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A First Look: Most Missed Items on the 2014 GED® test

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A First Look at the Most Missed Items on the 2014 GED® test

Welcome!

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Objectives of Webinar

In this session, we will:

- Review data from the GEDTS
- Discuss most missed items and how to begin addressing those areas
- Share resources and PD opportunities for local programs and adult educators

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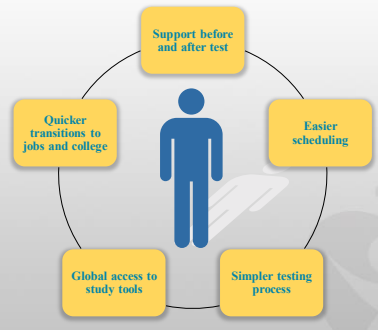
2014: It's About the Testtaker: Not the Test



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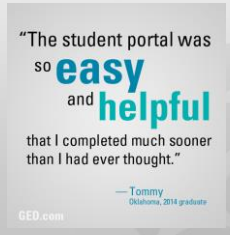
Nationwide Update

- ~2,500 testing centers offering GED® test (1,000 more in pipeline)
- 500,000+ accounts on GED.com; 325,000 subject tests taken



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FLORIDA-SPECIFIC UPDATE

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Florida Update

- 188 testing centers
- 55,476 GED® test modules delivered
- 28,158 GED Ready™ tests delivered
- 14,389 Test-takers; 8,837 Test-completers
- 4,652 Graduates

08/2014

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Florida Update

Module	Passing Percentage	Average Passing Score	Average non-Passing Score
RLA	75%	159	144
Social Studies	66%	158	143
Science	71%	158	144
Math	51%	156	143

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***See For Free* is a 2-week promotion where students can take the GED Ready™ practice test for free in adult education centers**

Visit GEDtestingservice.com/seeforfree to register

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THE "BIG" PICTURE

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The 2014 GED® test

- 80% multiple choice
- Seven additional question types (including technology-enhanced items)
- Designed to measure critical-thinking and problem-solving skills
- Fully aligned with college- and career-readiness standards
- High school equivalency passing standard normed on graduating high school seniors

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The 2014 GED® test Overview

Module	Testing Time	Raw Score Points
Reasoning Through Language Arts	150 minutes [25 min + 45 min ER] + [10 min. break] + [70 min]	65 raw score points
Mathematics	115 minutes	49 raw score points
Science	90 minutes [2 SA of ~ 10 minutes each)	40 raw score points
Social Studies	90 minutes [65 min + 25 min ER]	44 raw score points
Total Battery	~ 7.5 hours	

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2014 GED® test Constructed Responses

- Reasoning through Language Arts module
  - 1 Extended Response (ER), 45 min., ~20% of test
- Social Studies module
  - 1 Extended Response (ER), 25 min., ~20% of test
- Science module
  - 2 Short Answers (SA), ~ 10 min. each, ~15% of test

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2014 Performance Levels

- **Performance Level 1**: scores below the Passing Standard (100-149 scaled score points)
- **Performance Level 2**: scores at or above the Passing Standard – **High School Equivalency** (150-169 scaled score points)
- **Performance Level 3**: performance indicative of college and career-readiness **GED® Score with Honors** (170 and above scaled score points)

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PLDs

2014 GED® Test - Mathematical Reasoning
Performance Level Descriptors: Performance Level 2

Use PLDs to

- Assess student's current skill level
- Determine when student is ready to test
- Shape learning activities
- Add perspective to lesson plans

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CHALLENGES IN MATHEMATICAL REASONING

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"The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple."

