

STAAR MASTER[®]

Practice Test

Sample Booklet

Grade 8
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)



Since 1982

STAAR MASTER®

Practice Test

Reading, Grade 8

Form A

Teacher Guide

This page may not be reproduced.

ECS97832-TG

Copyright infringement is a violation of Federal Law.

©2012 by ECS Learning Systems, Inc., Bulverde, Texas. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any way or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without prior written permission from ECS Learning Systems, Inc.

Reproduction of any part of this publication for an entire school or for a school system, by for-profit institutions and tutoring centers, or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited.

Printed in the United States of America. STAAR MASTER is a registered trademark of ECS Learning Systems, Inc.

Disclaimer Statement

ECS Learning Systems, Inc. recommends that the purchaser/user of this publication preview and use his/her own judgment when selecting lessons and activities. Please assess the appropriateness of the content and activities according to grade level and maturity of your students. The responsibility to adhere to safety standards and best professional practices is the duty of the teachers, students, and/or others who use the content of this publication. ECS Learning Systems is not responsible for any damage, to property or person, that results from the performance of the activities in this publication.

STAAR is a trademark of Texas Education Agency. STAAR MASTER and ECS Learning Systems, Inc. are not affiliated with or sponsored by the Texas Education Agency or the State of Texas.

This page may not be reproduced.

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 ecslarningsystems.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

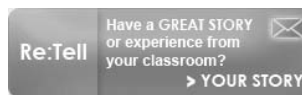
At ECS, we strive to provide educators like you with easy-to-use and effective materials that make teaching easier. We count it as a privilege to have you as a customer, and we hope that our products continuously exceed your expectations.

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 ecslarningsystems.com/blog and click the Re:Tell button.



This page may not be reproduced.

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 8 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>.

This page may not be reproduced.

This page may not be reproduced.

Answer Key

Item	Answer	Category	Standard(s)	Readiness	Supporting	Complexity Level*
1	C	1	8.2B	X		M
2	B	2	8.RC.D (Fig. 19)	X		M
3	A	2	8.6A	X		L
4	D	2	8.6B	X		M
5	D	2	8.RC.E (Fig. 19)	X		M
6	B	2	8.RC.E (Fig. 19)	X		H
7	A	1	8.2A	X		M
8	D	2	8.8A		X	H
9	A	2	8.4A		X	M
10	C	2	8.RC.D (Fig. 19)		X	M
11	D	2	8.RC.E (Fig. 19)		X	M
12	B	3	8.10A	X		M
13	C	3	8.10B		X	M
14	C	3	8.10C	X		H



Since 1982



Practice Test

Reading Grade 8 Form A

Name _____ Date _____

ISBN: 978-1-60539-783-2

Copyright infringement is a violation of Federal Law.

©2012 by ECS Learning Systems, Inc., Bulverde, Texas. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any way or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without prior written permission from ECS Learning Systems, Inc.

Reproduction of any part of this publication for an entire school or for a school system, by for-profit institutions and tutoring centers, or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited.

Printed in the United States of America. STAAR MASTER is a registered trademark of ECS Learning Systems, Inc.

Disclaimer Statement

ECS Learning Systems, Inc. recommends that the purchaser/user of this publication preview and use his/her own judgment when selecting lessons and activities. Please assess the appropriateness of the content and activities according to grade level and maturity of your students. The responsibility to adhere to safety standards and best professional practices is the duty of the teachers, students, and/or others who use the content of this publication. ECS Learning Systems is not responsible for any damage, to property or person, that results from the performance of the activities in this publication.

STAAR is a trademark of Texas Education Agency. STAAR MASTER and ECS Learning Systems, Inc. are not affiliated with or sponsored by the Texas Education Agency or the State of Texas.

This page may not be reproduced.

See pp. 3–4 of this Sample Booklet for a detailed description of the STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests.

