



Information about PARCC Items Embedded on the 2016 MCAS Tests

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Introduction

The spring 2016 MCAS tests in ELA and Mathematics at grades 3–8 were augmented with a small number of items developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). The purpose of this document is to provide information about those PARCC items. Information about all other items included on the spring 2016 tests is found in the document *Release of Spring 2016 MCAS Test Items*, available on the Department’s website at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/2016/release/default.html.

In the tables on the following pages, we provide the reporting category, standard(s) covered, and item type for each PARCC item included on the 2016 MCAS tests. If a PARCC item has been released by the PARCC consortium, we provide a link to the document that includes the released item.

Below are answers to some frequently asked questions.

Why were PARCC items embedded on the 2016 MCAS tests?

The decision to include a limited number of PARCC items on the MCAS tests was part of a plan, approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in November 2015, to transition Massachusetts to a next-generation MCAS assessment. The next-generation assessment will include MCAS items, PARCC items, and new items developed specifically for the test. PARCC items were included on the 2016 tests to offer students and educators the opportunity to experience PARCC items while new assessments for 2017 and beyond are being developed.

What types of items were included?

The numbers and types of PARCC items included on the 2016 MCAS tests at grades 3–8 were as follows:

- ELA: Students answered four evidence-based selected-response items and wrote a narrative response to a text.
- Mathematics: Students answered six items, which included multiple-choice, multiple-select, open-response, and multi-part questions.

Did the PARCC items count toward students’ MCAS results?

Student performance on the PARCC items was scored for informational purposes only. The results were reported to schools and were included on the *2016 MCAS Parent/Guardian Reports*. However, the results on the PARCC items were **not** factored into students’ MCAS scores.

What is PARCC?

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers is a consortium of states that was formed to create new assessments in ELA and Mathematics. Massachusetts was a founding member of the PARCC consortium and played a significant role in the consortium’s efforts to develop rigorous, state-of-the-art tests that could be administered by computer. Our participation in this partnership offered the opportunity to pool our expertise with other states’ and share the costs of test item development.

English Language Arts (ELA)

PARCC item types on the 2016 MCAS ELA tests included evidence-based selected-response (EB) questions and a narrative response to a text (WR).

Note: PARCC is expected to announce the release of some items from the consortium's 2016 assessments in late 2016 or early 2017. This document will be updated at that time to indicate any changes in the release status of the PARCC items that were embedded on the 2016 MCAS tests. Links will be provided to any items that are released.

Grade 3 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
2	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
3	PARCC Reading	5	EB	No	
4	PARCC Reading	2	EB	No	
5	PARCC Writing	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Grade 4 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
2	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
3	PARCC Reading	2	EB	No	
4	PARCC Reading	2	EB	No	
5	PARCC Writing	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Grade 5 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
2	PARCC Reading	4	EB	No	
3	PARCC Reading	2	EB	No	
4	PARCC Reading	3	EB	No	
5	PARCC Writing	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Grade 6 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
2	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	5	EB	No	
3	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
4	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	2	EB	No	
5	<i>PARCC Writing</i>	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Grade 7 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
2	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	2	EB	No	
3	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	2	EB	No	
4	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	2	EB	No	
5	<i>PARCC Writing</i>	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Grade 8 ELA

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
2	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
3	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	3	EB	No	
4	<i>PARCC Reading</i>	2	EB	No	
5	<i>PARCC Writing</i>	3, 4, 5	WR	No	

Mathematics

PARCC item types on the 2016 MCAS Mathematics tests included multiple-choice (MC), multiple-select (MS), open-response (OR), and multi-part (MP) items.

Note: PARCC is expected to announce the release of some items from the consortium's 2016 assessments in late 2016 or early 2017. This document will be updated at that time to indicate any changes in the release status of the PARCC items that were embedded on the 2016 MCAS tests. Links will be provided to any items that are released.

Grade 3 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Mathematics	MD.2	MC	No	
2	PARCC Mathematics	NF.3	MS	No	
3	PARCC Mathematics	MD.7	OR	No	
4	PARCC Mathematics	G.2	MC	No	
5	PARCC Mathematics	OA.8	MP	No	
6	PARCC Mathematics	OA.3	OR	No	

Grade 4 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Mathematics	MD.4	MC	No	
2	PARCC Mathematics	G.1	MS	No	
3	PARCC Mathematics	MD.3	OR	No	
4	PARCC Mathematics	NF.4	MC	No	
5	PARCC Mathematics	OA.3	MP	No	
6	PARCC Mathematics	OA.3	OR	No	

Grade 5 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	PARCC Mathematics	MD.5	MC	No	
2	PARCC Mathematics	NBT.1	MS	No	
3	PARCC Mathematics	NBT.2	OR	No	
4	PARCC Mathematics	OA.3	MC	No	
5	PARCC Mathematics	G.2	MP	No	
6	PARCC Mathematics	NF.6	OR	No	

Grade 6 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	SP.1	MC	No	
2	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.1	MC	No	
3	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	NS.7	OR	No	
4	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	NS.1	MC	No	
5	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	G.4	MP	No	
6	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.7	OR	No	

Grade 7 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.1	MC	No	
2	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.2	MS	No	
3	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	NS.2	OR	No	
4	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	SP.1	MS	No	
5	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.3	MP	No	
6	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	NS.1	OR	No	

Grade 8 Mathematics

Item No.	Reporting Category	Standard	Item Type	Has Item Been Released?	Link to Released Item
1	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	F.5	MS	No	
2	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	G.1	MC	No	
3	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.8	OR	No	
4	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.5	MC	No	
5	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.7	MP	No	
6	<i>PARCC Mathematics</i>	EE.5	OR	No	