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# Reading

The TABE Reading test presents items which include highly practical and life skills stimuli. TABE content consists of business and personal communication, instructive text, and informational materials presented in new visual formats, such as web pages and internet advertisements.

TABE Levels D and A focus on more complex literary text, including poetry and drama. The mix of genre and the textual complexity enables TABE to offer a comprehensive range of testing objectives while maintaining a focus on the characteristics of the student population it serves.



# Reading

## Level L

Level L screens examinees for pre-reading skills (such as letter recognition, visual reversal, listening comprehension, and recognizing signs) and for beginning reading skills (such as reading simple words, sentences, phrases, and paragraphs). In this example, the test administrator reads instructions aloud.

SAY: Find the letter i D. Fill in the circle below the letter D.

- 1            D                    P                    B                    O
- ○                    ○                    ○

SAY: Look at the letter in the box. Now find the letter that is exactly the same as the letter in the box.

- 2            A                    V                    A                    W                    H
- ○                    ○                    ○

SAY: Find the sign that means i place trash here . . . place trash here.i

- 3
- 

○



○



○

SAY: Read the sentence. Find the picture that goes with the sentence.

- 4            Anita works on a boat.
- 

○



○



○

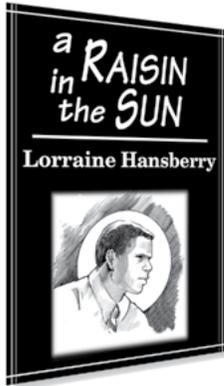
Item	Objective	Description
1	Recognize Letters	These items measure the ability to recognize letters.
2		
3	Interpret Graphic Information	Recognizing signs is a pre-reading skill that is practical for home and work life.
4	Recall Information	This format measures the ability to determine which picture corresponds to written information.

# Reading

## Level E

This passage is about an American writer named Lorraine Hansberry. Read the passage. Then do Numbers 1 through 4.

### Lorraine Hansberry (1930–1965)



*“I wish to live because life has within it that which is good, that which is beautiful, and that which is love. Therefore, since I have known all of these things, I have found them to be reason enough and—I wish to live.”*  
—Lorraine Hansberry

Lorraine Hansberry was a famous writer who was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1930. Before becoming a writer, Hansberry studied at the University of Wisconsin. She moved to New York City in 1950 and worked for *Freedom*, a newspaper for African Americans.

Hansberry finished writing her first play, *A Raisin in the Sun*, in 1959. The play, based on Hansberry’s own life, tells the story of an African American family. The family moved to a Chicago neighborhood where they were a minority. *A Raisin in the Sun* was the first play written by an African American woman to be performed on Broadway.

Hansberry was only thirty-four years old when she died in 1965. In 1970, Hansberry’s letters, plays, and articles were put together in a book called *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black*.

- 1 Hansberry’s family moved into a neighborhood where they were a minority. What proof is there that this may have been an important event in Hansberry’s life?



She wrote about it in a play.

A



She wrote about it in letters.

B



She wrote about it in a book.

C



She wrote about it in a newspaper.

D

- 2 According to the passage, which of these words best describes Lorraine Hansberry?

F shy

G talented

H exciting

J unhappy

- 3 The passage says that Lorraine Hansberry was “a famous writer.” *Famous* means about the same as

A well paid

B well known

C intelligent

D interesting

- 4 When did Hansberry move to New York City?

F after writing her first play

G after her play was performed on Broadway

H after studying at the University of Wisconsin

J after working for a newspaper called *Freedom*

### Lorraine Hansberry Passage

The items written for this biographical passage measure prose literacy.

Item	Objective	Description
1	Construct Meaning	Constructing meaning that extends beyond specific details is an important reading skill that demonstrates advancement beyond basic recall.
2		
3	Words in Context	This format measures the ability to determine which picture corresponds to written information.
4	Recall Information	The ability to recall key information from a passage is a relevant skill for all readers.

# Reading

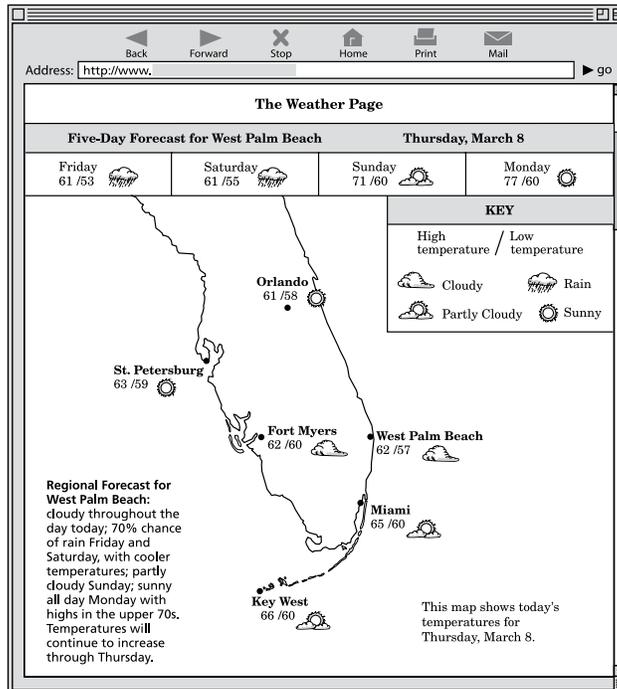
## Level M

### The Weather Page

These items measure the ability to interpret graphic information in a format that emulates real-life publications.

