STAAR MASTER®
Practice Test

Sample Booklet
Grade 6
Reading, Form A

Lori Mammen
Editorial Director

You know ECS from TAAS MASTER™ and TAKS MASTER®. Rest assured. The content in the STAAR MASTER® series is 100% new and developed according to the TEA test blueprints for STAAR™.

All New! Research-Based Series for Texas

For more than two decades, we have helped you achieve student success on Texas tests by providing the highest quality test-prep materials. With STAAR MASTER®, we continue our commitment to create research-based content that engages students and makes teaching easier.

• Based on eligible TEKS and STAAR test blueprints
• All new content with increased rigor
• Emphasis on readiness standards
• Assessment of process skills within context (mathematics, science, and social studies)
• More open-ended (griddable) items (mathematics and science)
Reading, Grade 6
Form A
Teacher Guide
Dear Texas Educator,

Since 1982, ECS Learning Systems has created quality K–12 teaching materials, training, and media. As a Texas-based publisher of the highest quality test-prep materials, we have always shared your commitment to lead your students to success on Texas tests—TEAMS, TAAS, TAKS, and now the STAAR™. With STAAR MASTER®, we continue our commitment to create research-based content that engages students and makes teaching easier.

The STAAR MASTER series includes new, challenging content to prepare students for the rigor of the 2012 STAAR. It’s what you have come to expect from the most trusted source in Texas testing. Check our Web site often for the latest information at ecslearningystems.com/staarmaster.

As you use STAAR MASTER in your classroom, we hope to hear from you! Send us your story and let us know:

• Why you need our product(s)
• How you use them in your classroom
• What outcomes and results you are experiencing

At ECS, we strive to provide educators like you with easy-to-use and effective materials that make teaching easier. We count it as a privilege to have you as a customer, and we hope that our products continuously exceed your expectations.

Please let us know how well the STAAR MASTER products worked in your classroom. Also, please spread the word—many of our new customers are referred by teachers like you.

Sincerely,

Your ECS Team

p.s. It’s easy to share your story! Visit our Re:Think blog at ecslearningystems.com/blog and click the Re:Tell button.

Overview of STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests

The STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests allow teachers to assess their students’ mastery of the curriculum standards tested on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®). Each Practice Test reflects the test structure and content outlined in the corresponding STAAR blueprint provided by the Texas Education Agency. Teachers can find the blueprint for each STAAR assessment at the agency’s Web site: http://www.tea.state.tx.us.

In particular, each STAAR MASTER Practice Test includes—

• course-specific practice items based only on the eligible Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
• the exact number of practice items specified in the blueprint for the corresponding test
• the correct number of practice items for both readiness standards and supporting standards, reflecting the ratio specified in test blueprints
• the appropriate number of griddable practice items (mathematics only)
• rigorous practice items that assess skills at a greater depth
Each *STAAR MASTER® Practice Test Teacher Guide* includes a Correlation Chart with pertinent information for each item in the test booklet.

**Correlation Chart Features:**
- complete answer key
- identification of the reporting category for each item
- standard(s) and expectation(s) tested in each item
- identification of readiness and supporting standards
- complexity level (Low, Moderate, High) of each item

The Teacher Guide for each *STAAR MASTER Practice Test* includes a correlation chart that provides the following information for each item:
- correct answer
- reporting category
- tested standard(s)
- identification as readiness vs. supporting standard
- complexity level

For a complete list of the eligible TEKS for the appropriate subject and grade level, refer to the *STAAR MASTER Student Practice Books*.

When administering any of the *STAAR MASTER Practice Tests*, teachers should be aware of the following points.

1. Each actual STAAR assessment has a 4-hour time limit. The same time limit should be set for any practice test administered to students.
2. Dictionaries must be available for all students taking the STAAR reading assessment (grades 6–8 only) and writing assessment (grade 7 only). Dictionaries should be available to students for those subject areas and at those grade levels during practice tests, as well.

For further information about the content or structure of the STAAR assessments, please visit the TEA Web site: http://www.tea.state.tx.us.

### Answer Key

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<th>Answer</th>
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Read the two myths, and answer the questions that follow.

**RABBIT AND THE FIRE**

*A Creek Native American Myth*

1. Long ago, the earth was dark and cold. But one day, the Thunderbirds sent their lightning down from the sky, striking an old sycamore tree on the island of the Weasels. The Weasels soon learned how to use the fire the lightning left behind, and they would not let others have any of it.

2. The Weasels’ island was in the middle of a deep, deep sea. The people on the shore could see the smoke coming from the fire on the island, but the sea was too deep for them to cross. The winter that year was harsh, and the people knew that to stay alive they had to devise a way to get fire from the Weasels. They called a council of people and animals to think of a plan.

3. Now the Weasels were greedy animals, and this made most of the other animals fear them. Rabbit, however, volunteered to swim to the island and bring the fire back to the people on the shore.

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1. What leads to Rabbit’s decision to go to the island of the Weasels?
   A. Rabbit wants fire more than the other animals on the shore.
   B. Rabbit has traveled to the island of the Weasels in the past.
   C. Rabbit is the only animal brave enough to swim to the island.
   D. Rabbit wants to show that he is an excellent swimmer and dancer.

2. In the myth, the Thunderbirds are meant to represent the animal and people’s—
   A. nature gods
   B. feared leaders
   C. strong enemies
   D. source of strength
All **New** Content!

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**Credible**

Same ECS quality and rigor
- based on eligible TEKS and STAAR™ test blueprints
- practice items marked with complexity level (L, M, or H)
- questions labeled with “skill tags”
- targeted practice in a variety of contexts

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**Authentic**

Reflects key characteristics of STAAR™
- increased rigor
- emphasis on readiness standards
- more open-ended (griddable) items (mathematics and science)
- assessment of process skills within context (mathematics, science, and social studies)

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**Fresh**

Includes brand-new materials
- all new content
- range of topics to interest students
- clear and consistent page layout
- complete answer keys for teachers

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STAAR MASTER® Sample Booklet

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FREE Teacher Guide (a $15.00 value) included with each pack. For School Packs, extra Teacher Guides will be included free for each additional 30 copies ordered.

STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests

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STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests are non-returnable.

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