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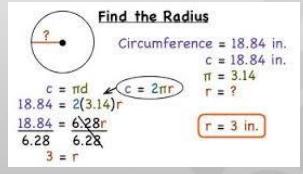
Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Quantitative Reasoning

- Compute area/circumference of circles
  - Find radius or diameter when given area or circumference



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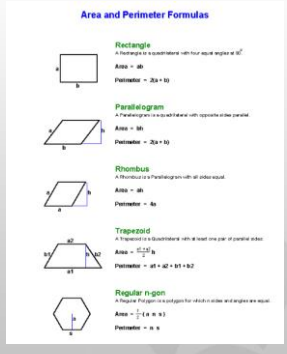
Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Quantitative Reasoning

- Compute perimeter/area of polygons
  - Find side length when give perimeter or area



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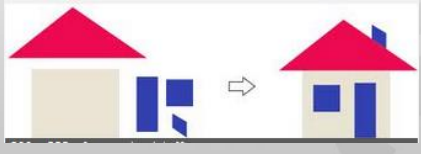
Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Quantitative Reasoning

- Compute perimeter/area of 2-dimensional composite shapes



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Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Quantitative Reasoning

- Use scale factors to determine magnitude of a size change

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Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Quantitative Reasoning

- Solve two-step real-world problems involving percent, such as simple interest, tax, markups/markdowns, gratuities, commissions, percent increase/decrease

$$\text{Percent Increase} = \frac{\text{New Price} - \text{Old Price}}{\text{Old Price}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Percent Decrease} = \frac{\text{Old Price} - \text{New Price}}{\text{Old Price}} \times 100$$

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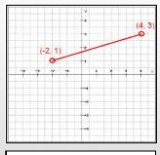
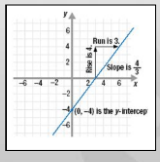
Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Algebraic Reasoning

- Locate points in coordinate plane
- Determine slope of a line from a graph, equation, or table





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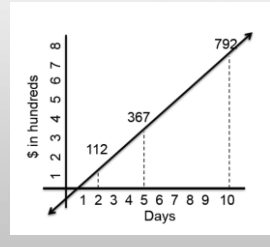
Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Algebraic Reasoning

- Graph two-variable linear equations



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Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Algebraic Reasoning

Solve

- One-variable linear equations and formulas with multiple variables
- Solve linear inequalities with one variable
- Solve one-variable quadratic equations with real solutions

$2y - 4 = 12$

$2y - 5 < 7$

$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

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Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Algebraic Reasoning

- Create linear expressions as part of word-to-symbol translations

On an algebra test, the highest grade was 42 points higher than the lowest grade. The sum of the two grades was 138. Find the lowest grade.

$(l + 42) + l = 138$
$2l + 42 = 138$
$2l = 96$
$l = 48$

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Mathematical Reasoning
Most Missed Items

Algebraic Reasoning

- Create one- or two-variable linear equations to represent situations given

The cost of admission to a popular music concert was $162 for 12 children and 3 adults. The admission was $122 for 8 children and 3 adults in another music concert. How much was the admission for each child and adult?

x = cost for child, y = cost for adult
$12x + 3y = 162$
$8x + 3y = 122$
Subtract second equation from first
$4x = 40$
$x = 10$
Substitute 10 for x in $8x + 3y = 122$
Child = $10
Adult = $14

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CHALLENGES IN REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS

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RLA Most Missed Items

- Understand specific details and main ideas in a written source
- Determine which details support main idea

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RLA Most Missed Items

- Identify theme or element that supports a theme

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RLA Most Missed Items

- Analyze relationships within written sources

- Examine form, content, and organization
- Examine the author's purpose and perspective
- Identify the author's claim and the reasons
- Determine if evidence is sufficient and accurate
- Determine logical fallacies (errors in reasoning)

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TO CREATE MORE EFFECTIVE WRITERS, WE MUST TEACH . . .

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We know the Process

1. **Read** the passage and question
2. **Unpack** the prompt (identify key words)
3. **Rewrite** the question in your own words and turn the question into a topic sentence/ thesis statement
4. **Collect** relevant details from passage
5. **Organize** details into a logical order
6. **Draft** your answer
7. **Re-read** and **edit/revise** your answer making sure all parts of the question are answered

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And the basic structure

Beginning

- The introduction states the main idea or position. It includes a topic sentence/thesis/hypothesis statement. The beginning restates the question and sets the stage to answer the prompt.

Middle

- Answer the question first.
- Provide important information the author stated and meant. This is where you go to the text(s) and provide examples/evidence and important details to support the answer.
- Sample phrases to introduce each text reference include: … stated; in the text …; for example . . .
- Include background information as required through the prompt.

Ending

- Write a closing that summarizes the position taken or restates the thesis statement in a different way.

