Technology and the Test

How to Take the PARCC Practice Test Handout

After taking the PARCC Sample Set Tutorial, you are ready to take the PARCC Practice Tests in math and/or English language arts. The Practice Tests provide an opportunity for students, parents and educators to experience the computer-based assessment prior to the administration of the assessment in spring 2015. Students can answer questions using the technology-enhanced items such as drag and drop, multiple select, calculator and text highlighting, just as they will do when taking the actual assessments. The PARCC Practice Tests will provide the test taker with a score.

More than half of the schools in Illinois will administer the PARCC assessments online in spring 2015. Other schools will administer the same test in a paper-based format this school year. The goal is for all schools in Illinois to administer the assessment online in the near future.

How to take the PARCC Practice Tests

2. Toward the middle of the page are two boxes with blue borders labeled “English Practice Tests” and “Mathematics Practice Tests.” Within each box is a green button labeled “View English Practice Tests” and “View Mathematics Practice Tests.”
3. Beginning with English, select the green bar labeled “View English Practice Tests.” You will be directed to the English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests.
4. Scroll down the page until you see “Please select your grade level to view practice tests.” Under this heading are the practice tests for grades 3-11. Select “Grade 3.”
5. You are now at the Grade 3 Performance-Based Assessment Practice Tests. Select the “Computer-Based Practice Test.” You will be directed to the Grade 3 ELA/Literacy assessment.
6. You should see the heading: “Welcome! You are about to start a test.”
7. Enter a name in the box above the blue button labeled “Start Test Now.” (You may enter any name or just your first name.)
8. Read the instructions carefully.
9. When you have read the instructions, select the blue button labeled “Start Test Now.” You will be directed to “Session 1,” where there are 13 questions.
10. Select the blue button labeled “Start Section.”
11. You are now beginning the PARCC ELA assessment.
12. The heading “Congratulations! You have finished the last section in this test” alerts you to either review your answers or submit your answers.
13. To review your answers before submitting them for a score, select the button labeled “Review Answers.” Once you are satisfied with your answers, select the green button labeled “Submit Final Answers.”

14. If you do not want to review your answers, select the green button labeled “Submit Final Answers.”

15. Once your final answers are submitted, you will see a summary of your answers and your score. If your computer is connected to a printer, you can print this page by selecting the “Print This Page” button at the top left corner of the summary.

16. Select the blue button at the bottom left corner of the page that is labeled “Continue.” A “Test Submit Warning” pop-up will appear and ask if you want to submit your final answers or cancel.

17. If you are ready to submit your answers, select the green button labeled “Yes, Submit Final Answers.” Once your final answers are submitted, you cannot return to the test. You will see your answer summary. Select the blue button in the lower left corner labeled “Continue.” You will receive the “Test Submit Warning” pop-up again asking you to confirm if you want to submit your answers. You will know that your answers have been successfully submitted when you see the “Logout Complete” indicator.

18. If you are not ready to submit your answers, select the button labeled “No, Cancel.” If you would like to return to the test, use the back arrow button on your browser. Review your answers by selecting the “View” button to the right of the response. Continue until you are ready to submit your final answers.

To take PARCC Practice Tests at home, go to http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/.