

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS*

*FOR*

**PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 8**

*(Test items developed for skills measured in TCAP)*

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*Skills*

- |     |                          |     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 1.0 | Content                  | 5.0 | Writing                  |
| 1.1 | Story Elements           | 5.1 | Problematic Sentences    |
| 1.2 | Author's Purpose         | 5.2 | Purpose of Writing       |
| 1.3 | Forms of Text            | 5.3 | Organize Ideas           |
| 2.0 | Word Meanings            | 6.0 | Grammar                  |
| 2.1 | Text Elements            | 6.1 | Parts of Speech          |
| 2.2 | Comprehension Strategies | 6.2 | Punctuation              |
| 3.0 | Vocabulary               | 6.3 | Usage                    |
| 3.1 | Meaning in Context       | 7.0 | Literary/Research Skills |
| 3.2 | Analogy                  | 7.1 | Select Source            |
| 4.0 | Writing/Organization     | 7.2 | Interpret Data           |
| 4.1 | Paragraph Organization   | 7.3 | Spelling                 |
| 4.2 | Title                    | 7.4 | Figurative Language      |

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Number of questions: 64  
Number of pages: 22  
Approximate testing time: 80 minutes

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(OVER)

TCAP PRACTICE TEST IN READING (ENGLISH) - GRADE 8  
FORM A

PART 1

Read each text piece and then answer the questions. Stop when you come to the word STOP.

Upon Leaving the Room

Time to go,  
bring me my shoes and coat  
he said to me,  
and only then did he speak of himself.

As I crossed the room  
he began unfolding brief memories  
of adventure, love,  
with lessons intertwined.

His taut hands pulled  
the left shoe on slowly,  
as he moaned  
his ankles crackled.

There are people you can trust,  
you can tell by their eyes.

The right shoe was more difficult,  
deep grooves  
surfaced on his forehead;  
my thoughts racing, listening,  
the second lace being tied.

You can measure your success  
in the number of smiles from children.

He stood and slowly pulled on his heavy coat,  
one arm, then the other.

Always give back to those that you love,  
And show only love to those you want back.

He thanked me, and peacefully left the room  
If only it had worn a hat and gloves.

Wisdom is like an unexpected snow  
we are lucky to receive  
falling,  
in various doses,  
in the crevices of time.

1. What form is this text?

- A. poem
- B. drama
- C. historical
- D. fiction

2. What figurative language is used in line 1 of the last stanza?

- A. personification
- B. metaphor
- C. simile
- D. alliteration