

ACT Aspire™ English

Introduction and Answer Key Document

ACT Aspire English Tests assess students' developed ability to revise and edit texts. A typical English Test contains several stimuli, or texts, and a series of multiple choice and technology enhanced questions. Texts used in the assessments represent various content areas (including English language arts, the humanities, and the social and natural sciences), and, considered collectively, reflect a range of text complexity levels from simple to complex, as appropriate for students' age and educational attainment.

Conventions of Standard English

The questions in this cluster require students to apply an understanding of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics to revise and edit text.

Punctuation Conventions

These questions require test takers to edit text to conform to standard English punctuation.

Usage Conventions

These questions require test takers to edit text to conform to standard English usage.

Sentence Structure and Formation

These questions test understanding of relationships between and among clauses, placement of modifiers, and shifts in construction.

Production of Writing

The questions in this cluster require test takers to apply an understanding of the rhetorical purpose and the focus of a piece of writing to develop a topic effectively; to use various strategies to achieve logical organization, topical unity, and general cohesion; and to employ knowledge of language to ensure that writing is precise, concise, and stylistically consistent.

Topic Development

These questions require test takers to demonstrate an understanding of and control over the rhetorical aspects of texts by identifying the purpose of parts of texts, determining whether a text has met its intended goal, and evaluating the relevance of material in terms of a text's focus.

Organization, Unity, and Cohesion

These questions require test takers to use various strategies to ensure that text is logically organized, flows smoothly, and has an effective introduction and conclusion.

Knowledge of Language

These questions require test takers to demonstrate effective language use through ensuring precision and concision in word choice, maintaining consistency in style and tone, and using references.

Answer Key Document

The next page shows the correct response for each item and identifies the grade level band represented by the item.

English Exemplar Answer Key

| Sequence | Grade Band | Item Type | Correct Response |
|----------|------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Early HS | Selected Response | D |
| 2 | Early HS | Selected Response | D |
| 3 | Early HS | Selected Response | C |
| 4 | Early HS | Selected Response | C |
| 5 | Early HS | Selected Response | B |
| 6 | Early HS | Selected Response | C |
| 7 | 8-9 | Selected Response | D |
| 8 | 8-9 | Selected Response | C |
| 9 | 8-9 | Selected Response | B |
| 10 | 8-9 | Selected Response | D |
| 11 | 8-9 | Selected Response | D |
| 12 | 8-9 | Selected Response | C |
| 13 | 6-7 | Selected Response | B |
| 14 | 6-7 | Selected Response | B |
| 15 | 6-7 | Selected Response | C |
| 16 | 6-7 | Selected Response | A |
| 17 | 6-7 | Selected Response | C |
| 18 | 6-7 | Selected Response | B |
| 19 | 3-5 | Selected Response | B |
| 20 | 3-5 | Selected Response | C |
| 21 | 3-5 | Selected Response | B |
| 22 | 3-5 | Selected Response | B |
| 23 | 3-5 | Selected Response | A |
| 24 | 3-5 | Selected Response | C |