Item	Objective	Description
1	Interpret Graphic Information	Finding specific information from a graphic stimulus is a skill all readers can apply to their daily lives.
2	Construct Meaning	Constructing meaning that extends beyond specific details is an important reading skill that demonstrates advancement beyond basic recall.
3	Evaluate/Extend Meaning	This item measures the ability to interpret graphically presented information and then to use that information to make judgments.
4	Recall Information	The ability to recall key information from a passage is a relevant skill for all readers.

Here is a five-day forecast for southern Florida. Study the information. Then do Numbers 1 through 4.



- According to the map, today's high temperature in Key West, Florida will be
  - 59°
  - 60°
  - 62°
  - 66°
- How will Monday's weather be different from Saturday's weather in West Palm Beach?
  - Monday will be sunny; Saturday will be rainy.
  - Monday will be cloudy; Saturday will be sunny.
  - Monday's low temperature will be lower than Saturday's low temperature.
  - Monday's high temperature will be lower than Saturday's high temperature.
- According to the map, which of these statements is true?
  - The lowest temperature shown is for Fort Myers.
  - The temperatures in Miami and Key West are about the same.
  - The temperatures are highest in West Palm Beach.
  - The high temperature in Orlando is higher than the high temperature in St. Petersburg.
- Which part of this weather page gives the predicted high and low temperatures for Sunday?
  - the map
  - the regional forecast
  - the five-day forecast
  - the key

# Reading

## Level D

Julia went to the Post Office to mail a package. She used this form to comment on the service. Read the Consumer Service Card. Then do Numbers 1 through 6.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®		Consumer Service Card																	
1. PRINT FIRMLY		2. REMOVE TOP COPY FOR CUSTOMER RECORD (Do not separate remaining copies.)																	
3. COMPLETE THE ADDRESS ON BACK OF THIS CARD		4. MAIL (Postage Paid By USPS)																	
Name	Date (Month, Day, Year)	No.	G33 820 819																
Mailing Address (No. and Street, Apt. or Box No.)	City or Town	State	ZIP Code																
Is This <input type="checkbox"/> Information Request <input type="checkbox"/> Suggestion <input type="checkbox"/> Problem <input type="checkbox"/> Compliment		USPS USE ONLY																	
<b>Did It Involve</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Delay <input type="checkbox"/> Nonreceipt (Prepare 1510) <input type="checkbox"/> Damage <input type="checkbox"/> Misdelivery <input type="checkbox"/> Improperly Returned <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address <input type="checkbox"/> Vending Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Window Services <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Recording Employee Name Date Customer Contacted Customer Contacted By Describe USPS Action																	
<b>If This Is A Problem With A Specific Mailing, Please Complete The Following:</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Was It</th> <th>Was Mailing</th> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Letter</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> First-Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Flat / Large Envelope</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Package</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Certified</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper / Magazine</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Registered</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Insured</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Other</td> </tr> </table>		Was It	Was Mailing	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> First-Class	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat / Large Envelope	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Package	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified	<input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper / Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered	<input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement	<input type="checkbox"/> Insured		<input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper / Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered																		
<input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement	<input type="checkbox"/> Insured																		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail																		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other																		
Please Give Essential Facts (If change of address problem, please include previous address.)																			

- 1 Which line in the "Did It Involve" column would Julia check if she received a letter that was dirty and badly torn?
- A Delay  
B Damage  
C Misdelivery  
D Window Services

- 2 Julia wants to let the Post Office know how nicely she was treated. Which of these boxes should she check?
- F problem  
G damage  
H insured  
J compliment

- 3 Julia's mail did not get forwarded to her new address. When she fills out the bottom of the card, what other information should she provide?
- A her old address  
B her place of work  
C her husband's name  
D her old phone number

- 4 According to the instructions, what should Julia do after she fills in her address on the back of the card?
- F mail the card  
G sign her name  
H remove the top copy  
J print the information firmly

- 5 Why might the U.S. Postal Service want customers to complete this card?
- A to simplify the mailing process  
B to encourage faster delivery of the mail  
C to gain information about customer satisfaction  
D to thank customers for using the postal service

- 6 The hours are shown in the "Customer Phone" box because these are the hours during which
- F customers are most likely at work  
G post office employees deliver mail  
H the customer should phone in complaints  
J the post office might phone the customer

### Consumer Service Card

Use of an authentic stimulus provides measurement of document literacy.

Item	Objective	Description
1	Interpret Graphic Information	The ability to interpret information presented graphically is a useful skill for all readers.
2	Evaluate/Extend Meaning	A good reader is able to read information and then apply that knowledge to new situations.
3	Recall Information	Recalling instructions is a practical skill all readers use.
4	Construct Meaning	Constructing meaning that extends beyond specific details is an important reading skill that demonstrates advancement beyond basic recall.