including fish, snails, mussels, leeches, and ducks.



### Question

1. Circle two organisms on this diagram that do not have a shell.



Go on to the next page. →

For some diagram questions, you will need to write the label letters (such as A, B, C) in the boxes. The sample below shows you how to do this.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:







What causes the phase change in each of the pictures?


Each word is labeled A or B. Write the letter of the correct word in each empty box of the diagram. You may use each letter more than once.

**A.**                      **B.**

<b>Cooling</b>	<b>Heating</b>
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**Phase Changes**

 <b>Solid</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">B</div>	 <b>Gas</b>
 <b>Liquid</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">A</div>	 <b>Solid</b>
 <b>Gas</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">A</div>	 <b>Liquid</b>



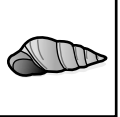
**Go on to the next page.** 

## Practice

Practice answering this diagram question by writing letter A under Group 1, letter B under Group 2, and letter C under Group 2.

2. The shells are sorted by shape. Sort the remaining 3 shells by shape.

Each remaining shell is labeled A, B, or C. Write the letter of each shell in the correct group. You may only use each letter 1 time.

Group 1	Group 2
	 

### Shells

A.

B.

C.



Go on to the next page.

For some graphing questions, you will need to write a “+” above each bar where the top of the bar should be. The sample below shows you how to do this.

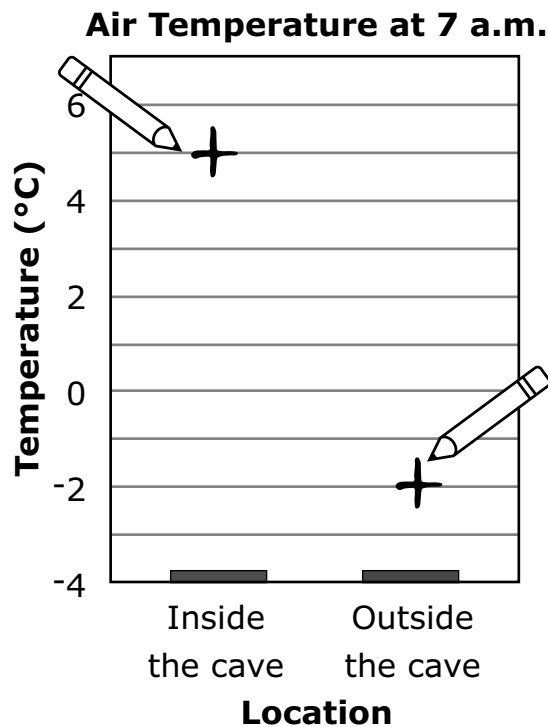
### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:

Make a graph of the air temperatures inside and outside of a cave at 7 a.m.

#### Air Temperature

	Inside	Outside
7 a.m.	5°C (41°F)	-2°C (28°F)

Write a “+” above each bar where the top of the bar should be.



Go on to the next page.

## Practice

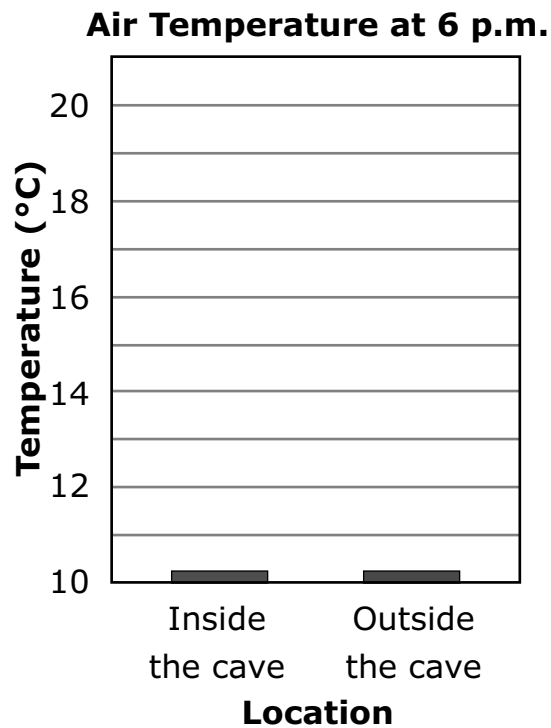
Practice answering this graphing question by writing a "+" above "Inside the cave" at 13°C and a "+" above "Outside the cave" at 18°C.

3. Make a graph of the air temperatures inside and outside of a cave at 6 p.m.

### Air Temperature

	Inside	Outside
6 p.m.	13°C (55°F)	18°C (65°F)

Write a "+" above each bar where the top of the bar should be.

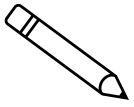


Go on to the next page.



For multiple-choice questions, circle the answer in your test book. The sample below shows you how to do this.

### Sample Question Answered in Test Book:



Which of the following is a renewable resource?

- A.** Wind
- B.** Coal
- C.** Natural Gas
- D.** Oil

**Go on to the next page.**

## Practice

Practice answering this multiple-choice question by circling option C.

4. What happens when water evaporates?
- A. The water gets hotter.
  - B. The water changes color.
  - C. The water turns into a gas.
  - D. The water turns into a solid.

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