








SECTION 5

TEST II SAMPLE CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENTS

This section of the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE™) Preparation Guide is designed to assist you in responding to the constructed-response assignments on the test. Included in this section are:

- ▶ Constructed-response assignment directions
- ▶ Sample constructed-response assignments
- ▶ Assignment response sheets
- ▶ An example of a strong response to each sample assignment
- ▶ Scoring criteria that will be used in evaluating your response to each assignment

For each sample assignment, you may want to take the following steps to prepare for the test:

-  Review the constructed-response assignment directions.
-  Print the assignment and the assignment response sheet.
-  Use scrap paper to make notes, write an outline, or otherwise prepare your response.
-  Use the assignment response sheet to record your response. The assignment response sheet reflects the amount of space available on an actual test.
-  After you complete the assignment, review the sample strong response, your response, and the scoring criteria.

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS

A sample of the directions for the constructed-response assignments is shown in the box below.

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS

For each constructed-response assignment in this section, you are to prepare a written response of up to one page and record it in the area provided on the appropriate Assignment Response Sheet in your answer document.

Read each assignment carefully before you begin to write. Think about how you will organize what you plan to write. You may use any blank space provided in this test booklet following each assignment to make notes, write an outline, or otherwise prepare your response. *However, each of your final responses must be written on the appropriate Assignment Response Sheet in your answer document.*

Your responses will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Purpose:** The extent to which the response fulfills the purpose of the assignment in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
- **Application of Content Knowledge and Skills:** The extent to which the response accurately and effectively applies content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
- **Supporting Evidence:** The extent to which the response includes appropriate, specific supporting evidence of content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives

Evaluation of each response will be based on the criteria above, not on your writing ability. However, your response must be communicated clearly enough to permit a valid judgment of your knowledge and skills. Your responses should be written for an audience of educators in the field.

Your responses should be your original work, written in your own words, and not copied or paraphrased from some other work. Please write legibly. You may not use any reference materials during the test. Remember to review your work and make any changes you think will improve your responses.

The selected-response section of the answer document containing your name will be removed from your written responses to maintain your anonymity during the scoring process. Do not write your name on any other portion of the answer document, and do not separate any of the sheets from the document.

Please turn the page and begin the constructed-response assignment section of the test.

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT ONE

■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

Use the information below to complete the assignment that follows.

In order to protect U.S. manufacturers, the federal government has decided to impose a new tariff on imported farm machinery.

- Describe one likely short-term effect of this action on the U.S. economy; and
- describe one likely long-term effect of this action on the U.S. economy.

■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

One short-term effect of a federally imposed tariff on imported farm machinery on the U.S. economy would be higher expenses for the farmer. The tariff would cause the cost of imported farm machinery to rise. The tariff would also benefit U.S. manufactures by allowing them to raise the prices of farm equipment to prices comparable to those of the imported machinery. While this increase in the cost of farm machinery would be good for U.S. farm equipment manufactures, it would be bad for U.S. farmers.

One likely long-term effect of the tariff would be that foreign governments would impose tariffs on U.S. exported manufactured goods to retaliate for the U.S. tariff. This would lead to decreased profits for U.S. exporters as well as reduced employment and lower tax revenues. It could also affect international relations between the two countries and lead to protectionism or an all-out trade war, which would have serious consequences for the U.S. economy.

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT TWO

■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

Use the information below to complete the assignment that follows.

A home furniture manufacturer is experiencing problems with its customer service. Customers who call are often put on hold while customer service representatives search for paper files containing up-to-date customer information on recent purchases, orders, summaries of previous telephone conversations, letters of complaint, and other written correspondence. The company would like to use information technology to help improve its customer service.

- Describe an application of information technology that could be used by the company to help solve this problem; and
- explain why this technology would be effective in helping to solve this problem.

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■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

This company could use a system based on relational database software integrated with telecommunication technology. The database would include information about purchases, returns, complaints, payment history and other account information for each customer. Correspondence and other documents could be scanned into the database, and phone calls could be digitally recorded for future reference. Customer service reps could key in customer I.D. information and get an immediate customer history. The database could provide access to specific product information, shipping schedules and costs, warranty information, etc., which would allow the reps to search the database for answers to customers' questions.

This would be effective in improving customer service because reps will have instantaneous access to the customer's file, thus reducing errors and the time involved in obtaining pertinent information. The software will allow the rep. to update the file during the phone call and eliminate both the problem of putting a customer on hold and the customer's frustration over waiting for a problem to be solved.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING YOUR RESPONSE

Each response will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

PURPOSE	The extent to which the response fulfills the purpose of the assignment in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
APPLICATION OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS	The extent to which the response accurately and effectively applies content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
SUPPORTING EVIDENCE	The extent to which the response includes appropriate, specific supporting evidence of content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives

Each response is rated on a three-point scale. The three score points of the score scale correspond to varying degrees of performance that are related to the above criteria.

Score	Description
3	<p>The "3" response reflects thorough understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response fully achieves the purpose of the assignment. • The response demonstrates an accurate and effective application of relevant content knowledge and skills. • The response provides appropriate, specific supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects general understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response largely achieves the purpose of the assignment. • The response demonstrates a generally accurate, generally effective application of relevant content knowledge and skills. • The response provides some appropriate and general supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects limited or no understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response partially achieves or fails to achieve the purpose of the assignment. • The response demonstrates limited, inaccurate, and/or ineffective application of relevant content knowledge and skills. • The response provides limited or no appropriate, specific supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.

Please note: A response that is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not primarily in the target language, or lacking a sufficient amount of original work to score will be considered **unscorable**. If there is no response to the assignment, then the response will be considered **blank**.