



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.

Please note that a set of formulas and a periodic table are provided for this test. Please refer to these materials as needed in responding to the sample test questions and assignments. These materials are located in the Assessment Reference Materials section at the end of this preparation guide.

A scientific calculator may be used for this test as needed in responding to the sample test questions and assignments. Please refer to the current GACE registration bulletin for information about the use of calculators at the test administration.

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

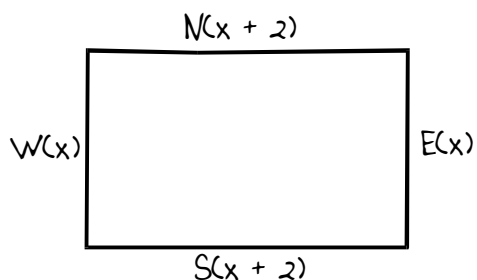
■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

Use the problem below to complete the assignment that follows.

A rectangular shed is being built with the north and south walls 2 feet longer than the east and west walls. If the total distance around the shed is 24 feet, what is the length of the north and south walls and the length of the east and west walls?

- Write an algebraic equation that represents the problem stated above, being sure to define your variable; and
- use the algebraic equation to solve the problem stated above. Show your work.

■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One



The algebraic equation is $2(x + 2) + 2x = 24$

where the variable x = the length of the east and west walls

Using the equation to solve the problem

$$2(x + 2) + 2x = 24$$

$$2x + 4 + 2x = 24$$

$$4x + 4 = 24$$

$$\underline{\quad -4 \quad -4}$$

$$4x = 20$$

$$\frac{4x}{4} = \frac{20}{4}$$

$$x = 5$$

E/W walls = $x = 5$ feet

N/S walls = $x + 2 = 5 + 2 = 7$ feet

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT TWO

■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

Use the information below to complete the assignment that follows.

A person with cold hands rubs them together to warm them up.

- Identify a scientific principle or phenomenon relevant to the situation described above; and
- using the principle or phenomenon you have identified, provide a scientific explanation for the warming of the hands when they are rubbed together.

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■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

A scientific phenomenon related to the situation of a person rubbing his hands together to warm them up is friction. Friction is the force that resists the motion of one object over the surface of another object. In this case, the friction occurs between the surfaces of the person's hands rubbing together. The surfaces of the hands are slightly rough, so the projections on the surfaces catch when they slide past one another, which causes friction.

Before the hands begin to rub against one another, there is potential energy (stored energy) in the person's arm muscles. When the rubbing motion begins, this potential energy becomes kinetic energy, or the energy of motion. The harder the hands are pressed together, the more energy needs to be used to work against the force of friction. Friction causes this energy of motion to be transformed into heat energy, some of which warms the hands and some of which is given off to the surrounding air.

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**.