



# The GED Language Arts, Writing Test

*GED Orientation*



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# GED

## Video Partner



### Passing the 5 GED Tests

Genius is one per cent inspiration, ninety-nine per cent perspiration.  
Thomas A. Edison, U.S. Inventor

Video 1 Focus: how television, workbooks, and the internet can combine with practice and perseverance to help you pass the 5 GED tests and get your GED

#### You Will Learn From Video 1:

- With these videos, you're in the "driver's seat."
- You can study at home, take a class, or work with a tutor.
- There are 39 videos that cover all aspects of the five tests.
- The number of videos for each test relates to needs and concerns of learners. Some have more: for example, Math has 13, and some have less, Reading has 5.



#### Words You Need to Know:

While viewing the video, fill in the correct word or phrase:

Answers are on page 7.

1. The energy of speed or velocity is called \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. \_\_\_\_\_ maps show surface features such as road alignments and mountains.
3. There are thousands of places \_\_\_\_\_ to get more information about history, geography, science, or any topic.
4. GED videos are easy to use and flexible, and you can make them fit into any \_\_\_\_\_ that works for you.
5. The writing videos help you approach writing as a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. These videos are a good place to start because they introduce important \_\_\_\_\_, major events, and ideas.



#### Points to Remember:

- When in doubt, guess. It will not be held against you.
- You may be able to take a pretest and/or official practice test through your teacher or tutor to know if you are ready to test, or to help you know what topics to study.
- You are given a sheet of key formulas on the Math Test . You do not need to memorize them.

## **Video Series Overview:**



- There are 39 videos in the series.
- There is a student workbook available for each video.
- The first video is an overview for the whole series.
- There are 9 videos for the Language Arts, Writing Test.
- There are 5 videos for the Language Arts, Reading Test.
- There are 5 videos for the Social Studies Test.
- There are 6 videos for the Science Test.
- There are 13 videos for the Mathematics Test.

## **Test Overview**

<u>TEST</u>	<u>MINUTES</u>	<u>NUMBER of QUESTIONS</u>
Writing	120	50 + ESSAY
Reading	65	40
Social Studies	80	50
Science	80	50
Mathematics	90	50

## **Language Arts, Writing Test**

This test contains two parts: Part 1 is multiple choice and Part 2 is the essay.

In Part 1, you will be given exercises relating to full-page texts that include “how to” documents, memos, letters, informational mailings, reports, applications, executive summaries, and brochures. These may include such topics as “how to write a memo,” “how to organize a meeting,” “holding a garage sale,” “applying to college,” “balancing a checkbook,” or “using equipment such as a printer.”



You will be asked to look for the clearest, most logical way of expressing ideas. Throughout the entire section, you will be watching for unclear writing, deficient organization, flawed sentence and paragraph construction, poor usage, and faulty mechanics such as punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

Exercises will show a sentence from the text with, perhaps, underlined words or phrases. You will then be asked what mechanical correction should be made, how two sentences can be combined to improve effectiveness, or what revision should be made to the text by moving sentences or paragraphs around. You will choose one of the five choices given to correct the sentence. One of your selections may be “no revision is necessary.” There are no trick questions.

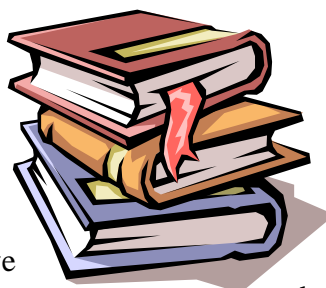
In Part 2: you will be assigned an expository essay. You will be given a non-controversial question or informative statement with which you will have the opportunity to use your personal experience, observation, and knowledge. Although there is no required word count, a 250-word essay is ideal.

You are allotted 45 minutes, but you may begin it after finishing Part 1. If you have not finished Part 1 after 75 minutes, you will be required to begin the essay.

You will receive one score that will be a combination of the two parts.

## Language Arts, Reading Test

The Language Arts, Reading Test will be 200-400 word passages fiction from three eras, Pre-1920, There will be 30 multiple-choice theme, tone, setting, mood, narrative symbolism, scripts, understanding



consists of 75% literary text. There relating to poetry, drama and 1920-1960, and 1960-to present. questions dealing with plot, point of view, poetic form, character, and analyzing action.

