

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS FOR*  
**PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 6**  
(Test items developed for skills measured in MCT)

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*Skills*

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|---|--|
| 1.0 Context Clues                         | 4.0 Main Idea/Details                    |
| 1.1 Words in Context                      | 4.1 Main Idea                            |
| 1.2 Analogies                             | 4.2 Details                              |
| 2.0 Language Structure                    | 4.3 Locates Information                  |
| 2.1 Suffix/Prefix/Inflectional Endings    | 4.4 Story Elements                       |
| 2.2 Contractions/Possessives              | 4.5 Fact/Opinion                         |
| 3.0 Vocabulary                            | 5.0 Extended Meaning/Thinking            |
| 3.1 Synonyms, Antonyms, Homonyms          | 5.1 Genres                               |
| 3.2 Multiple Meanings of Words/Homographs | 5.2 Persuasive and Propaganda Techniques |
| 3.3 Figurative Language                   | 5.3 Compare/Contrast Information         |
|   | 5.4 Author's Purpose/Point of View       |
|   | 5.5 Figurative Language                  |
|   | 6.0 Workplace Data                       |
|   | 6.1 Interprets Practical Data            |
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Number of questions: 52  
Number of pages: 12

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## MCT PRACTICE TEST IN READING - GRADE 6

Directions: Read the following story to answer Numbers 1 through 8.

### JENNY'S BLANK BOOK

Grandpa Murphy and Jenny chose a bright, sunny day for their special walk into the woods. Several months ago, Grandpa had promised Jenny that when she came to visit him in the summer, he would take her into the hills and mountains to look for flowers and plants that Jenny could press and collect in a book.

Before Jenny left the city, she and her mother had gone to a stationery store and chosen a nice book with no writing in it, called a "blank book." Jenny chose a blank book with a hard red cover and a red ribbon to mark special pages.

Today, she and Grandpa would take her blank book into the countryside and look for flowers and plants to put in it. As they walked, they tried to collect as many different flowers and interesting plants as they could, carefully putting a piece of each plant they liked in between two pages of the book. When the whole book was full, Grandpa explained that he would help her put some weights on top of the book that would help press the flowers, making them flat and beautiful. If they did it right, all the flowers and leaves would be the same color, even after they were dried.

Grandpa had brought a small round magnifying glass with him, called a "loop." He showed Jenny how to open the loop and use it to examine the veins and patterns of each plant, looking at how the leaves and petals of each plant varied. Jenny's Grandpa even knew some of the scientific names and uses of the plants they found. Occasionally, Grandpa would caution Jenny against picking a certain plant or leaf, explaining to her that it was poisonous. Jenny thought her Grandpa was very smart because he knew so much about plants. One day she wanted to be like him and know all the names of the various plants and flowers growing in between the trees and shrubs of the countryside.

At the end of the day, Jenny's blank book was full. She and Grandpa had found red flowers, yellow flowers, even purple, black, and pink flowers. Some were big and some were small, and all of them were beautiful. Some plants they had gathered had no flowers at all, just

interesting leaves or stems. As they had put each plant in between the pages of the blank book, Jenny had written the name of each plant, with Grandpa helping her to spell each name right. If they didn't know the name of a plant, Grandpa would look through a little book he had brought with him. Now, the blank book was full, and each plant was labeled with its common name, and sometimes its scientific name.

Jenny and Grandpa agreed that the book would remain at Grandpa's house, where it would be kept under a pile of heavy weights until all the plants were completely dry. Next time Jenny came to visit Grandpa, the plants would be ready to secure into place with some tape. Then Jenny's book would be finished.

Riding back to Grandpa's house as the sun began to set, Jenny looked through her book at all the flowers and plants. Her blank book was full of beautiful colors now.

1. Read this sentence from the story.

*Before Jenny left the city, she and her mother had gone to a stationery store and chosen a nice book with no writing in it, called a "blank book."*

The word *stationery* in the story means

- A. motionless
- B. constant
- C. mobile
- D. paper

2. Which of these is the best summary sentence of the next to last paragraph?

- A. Jenny still needed to tape the plants in place in her book.
- B. Jenny left her book with the plants in it at Grandpa's house, ready for her next visit.
- C. Jenny had to put heavy weights on her book.
- D. Jenny had finished her book.