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Effective argumentative writing includes

P	E	E	L	S
Point	**Evidence**	**Explana-tion**	**Link**	**Style**
A claim or thesis	Evidence & examples to support the claim	Explana-tion of the evidence (how and why it supports the claim)	A link (transition) to the next point or from the last point	A formal style throughout

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Don't forget that once is not enough

When teaching a new strategy:

- Activate background knowledge
- Discuss the strategy
- Model the strategy
- Have students memorize the steps
- Support students learning to implement (scaffolding)
- Establish independent practice to gain mastery

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A Few Strategies to Get Started

- Dedicate time to writing and writing instruction across the curriculum
- Keep students engaged
- Use argumentative, evidence-based reading/writing strategies
- Integrate a contextualized approach to language (grammar)
- Use complex text
- Integrate nonfiction text
- Set high expectations

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CHALLENGES IN SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

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Social Studies Most Missed Items

- Determine clearly stated details in primary and secondary sources and use to make logical inferences/valid claims
- Describe people, places, environments, processes, events, and the connections between and among them
- Analyze cause-and-effect relationships, including those with multiple factors

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Social Studies Most Missed Items

	Primary Sources Original = Primary = First	Secondary Sources Not original = Secondary = Not first
Humanities	✓ Original, first – hand account of an event or time period ✓ Written or made during or close to the time of the event ✓ Original creative writing or works of art Primary sources are factual, not analysis or interpretation	✓ Analyses and interprets primary sources, second – hand account of event ✓ Interpretation of a creative work
Sciences	✓ Report of scientific discoveries ✓ Results of experiments ✓ Results of clinical trials ✓ Political and social sciences research results Primary sources are factual, not analysis or interpretation	✓ Analyses and interprets research results, scientific discoveries

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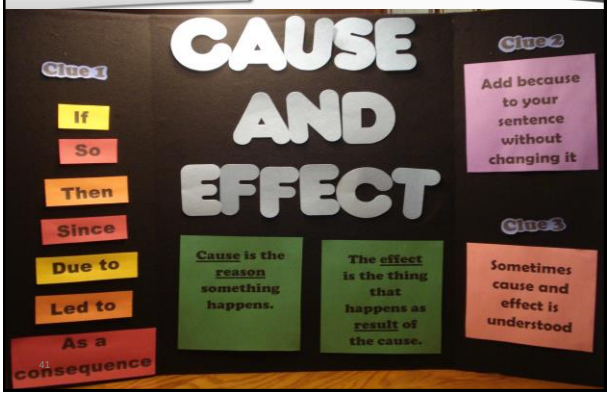
Social Studies Most Missed Items



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Science Most Missed Items

- Pull specific evidence from a written source to support a finding or conclusion
- Express scientific information or findings in words
- Understand and apply scientific models, theories, and processes

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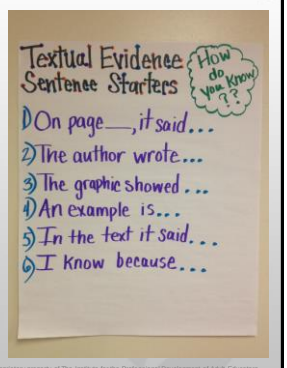
Science Most Missed Items

- Pull specific evidence from a written source to support a finding or conclusion



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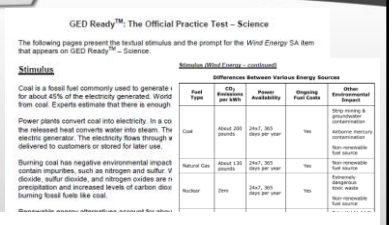
Science Most Missed Items

- Express scientific information or findings in words


GED Ready™: The Official Practice Test – Science

The following pages present the textual stimulus and the prompt for the *Wind Energy* SA item that appears on GED Ready™ – Science.

