Release of
Spring 2018
RICAS Test Items

June 2018
Rhode Island Department of
Elementary and Secondary Education
Table of Contents

I. Introduction ................................................................. 1
II. English Language Arts, Grade 3 ........................................... 5
III. English Language Arts, Grade 4 ......................................... 20
IV. English Language Arts, Grade 5 ......................................... 43
V. English Language Arts, Grade 6 ........................................... 62
VI. English Language Arts, Grade 7 ......................................... 88
VII. English Language Arts, Grade 8 ......................................... 105
VIII. Mathematics, Grade 3 .................................................. 129
IX. Mathematics, Grade 4 .................................................... 155
X. Mathematics, Grade 5 ..................................................... 177
XI. Mathematics, Grade 6 ..................................................... 202
XII. Mathematics, Grade 7 .................................................... 225
XIII. Mathematics, Grade 8 ................................................... 251
I. Introduction
Introduction

In 2018, Rhode Island transitioned the state testing program to the Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS). The RICAS tests include new item types and are designed to be administered primarily via computer, though paper-based tests will be available on an ongoing basis as an accommodation for eligible students.

The first RICAS tests were administered in the spring of 2018 to students in grades 3–8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

Rhode Island is committed to the regular release of RICAS test items to provide information about the kinds of knowledge and skills that students are expected to demonstrate. As a way of providing educators and the public with more information about the items, a brief description of each released and unreleased item on the grades 3–8 tests in ELA and Mathematics is provided. These item descriptions can be found in the tables that appear at the end of each relevant chapter in this publication.

Overview of Spring 2018 Item Releases

This publication contains approximately 40% of the ELA operational items and approximately 14% of the Mathematics operational items from the 2018 tests in grades 3–8. (Operational items are those items on which student scores are based.) The items displayed here are the paper-based versions of the 2018 operational items that have been released. The computer-based versions of the released items are available on the RICAS Resource Center website at ricas.pearsonsupport.com/released-items/.

Purpose of This Publication

The purpose of this publication is to share with educators and the public the spring 2018 test items that have been released. Educators will be able to use this information as they plan changes in curriculum and instruction that may be needed to improve student performance.
**Structure of This Publication**

Each subsequent chapter of this publication contains information and materials for one RICAS test (one grade level and one content area). For example, Chapter II contains information for the grade 3 English Language Arts test.

Beginning with chapter II, each chapter has three main sections:

- The first section provides information about the content being assessed, including the Web address for the relevant standards. In addition, there is a brief overview of the test (number of test sessions, types of items, and reference materials allowed).

- The second section presents the released test items for the grade level and content area. Reading passages are included for ELA tests. For Mathematics tests, any reference sheets that were available to students during testing are provided.

- The final section of each chapter is a table that cross-references each released RICAS common/operational item with its RICAS reporting category and with the standard(s) it assesses. Correct answers to released RICAS selected-response questions are listed for all content areas, as are correct answers to released short-answer questions for Mathematics.

  In addition, the final section of each chapter includes a second table that cross-references each unreleased RICAS operational item with its RICAS reporting category and with the standard it assesses.

As described above, an item description is provided for each released and unreleased item on the grades 3–8 tests in ELA and Mathematics. The item descriptions appear in both tables.

Materials presented in this publication are not formatted exactly as they appeared in student test booklets. For example, in order to present items most efficiently in this publication, some fonts and/or font sizes may have been changed, and some graphics may have been reduced in size. All references to page numbers in answer booklets have been deleted from the directions that accompany test items.

**Other Resources for Released RICAS Test Items**

Educators and the public can also access released items and related materials in other formats:

- Computer-based versions of released test questions from the RICAS tests are available on the RICAS Resource Center website at ricas.pearsonsupport.com/released-items/.

- The Student Work/Scoring Guides webpage, found at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/, provides writing prompts, sample student work, and scoring guides for essay questions and constructed-response questions.

* Due to copyright restrictions, certain English Language Arts reading passages may not be available on RIDE’s website. Copyright information for all reading passages in this publication is provided. Note that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has obtained permission to post all ELA passages that appear on its website. While the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education grants permission to use the posted test items for educational purposes, it cannot grant or transfer permission to use the passages that accompany the items. Such permission must be obtained directly from the holder of the copyright. For further information, contact the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at 781-338-3625.