








SECTION 5

TEST II SAMPLE CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT

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 assignment on the test. Included in this section are:

- ▶ Constructed-response assignment directions
- ▶ A sample constructed-response assignment
- ▶ An assignment response sheet
- ▶ An example of a strong response to the sample assignment
- ▶ Scoring criteria that will be used in evaluating your response to the assignment

For the 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 assignment is shown in the box below.

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS

For the 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 Assignment 1 Response Sheet in your answer document.

Read the 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, your final response must be written on the Assignment 1 Response Sheet in your answer document.***

Your 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

Evaluation of your 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 response should be written for an audience of educators in the field.

Your response 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 response.

The selected-response section of the answer document containing your name will be removed from your written response 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.

A key idea applied by sociologists to the analysis of human societies is the concept of bureaucracy.

- Briefly define bureaucracy; and
- describe two ways in which bureaucracies influence individual and/or group behavior in U.S. society.

■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

The concept of bureaucracy originated as a mechanistic model for workplaces to maximize efficiency. Bureaucracies are hierarchically organized structures of authority with formal channels of communication, regulations, and clearly defined divisions of activity that, ideally, enable a trained and specialized workforce to perform consistently and efficiently.

Bureaucracies can have negative effects on people's behavior. First, the same mechanistic qualities that contribute to efficiency can create a culture in which the needs of individuals are less important than the needs of the organization, leaving people feeling like cogs in a machine. Workers can stop thinking creatively, speaking frankly, or taking worthwhile risks because there is no reward (and there may be punishment) for drawing attention to themselves. As a result, people may spend more time defending the institution's existence than contributing to the accomplishment of organizational aims. Second, in their quest for order and structure, bureaucracies can produce excessive, inefficient, and even harmful rules and regulations ("red tape") that prevent workers from achieving organizational goals. People may find red tape so overwhelming that they become passive, unresponsive, and unable and/or unwilling to perform effectively.

Section 5: Test II Sample Constructed-Response Assignment

CRITERIA FOR SCORING YOUR RESPONSE

Your 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

Your 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**.