Stimulus

Stimulus (Wind Energy – continued)

Differences Between Various Energy Sources

Fuel Type	CO_2 Emissions per kWh	Power Availability	Ongoing Fuel Costs	Other Environmental Impact
Coal	About 200 pounds	24x7, 365 days per year	Yes	Strip mining & groundwater contamination Airborne mercury contamination Non-renewable fuel source
Natural Gas	About 130 pounds	24x7, 365 days per year	Yes	Non-renewable fuel source
Nuclear	Zero	24x7, 365 days per year	Yes	Extremely dangerous toxic waste Non-renewable fuel source

Coal is a fossil fuel commonly used to generate e for about 45% of the electricity generated. World from coal. Experts estimate that there is enough

Power plants convert coal into electricity. In a co the released heat converts water into steam. The electric generator. The electricity flows through t delivered to customers or stored for later use.

Burning coal has negative environmental impacts contain impurities, such as nitrogen and sulfur. W dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides are n precipitation and increased levels of carbon dioxi burning fossil fuels like coal.

Prompt

Cite multiple pieces of data from the table that support why wind energy would be a preferred energy source over coal. Explain how a significant increase in the use of wind energy would affect the energy supply of coal.

Type your response in the box. This task may require approximately 10 minutes to complete.

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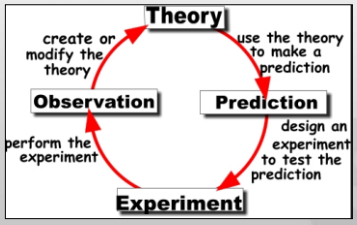
Science Most Missed Items

- Understand and apply scientific models, theories, and processes



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A Few Strategies to Get Started

- Model, explain, and guide
- Move towards self-regulation
- Keep it real
- Teach often to the whole class, in small groups, and with individuals
- Set high expectations

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Florida IPDAE Upcoming Events

Putting the Resources to Work in Your Program

BUILDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

IPDAE Website

Stay tuned to the IPDAE Website

www.floridaipdae.org

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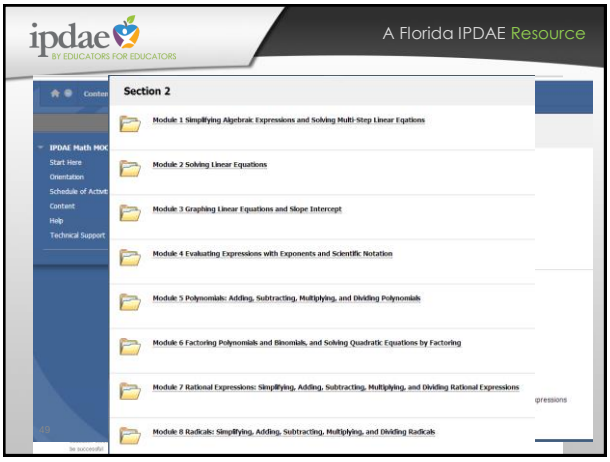
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Section 2
Module 1 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions and Solving Multi-Step Linear Eqations
Module 2 Solving Linear Equations
Module 3 Graphing Linear Equations and Slope Intercept
Module 4 Evaluating Expressions with Exponents and Scientific Notation
Module 5 Polynomials: Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing Polynomials
Module 6 Factoring Polynomials and Binomials, and Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring
Module 7 Rational Expressions: Simplifying, Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing Rational Expressions
Module 8 Radicals: Simplifying, Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing Radicals
Start Here
Orientation
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Help
Technical Support
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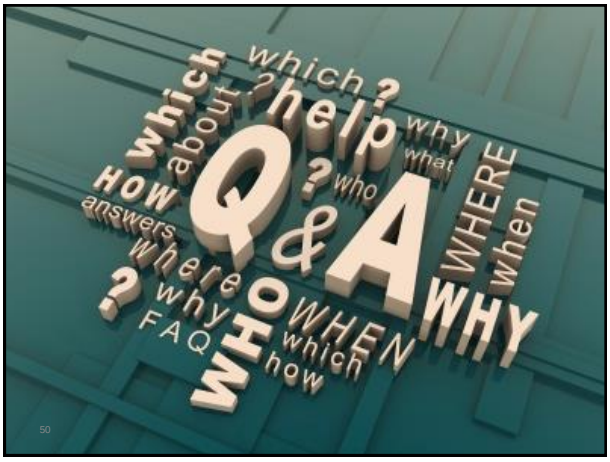
Q&A
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