

Student Readiness Assessment English Language Skills Preparation

What is the Student Readiness Assessment?

The Student Readiness Assessment is based on the CAT4 test. CAT4 stands for the Canadian Achievement Test 4. The CAT4 is used to determine a student's learning stage in math and language skills in relation to Canadian school curricula. You will be studying for the level 20-22 version of the test which assesses how well you meet the requirements in the Canadian high school grades 10-12 and above.

The version of the CAT4 test that you will be taking to test your language skills consists of multiple choice questions. The language skills test is divided into five topics: Informational Reading, Literary Reading (N/A), Vocabulary, Writing Conventions, and Spelling.

Test 1: Information Reading

You will read five passages and answer multiple-choice questions. You have 50 minutes to answer the 40 questions in this part of the test.

Here is an example of a question from the Informational Reading section:

The official formation of the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada (ANAC) was in 1975. However, its origins precede this historic date by one year. In 1974 the groundwork was started for the actual formation of the association by several nurses who shared a common vision founded in their unique perspective as Aboriginal care givers to Aboriginal people.

Question:

According to the passage, the nurses who started the groundwork for the ANAC had a unique perspective because of their

- A. youth.
- B. friendship.
- C. medical training.
- D. Aboriginal origin.

Answer: D

Test 2: Literary Reading N/A

Test 3: Vocabulary

You have 30 minutes to answer 30 questions. Here is an example of a questions from the Vocabulary section:

Read the following paragraph. Then do Items A and B. For each blank, there is a list of words. Choose the word from each list that best completes the meaning of the paragraph.

Some students are nervous about playing team sports, so they hesitate to join a team. They really should not worry. An enthusiastic coach will soon help young ___(A)___ to feel confident. On a good sports team, people encourage each other to learn and to have fun. It doesn't matter if the team never wins a ___(B)___. The important thing is to make an effort to play as well as possible.

A. Options for A

- A. friends
- B. athletes
- C. leaders
- D. partners

B. Options for B

- A. team
- B. trophy
- C. second
- D. referee

C. Susan forgot to _____ her friend. What do you _____ your kittens?

- A. call
- B. write
- C. thank
- D. remind

Answer: A) B, B) B, C) A

Test 4: Writing Conventions

This is a test in punctuation and sentence structure. You have 25 minutes to answer 30 questions.

Here is an example of a questions from the Writing Conventions section

Read the following paragraph and look at the underlined parts. For Items A and B, choose the answer that shows correct capitalization and punctuation for each part.

Mila has three cats. Their names are ___(A)___ Pushkin is ___(10)___, but Petya is not.

A. Options for A

- A. Pushkin, Mikhail and Petya.
- B. Pushkin, Mikhail. And Petya.
- C. Pushkin. Mikhail. And Petya.
- D. Pushkin Mikhail and Petya.

B. Options for B

- A. Mikhail' brother
- B. Mikhail's brother

- C. Mikhails' brother
- D. Mikhails brother
- C. Choose the sentence that is complete and is written correctly.
 - A. There is only a few panda bears in this country.
 - B. People should not feeding the bears in the zoo.
 - C. Some new animals were brought to the zoo last year.
 - D. There will always be a long line when we went to see the panda bear.

Answers: A) A, B) C, C) C

Test 5: Spelling

You have 20 minutes to answer 30 questions. Here is an example of a questions from the Spelling section.

Choose the word that is spelled correctly and completes the sentence.

Grade 2 arithmetic seems _____.

- A. simple
- B. simpel
- C. simpull
- D. simple

Answer: A

How do I study for the CAT4?

The CAT4 is a diagnostic test that looks at how well you meet the requirements of Canadian grades 10-12. This means the material that is tested reflects what is taught in grades 10-12 in Canada. The best way to study for this kind of test is to review what you learned at high school. Below is a list of free websites that can aid you in your review.

The BC English Language Arts Curriculum

Here you can find out what the English Language Arts learning goals are for each grade in the BC high school system.

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/english-language-arts/12/english-studies>

Getting Ready for the Canadian Adult Achievement Test (CAAT)

Here you can learn some general multiple choice test taking strategies.

https://mitt.ca/Content/Images/uploaded/MIIT_Getting%20Ready%20for%20the%20Canadian%20Adult%20Achievement%20Test.pdf

IXL

This is a great website for practising your writing conventions. You answer questions. Explanations are given for any question you get wrong.

<https://ca.ixl.com/ela/grade-12>

PBS LearningMedia

Here you will find educational videos with support activities for you to make your own lessons. They also provide interactive lessons.

https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/grades/high-school/?selected_facet=subject:1880

TED Ed

A selection of thought provoking presentations from experts in their field. Each video is accompanied with activities and a discussion forum.

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons>

Quizlet

A study app/website that uses learning games and activities to help you study the concepts in Language Arts and other subject areas.

<https://quizlet.com/>

Newsela

Newsela is a website where you can find short lessons, reading clubs, and tips of how to use digital resources.

<https://newsela.com/student-home/explore>

Pobble 365

Improve your writing and deepen your thinking with Pobble 365's thought provoking activities. One weird, wonderful and thought provoking image is given per day. Prompts and questions are given to inspire you to write creatively and actively. You also have the opportunity to see other students work on the same picture, giving you a chance to learn from your peers.

<https://www.pobble365.com/>

British Council: LearningEnglishTeens

Although this website is designed for speakers of English as a second language, it has many reading and writing resources that are good for all Language Arts students. Topics are divided into English proficiency level. Select a topic that interests you and complete the reading or writing activities provided.

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/>

Barron's How to Prepare for the GED Test, Canadian Edition

This text reviews many of the language and math subjects tested in the SRA. Barron's can be purchased in the bookstore or borrowed from the library. (See the SRA Review Guide from Testing and Tutoring Services for specific chapters.)