Twenty-five percent of the test deals with nonfiction. The 10 questions will relate to the 200-400 word passages from biography, critical reviews of fine and performing arts, community and workplace documents. In these questions, you will be expected to evaluate the main idea, purpose of writing, the facts presented, cause and effect, and expected outcome or action. There will also be at least one compare/contrast exercise.

# Social Studies Test



A good portion of the exercises on this test, 60% or 30 questions, relates to visual text: cartoons, photos, graphs, charts, and timelines. Only 40% or 20 questions deal with written text.

The written text includes advertisements, voter guides, tax forms, and key documents of the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and landmark Supreme Court decisions.

## Subject of Questions:

History	20 questions
U.S./Canada (12)	
World (8)	
Civics	13 questions
Economics	10 questions
Geography	7 questions

- American history includes:
  - colonization through westward migration
  - Civil War
  - industrialization
  - armed conflict
  - postwar and contemporary U.S.
  - current challenges, enduring issues
- World history includes:
  - early civilizations and great empires
  - world religions
  - feudalism
  - revolutions
  - armed conflicts
  - 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Geography includes:
  - places and regions
  - physical systems
  - human systems
  - environment and society
  - uses of geography
- Civics and government include:
  - democracy, citizenship, foreign relations
  - politics and government
  - American political system
  - Constitutional democracy
  - relationships of U.S. to other nations
  - role of citizens
- Economics includes:
  - economic theory and economic reasoning
  - consumerism including financial institutions
  - government role in economy
  - comparison of modern economic systems
  - production and consumers
  - labor
  - global markets

## Science Test

Fifty percent or 25 questions on this test relate to visual text: charts, figures, diagrams, and graphs.

The Science Test includes:



- Life Science: biology and health 23 questions
  - the cell
  - molecules: basis for heredity
  - matter, energy, and organizations of living systems
  - interdependence of organisms



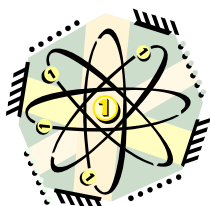
Bone Cell



- Earth and Space Science: 11 questions
  - energy in the earth system
  - origin and evolution of the earth system
  - origin and evolution of the universe



- Physical Science: chemistry and physics 16 questions
  - structure of the atom
  - structure and properties of matter
  - chemical reactions
  - motions and forces
  - interactions of energy and matter

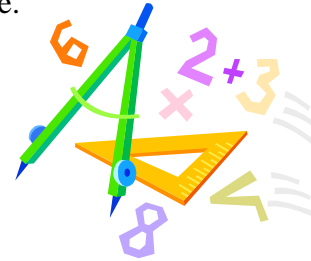


## Math Test

On the Math Test, you do not have to memorize formulas, as the formula sheet will be provided. You must decide when to use the formulas and which formula to use.

Twenty-five questions (50%) on the math test relate to visual text: charts, figures, diagrams, graphs.

There is one math score, but it is based on two separate booklets.



Booklet 1: 25 questions

- ❖ scientific calculator is permitted: Casio FX-260
- ❖ calculator will be provided at official GED Testing Center

Booklet 2: 25 questions

- ❖ estimation and mental math emphasized
- ❖ calculator is NOT permitted



### Subject of Questions

- |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ▪ Numbers, number sense, operations | 10-15 questions |
| ▪ Data, statistics, probability     | 10-15 questions |
| ▪ Geometry and measurement          | 10-15 questions |
| ▪ Algebra, functions, and patterns  | 10-15 questions |

## You Decide

Your program to get your GED may have four components: videos, student workbooks, teacher or tutor, and on-line assistance. You can decide which of these to use and how to use them. However, it is to your benefit to view the videos more than once. They can be copied at home to enable you to view them at any time convenient with your schedule.

You may decide with the guidance of your teacher or tutor:

- ❖ To watch all the programs and use the workbook in each subject.
- ❖ To review just certain subjects.
- ❖ To decide to take a class to supplement the programs.
- ❖ To choose to study at home.
- ❖ To use on-line resources such as [www.pbs.org/literacy](http://www.pbs.org/literacy) to help you.

Whatever you decide, remember, you

CAN get your GED.

REACH FOR THE STARS!

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Page 1: Words You Need to Know

1. kinetic energy
2. Topographical
3. on-line
4. schedule
5. process
6. concepts