

Grade 2 Test-Taking Strategies and Tips

It's much easier to take a test when you've worked out a plan beforehand. Here are six strategies that will help you do better on tests. Learning how and when to use these strategies is your test-taking plan. With this plan in place, you'll be well-prepared to tackle any test question!

Strategy 1: Process of Elimination

This strategy shows you how to get rid of wrong answers and narrow down your choices. It's easier to pick the right answer when you have fewer options to choose from.

Strategy 2: Using Context Clues

This strategy teaches you how to spot clues in the test item that will help you figure out the answer. Clues can be hiding in the directions, the passage, or the answer choices.

Strategy 3: Read the Questions and Answers First

This strategy helps you practice reading the questions and possible answers before reading a passage. Previewing the questions and answers helps you know what information to look for as you read.

Strategy 4: Underlining Key Words

This strategy teaches you how to locate important information in the test item. Underlining these key words and phrases makes them easy to see and helps you focus on the best answer.

Strategy 5: Plug-In

This strategy shows you how to "test out" each answer choice by plugging it into a sentence or phrase. You can then cross out answers that don't make sense and find the answer that is the best fit.

Strategy 6: Reread

This strategy reminds you to reread the directions, a passage, or the answer choices when you need to. Rereading can help you clarify a question or find information that you need in order to find the best answer.

Once you know how to apply these six strategies, you can use the one that will help you the most. You may also want to use two or three strategies together to find the best answer.

Answers to Practice Test

1. (A) (B) ● (D)
2. (A) (B) ● (D)
3. ● (B) (C) (D)

4. ● (B) (C) (D)
5. (A) (B) ● (D)
6. (A) ● (C) (D)

7. (A) (B) ● (D)

Grade 2 Practice Test: Reading Comprehension (Fiction)

Directions: Read the passages and answer the questions. Fill in the circle next to the best answer.

Sample Question

Stacey got all her school things together and joined her mother in the car. Today, Stacey's mom is driving everyone to school. They'll pick up Stacy's friends, Leah and Cassidy, who live on the next block. Tomorrow, Leah's mom will drive them all to school.

Who drove the girls to school today?

- Ⓐ Stacey
- Ⓑ Leah's mom
- Ⓒ Stacey's mom
- Ⓓ none of these

You can underline the key word "today" in the question to remind you what information you're looking for. The correct answer is C, Stacey's mom.



REMINDER: Underline key words and phrases that will help you answer the questions.

Now, complete the rest of the questions. Stop at the end of the test. Read the passage and answer questions 1-3.

Last spring Zoe learned how to make a kite. Her dad helped her. Zoe held two sticks together in an "X." Her dad tied the sticks together. They glued paper to the back of the sticks. Using old rags, they made a kite tail. Finally, they tied a piece of string to the kite.

When the kite was finished, they went to the park. They flew the kite for hours. Zoe's dad showed her how to make the kite fly high. Zoe ran fast with the kite. The kite danced in the wind. Zoe can't wait to fly her kite again!

1. What did Zoe and her dad use to make the kite tail?

- Ⓐ sticks
- Ⓑ glue
- Ⓒ old rags
- Ⓓ a piece of string

2. What did Zoe and her dad do when the kite was finished?

- Ⓐ They glued paper to the back of the sticks.
- Ⓑ They waited hours for it to get windy.
- Ⓒ They went to the park and flew the kite for hours.
- Ⓓ They danced in the wind.

Grade 2 Practice Test: *(continued)*

3. Which sentence from the story shows that Zoe had fun flying her kite?

- Ⓐ Zoe can't wait to fly her kite again!
- Ⓑ Finally, they tied a piece of string to the kite.
- Ⓒ The kite danced in the wind.
- Ⓓ They glued paper to the back of the sticks.

Read the passage and answer questions 4-7.

It was Saturday afternoon. Jen and Alexis played checkers all morning. Then, they went for a long bike ride. Now, they didn't know what else to do.

"I'm bored," Jen said. The two girls sat on the porch and tried to think of something to do.

Alexis saw an old jump rope under the porch. She had an idea. "Let's have a jump rope contest!" she said.

The girls asked Abigail and Victoria to join them. All four of them rushed to Jen's house for the contest.

"Each of us will take a turn jumping," Alexis explained. "The person who jumps the most times in a row is the winner!"

"I'll try not to trip on the rope," Jen said as she took the first turn. She jumped 32 times in a row.

Next, Alexis took her turn and jumped 40 times in a row. Victoria jumped 35 times during her turn. Abigail jumped last. She jumped 50 times in a row.

"Abigail is the winner!" the girls cheered.

The girls had so much fun, they decided to have another contest!

4. In this story, "checkers" is

- Ⓐ a type of game.
- Ⓑ a story the girls told.
- Ⓒ a television show.
- Ⓓ a bunch of check marks.

5. What was Alexis's idea?

- Ⓐ to play checkers
- Ⓑ to ride bikes
- Ⓒ to have a jump rope contest
- Ⓓ to sit on the porch

6. In this story, the word trip means

- Ⓐ a vacation.
- Ⓑ to fall.
- Ⓒ a joke.
- Ⓓ to play.

7. Who jumped second?

- Ⓐ Abigail
- Ⓑ Jen
- Ⓒ Alexis
- Ⓓ Victoria