



SECTION 4

TEST II SAMPLE QUESTIONS

This section of the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE®) Preparation Guide provides sample selected-response questions with an annotated answer key for you to review as part of your preparation for the test. The sample selected-response questions are designed to illustrate the nature of the test questions. Work through the questions carefully before referring to the annotated answer key, which follows the sample selected-response questions. The answer key provides the correct response to each question, describes why each correct response is the best answer, and lists the objective within the test framework to which each question is linked.

QUESTIONS

1. An elementary school building leader is putting in place a data management system that will provide teachers with ongoing access to various types of performance data for each student. The goal of the system is to improve teaching and learning at the school. Which of the following actions by the building leader would best help ensure the success of the new system in achieving this goal?
 - A. establishing procedures for merging student data across district schools to enlarge the database and thereby facilitate analysis of factors influencing student performance
 - B. providing teachers with training and support focusing on how to interpret the data and formulate action plans based on analysis of the data
 - C. devising and implementing procedures for involving students and their parents/guardians in analyzing and interpreting the data for each individual
 - D. purchasing advanced data analysis software to allow each teacher to engage in higher-level manipulation and analysis of student data
2. A school recently initiated a mentoring program that pairs students with adult volunteers from the community. The purpose of the program is to provide participating students with a positive, supportive adult presence in their lives. The mentors have received training in how to fulfill their mentoring role, and they have begun meeting regularly with their students. Which of the following actions by school personnel would best help ensure the ongoing success of the mentoring program in achieving its goals?
 - A. reassigning mentors and students periodically so that each student will have opportunities to interact with multiple adult role models
 - B. putting into place procedures for conducting formal evaluations of each mentor's effectiveness and reporting on results
 - C. planning regular meetings with each mentor in which the mentor can share his or her experiences and seek and receive advice
 - D. establishing a system for keeping each mentor informed about his or her student's current coursework and academic achievement

3. As part of the budget development process, a school district leader is attempting to forecast district revenues and expenditures for the upcoming year. To accurately estimate state revenues from Quality Basic Education (QBE) "Earnings," it would be most important for the district leader to calculate the:
- A. total assessed valuation of all taxable property in the district.
 - B. weighted Full Time Equivalent (FTE) count of students enrolled in district schools.
 - C. median annual income of families residing within the district.
 - D. total number of students enrolled in district schools at the beginning of the school year.
4. According to Georgia State law, a school district could use revenues generated by a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) to:
- A. supplement the general fund of the school district budget.
 - B. help finance construction of a new wing at a district middle school.
 - C. meet higher-than-expected expenses for special education.
 - D. hire new teachers to reduce class sizes at an elementary school.
5. Which of the following best describes an appropriate role of district staff in administering the employee health insurance plan?
- A. deciding which benefits and health maintenance organizations will be included in the health insurance plan offered to district employees
 - B. advising employees about which health care providers included in the plan are likely to provide the highest quality medical care
 - C. processing employees' health insurance claims and receiving and disbursing payments from health maintenance organizations
 - D. providing information to employees about the plan and helping them complete paperwork necessary to enroll in the plan and access benefits

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6. An education reporter from a local newspaper contacts a school district leader for comment about the district's performance on the most recent administration of the Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCTs). The recently released data indicate a decline in student scores in English language arts, reading, and mathematics compared with data from the previous year. The district leader can best respond to the reporter's questions about the disappointing test results by:
- A. stressing the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, including family and community members as well as district staff, in determining the success of district programs.
 - B. highlighting the idea that many individual students deserve recognition for performing well on the test despite generally disappointing scores.
 - C. accepting responsibility for the test results and providing a brief overview of goals and plans for improving student performance in the coming year.
 - D. clarifying the broad range of factors that affect the district's ability to be successful, including those that are beyond the district's control, such as limited funding.
7. In recent months, an eighth-grade student has been suspended twice by the district board of education for bullying other students. According to Georgia State law, if the student is found to have engaged in bullying a third time in the same school year, the district board of education must:
- A. take the necessary steps to assign the student to an alternative school.
 - B. evaluate the student for learning or other disabilities.
 - C. provide constant supervision of the student when he or she is on school grounds.
 - D. require the student to participate in an approved anger management program.

ANNOTATED ANSWER KEY

For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
1	B	Student performance data can be used to evaluate student, class, and school progress against defined educational goals and identify specific areas in need of improvement. In the situation described, the school's new data management system will help achieve the desired results only if teachers know how to read and interpret the newly available data and use the data to make informed decisions. Providing teachers with training that helps them engage in thoughtful analysis of student data will help ensure that the new system will be used as intended and will enable teachers to develop appropriately targeted action plans to promote improved student performance.	0010
2	C	A volunteer mentoring program such as the one described represents a significant investment of time and resources for recruitment, screening, and initial training activities. Even with initial training, however, mentors may encounter problems or situations in the mentoring relationship that they do not know how to handle. Regular interaction with school personnel encourages continued commitment to the program by providing opportunities for mentors to share their successes, tap into the knowledge and expertise of professionals, and feel connected to the overall work of the school and the program.	0011
3	B	The Quality Basic Education (QBE) Act is intended to provide funds for direct and indirect instructional costs to Georgia's public schools. Most QBE funds are used to pay salaries for instructional and other staff. The formula used to determine funds for a district is driven by the number of "Full Time Equivalents," or FTEs, which is defined as the number of students who are enrolled in each segment (or class) during the school day. The QBE foundation formula is the revenue earned from the state for one regular high school student. The QBE foundation formula is "weighted" to allow for differences in cost between grade levels, classes, and/or students with different needs.	0012
4	B	A Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) can be levied by any county in Georgia for the purpose of funding the building and maintenance of parks, schools, roads, and other public facilities. A SPLOST is passed by a county commission and voted up or down by residents in a referendum. Of the options listed in the item, only the construction of a new wing for a district school would be eligible to be financed through a SPLOST.	0013

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For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
5	D	In Georgia, employee health insurance plan options for school districts are determined at the state level. In terms of administering these plans, district staff are mainly expected to give employees information about their plans and help them with the paperwork required for enrolling and accessing benefits.	0014
6	C	A district leader is ultimately responsible for the effectiveness of a district's programs and operations. Acknowledging this responsibility to the media communicates honesty and accountability to stakeholders. By providing an overview of the district's goals and plans for addressing the problem, the district leader demonstrates awareness of the importance of the issue and a commitment to enhanced student learning and achievement going forward.	0015
7	A	According to Georgia State law, each local board of education must adopt policies for students in grades 6–12 that prohibit bullying of a student by another student. Furthermore, if a student has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a given school year, that student must be assigned to an alternative school. Information about the prohibition against bullying, as well as the penalties for violating the prohibition, must be posted at each middle school and high school and must be included in student and parent handbooks.	0016