Picture Day

- 1 Cameron gave a jaw-breaking yawn before crawling out from beneath the covers. It was picture day, and he didn't want to be late. He rubbed his eyes and stretched his arms before letting his hands drop to scratch his head. *Weird*, he thought. His fingers wouldn't move through his hair.
- 2 Cameron froze. *Oh no*, he thought. *Didn't I spit out my gum before bed last night?* Cameron sat up and looked in the mirror. No such luck. He dampened his comb with water and tried to yank it through the sticky mess, but his comb just got stuck to his head too. Cameron shrugged, yawned, and crammed a cap over his hair as he trudged downstairs to breakfast.
- 3 Cameron tilted his chair to the left and
- 4 turned slowly. Melanie stared at Cameron with huge eyes, and then a smile slowly spread across her face.
- 5 Cameron's mom immediately realized what had happened. She set her mouth in a grim line and tried to wrestle the cap from Cameron's head. Melanie began giggling uncontrollably. Finally, his dad stepped in and gave a powerful jerk, freeing Cameron's head from the cap. Cameron tried to touch his head, now sore from all the pulling, but Mom swatted his hand away.
- 6 "Cameron, don't touch it! You'll just make it worse," she scolded.
- 7 "Nothing can look worse than Cameron's head right now," Melanie said with a smirk.

STAAR MASTER® Practice Test—Reading, Grade 8

Standard/Expectation

Complexity Level

Standard 2 (Context Clues) M

1. In paragraph 10 of the story, the word liberally means—
- A angrily
 - B carefully
 - C generously
 - D timidly

8.RC.D (Inferences) M

2. Based on the story, the reader can conclude that the gum got into Cameron's hair—
- A as he was combing it
 - B while he was sleeping
 - C when he was at school
 - D after he woke in the morning

STAAR MASTER® Practice Test—Reading, Grade 8

This page may not be reproduced.

produced.

produced.

All *New* Content!

You have used our **TAAS** and **TAKS MASTER®** books—
now expect the same ECS quality and rigor with...



Reading • Mathematics • Writing • Social Studies • Science
English and Spanish versions

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

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)

Fresh

Includes brand-new materials

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

ecslearningsystems.com

We make teaching easier!™



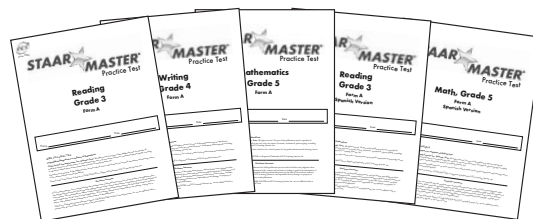
ECS Learning Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 440 • Bulverde, TX 78163-0440
1.800.688.3224

celebrating **3**ecs years The most trusted name in Texas testing materials

ecs SOLE SOURCE
ECS Learning Systems, Inc.
is the SOLE SOURCE for STAAR MASTER®
books listed below.

STAAR MASTER®

Student Practice Books • Practice Tests
Reading • Mathematics • Writing • Social Studies • Science
English • Spanish Grades 3–8



Value-Priced to provide each student a copy.

STAAR MASTER® Student Practice Books

English

Reading, Grade 3	Science, Grade 5
Reading, Grade 4	Science, Grade 8
Reading, Grade 5	
Reading, Grade 6	Social Studies, Grade 8
Reading, Grade 7	
Reading, Grade 8	

Spanish

Math, Grade 3	Reading, Grade 3
Math, Grade 4	Reading, Grade 4
Math, Grade 5	Reading, Grade 5
Math, Grade 6	Math, Grade 3
Math, Grade 7	Math, Grade 4
Math, Grade 8	Math, Grade 5

Writing, Grade 4	Science, Grade 5
Writing, Grade 7	

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

STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests

English

Reading, Grade 3	Writing, Grade 4
Reading, Grade 4	Writing, Grade 7
Reading, Grade 5	
Reading, Grade 6	
Reading, Grade 7	
Reading, Grade 8	

Spanish

Math, Grade 3	Reading, Grade 3
Math, Grade 4	Reading, Grade 4
Math, Grade 5	Reading, Grade 5
Math, Grade 6	Math, Grade 3
Math, Grade 7	Math, Grade 4
Math, Grade 8	Math, Grade 5

An assessment tool—works well with
STAAR MASTER® Student Practice Books

FREE Teacher Guide included with each pack.
Consumable practice tests—may not be reproduced.
Reading and Math Grades 3–5 available now. Reading and Math
Grades 6–8, Writing, and Spanish Versions for Reading and Math
available soon. Form B available 2012–2013 school year.
STAAR MASTER® Practice Tests are non-returnable.

For ordering information, please visit

ecslearningsystems.com

800.688.3224 • customercare@ecslearningsystems.com

Stay Connected



Like
ECS Learning Systems



Follow
ECSLearn