

FCAT Practice Workbook

Scott Foresman



Accelerating English Language Learning



FCAT Practice Workbook

Copyright © 2001 by Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.
A Pearson Education Company.
All rights reserved.

Only portions of this book intended for classroom use
may be reproduced without permission in writing from
the publisher.

Pearson Education
10 Bank Street, White Plains, NY 10606

Vice president, director of publishing: Allen Ascher
Publisher and executive editor: Anne Stribling
Development editor: Yoko Mia Hirano
Vice president, director of design and production: Rhea Banker
Executive managing editor: Linda Moser
Production manager: Alana Zdinak
Associate production editor: Sylvia Dare
Senior manufacturing manager: Edith Pullman
Cover design: Ann France
Text design: Carol H. Rose
Text composition: Rainbow Graphics
Text art: Rita Lascaro
Text credit: Page 8-6, "Jane Goodall" by Milada
Broukal, from *What A Life! Stories of Amazing
People*. Copyright © 2000 by Addison Wesley
Longman, Inc. A Pearson Education Company.

ISBN: 0-13-027924-2

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10-BB-05 04 03 02 01 00

Contents

Introduction		iv
How to Score the Practice FCAT Reading Test		vi
Tips for Taking FCAT Reading		viii
Questions about FCAT Reading		ix
<hr/>		
Grade 1		1-1
Literature	Saturday with Grandpa	1-2
Information	How They Grow	1-3
<hr/>		
Grade 2		2-1
Literature	The Star Llama	2-2
Information	Blueberries	2-4
<hr/>		
Grade 3		3-1
Literature	Julie’s Race	3-2
Information	Outer Space	3-3
<hr/>		
Grade 4		4-1
Literature	How the Chipmunk Got Its Stripes	4-2
Information	Amazing Black Holes	4-4
<hr/>		
Grade 5		5-1
Literature	It’s All Clear Now	5-2
Information	The Mystery of the Maya	5-4
<hr/>		
Grade 6		6-1
Literature	Why the Sky Is Far Away	6-2
Information	Popular Sports Around the World	6-6
<hr/>		
Grade 7		7-1
Literature	A Letter from New York	7-2
Information	Gone Forever	7-6
<hr/>		
Grade 8		8-1
Literature	Ready for Anything!	8-2
Information	Jane Goodall	8-6

Introduction

The Test

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is a state-wide public school test assessing student achievement in reading and mathematics according to the Florida (Sunshine State) Standards. It has also been given to test very high achievers and limited English proficient students who have been studying ESL for two years or less. In 1998 and 1999 it was given the first week in February. In 1999 it was given a second time and expanded for 2000. The FCAT in reading has been given in fourth grade, eighth grade, and tenth grade. As of early 2000, the FCAT program began including reading tests for grades 3 through 10. They are being field-tested and will start being administered fully in 2001. Thus, this Workbook provides Practice Reading Tests for grades 1 through 8, correlating to the eight levels of the Scott Foresman ESL program.


The FCAT in reading takes about two to four hours on one or two days. The test has six or seven reading selections from a Literature Strand (fiction) and Information Strand (nonfiction). The reading passages come in different formats and have different writing styles: plays, stories, newspaper articles, poems, advertisements, editorials and so on. Some of the information can come in visuals such as graphs, diagrams, and pictures with captions.

Each reading selection has about eight comprehension questions. There are three types of questions for each passage: multiple-choice, short-answer, and long-answer. The short-answer and long-answer questions are designed to have students process the information in the passage, analyze it, and organize it for the answer. This differentiates the FCAT tests from other standardized tests, because the FCAT tests their analytical abilities, not just comprehension.


Multiple-Choice Questions

The multiple-choice questions have four possible answers labeled A, B, C, D or F, G, H, I. The students will choose one answer per question. There are about 45 multiple-choice questions in the full test. Each question correctly answered is given one point.

Short-Answer Questions

 The short-answer questions have a “Read, Think, and Explain” symbol next to them. There are about six short-answer questions in the whole test. Students should spend about three to five minutes answering each short-answer question on the lines provided. Each question answered correctly is given up to two points; partial credit is given. There can be some variation in the answers.

