

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS*

*FOR*

**PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 8**

(Test items developed for skills measured in CRCT)

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*Skills*

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|--|---|
| 1.0 Vocabulary   | 3.0 Reading Comprehension                                 |
| 1.1 Word Recognition/Word Attack   | 3.1 Underlying Themes and Concepts                        |
| 1.2 Word Recognition Strategies<br>(Roots, Affixes, Compound<br>Words, etc.) | 3.2 Recognizes Literary Forms and<br>Purposes of Text     |
| 1.3 Context Clues  | 3.3 Sequence of Events                                    |
| 1.4 Analyzes Meaning of Words and<br>Phrases                                 | 3.4 Structure of Information                              |
| 2.0 Locating and Recalling<br>Information                                    | 3.5 Overall Stated Theme                                  |
| 2.1 Recalls Data   | 3.6 Main Idea and Details                                 |
| 2.2 Applies/Evaluates Information  | 4.0 Reading for Critical Analysis                         |
| 2.3 Relevancy of Data  | 4.1 Reading<br>Elements/Styles/Techniques                 |
| 2.4 Recognizes Important and<br>Supporting Details                           | 4.2 Author's Intent                                       |
|  | 4.3 Predicts Plot/Characters'<br>Actions                  |
|  | 4.4 Underlying Theme and Concepts                         |
|  | 4.5 Cultural Experiences and<br>Differences               |
|  | 4.6 Fact/Opinion  |
|  | 4.7 Similarities and Differences<br>in Characters or Text |
|  | 4.8 Draws Conclusions                                     |
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(OVER)

# CRCT PRACTICE TEST IN READING - GRADE 8 - FORM A

## X-Men

"X-Men" is a movie based on a comic-book series. Some of the people in it are mutants with superhuman powers. Professor X is their telepathic leader.

Another character is Magneto, who can control magnetic fields. Wolverine is an amnesiac but has rapid-healing powers and retractable metal claws. A teenage girl in the story is named Rogue. She is terrified because she has the power to suck the life force from others.

The world is afraid of this minority of DNA deviants, so they are outcasts. Professor X helps and protects them in a place disguised as a school for gifted children.

People want to label the mutants as public menace number one, but there are both good and bad mutants in the movie. Storm can control climate and Jean Grey is telekinetic. Cyclops has a laser eye. Mystique, Sabertooth, and Toad are some of the meaner characters.

The costumes in the movie are realistic but have quite a cartoonish look. The story is more entertaining than it is a picture of social prejudice (such as in the Holocaust). It is rated PG-13 for violence. Fans of the Marvel Comics series will enjoy the inside jokes, which will leave the non-fans puzzled. The movie is full of adventure, combat, and special effects. Hard-core fans will love "X-Men" for capturing the spirit or intelligence of the comic book or hate it for trying to squeeze almost 40 years of comic book history into a crash course.

1. The movie "X-Men" is mostly about how
  - A. men were x-rayed
  - B. humans gained power
  - C. World War III began
  - D. mutants with supernatural powers behaved

2. What is the best way to group the evil characters in the movie?
  - A. X-Men, Magneto, Rogue
  - B. Rogue, DNA, public enemy number 1
  - C. Magneto, Sabertooth, Toad
  - D. Professor X, Rogue, Marvel
3. This passage describes a story which is an example of
  - A. fiction
  - B. non-fiction
  - C. autobiography
  - D. poetry
4. According to the story, the mutants were
  - A. accepted by everyone
  - B. outcasts
  - C. in the majority
  - D. all evil

## Spring

The dead leaves are stirring.  
The grass is being born.  
Green blades raise their delicate arms  
And flourish until they're shorn.

Daffodils and tulips peek  
Through the cold, dark earth.  
They know sun and rain will nourish them  
And give them beauty and worth.

It's time to hit the trails  
With lots of camping gear.  
The beauty of nature is everywhere.  
It's the best time of the year.

(Devona Amis)

5. The writer seems to be saying that
  - A. fall leaves are falling
  - B. spring brings lots of activity
  - C. winter is too dreary
  - D. it is not time to mow