Long-Answer Questions

 The long-answer questions have a “Read, Think, and Explain” symbol with more lines next to them. There are approximately two long-answer questions in the whole test. Students should spend about seven to ten minutes answering

each long-answer question on the lines provided. Each question correctly answered is given up to four points and partial credit is given. There can be some variation in the answers.

Scoring

The actual FCAT Reading Test scores range from 100 to 500 with an average score of 300. The FCAT Achievement Level combines the reading and math scores and range from 1 to 5. There are also FCAT Subscores which estimate the student's achievement of content in a particular strand. The two strands in reading are Literature and Information.

The Practice Reading Tests in this book are scored on a point system that differs by grade level. Grades 1 and 2 have fewer questions and no short- or long-answer questions. Grade 1 is based on a scoring range of 0–6 points. Grade 2 is based on a scoring range of 0–12 points. Grades 3 through 8 are based on a scoring range of 0–22 points.

Using this Workbook

This book has a practice reading test for each grade. Each test has a contents page, two reading passages, and question and answer sections that can be photocopied and given to the students for test preparation practice.

The practice tests for grades 1 through 5 are arranged differently from practice tests for grades 6 through 8. The questions and answer choices/write-on lines are combined in Grades 1 through 5 and follow in the Answer Section after the two reading selections in the Reading Section. The questions and multiple-choice sections for Grades 6 through 8 follow directly after each reading selection in the Reading Section; then the Answer Section follows with multiple-choice answer bubbles and write-on lines for the short- and long-answer questions.

The Answer Key for all grades is available from your Pearson Education sales representative; please call 1-877-739-6374 to request these materials.

The explanation of how to score the Practice FCAT Reading Test is on pages vi and vii.

Further Information

If you visit our website for Scott Foresman ESL at <http://www.longman-elt.com/sfesl> you can download this information from the Teacher's Resources. The Student Resources section provides an online version for students to practice taking on the computer on their own. A student can print out the completed test to hand in to the teacher. Answers are not supplied online.

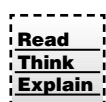
Visit the Florida Department of Education's home web page www.firn.edu/doe/ for more information. Click on "Resources for Teachers" and then on "[Florida's Comprehensive Assessment Test \(FCAT\)-Resources for Teachers](#)".

How to Score the Practice FCAT Reading Test

Multiple-Choice Questions

Each multiple-choice question is worth 1 point.

“Read, Think, and Explain” Questions



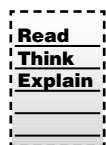
Short-Answer Questions

Short-answer “Read, Think, and Explain” questions are worth up to two points. There may be more than one acceptable answer for a short-answer question. (Sample answers are given for each question.) Partial credit can be given for answers that are correct, but incomplete.

2 points The answer shows that the student understands what the question is asking. The response is both accurate and complete. The student has supported the answer with information and/or examples from the passage, as asked for in the question. The answer must be based on the correct passage.

1 point The answer shows that the student understood or responded to only part of what the question asked. The information in the answer may be correct and based on the passage, but may not be clearly written, or exact enough. More supporting information and/or examples may be needed, as asked for in the question.

0 points The answer is incorrect or not based upon the passage, or the student gives no response.



Long-Answer Questions

Long-answer “Read, Think, and Explain” questions are worth up to four points. There may be more than one acceptable answer for a long-answer question. (Sample answers are given for each question). Partial credit can be given for answers that are correct, but incomplete.

4 points The answer shows that the student has a thorough understanding of what the question asks. The response is both accurate and complete. The student has supported the answer with information and/or examples from the passage, as asked for in the question. The answer must be based on the correct passage.

3 points The answer shows that the student has a complete understanding of what the question asks. The information in the answer is correct, but more supporting information and/or examples based on the passage are needed.

2 points The answer shows that the student understood or responded to only part of what the question asked. The information in the answer may be correct and based on the passage, but may not be clearly written, or exact enough. More supporting information and/or examples may be needed.

1 point The answer shows that the student has little understanding of what the question has asked. The answer may be incomplete, may have several mistakes or inaccuracies, and may not fulfill the task required by the question.

0 points The answer is incorrect or not based upon the passage, or the student gives no response.