

Practice Test



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**Reading
(Level D)**

Vocabulary • Comprehension • Study Skills

An ECS Diagnostic Tool for Language Arts

Name _____ Date _____

Directions

There are many multiple-choice questions in this practice test. Read each passage carefully. For each multiple-choice question, choose the best answer about each passage. Do not spend too much time on one question. You may mark an answer even if you are not sure it is correct.

Mark all your answers in the test booklet (or on the separate answer sheet). Use a number 2 pencil. Make sure to fill in the entire answer space. Mark only one answer for each question. If you make a mistake or want to change an answer, erase your first answer completely. Look at the sample question below.

Eloy earned some money by doing **chores** for his grandmother.
He mowed her lawn, swept the porch, and fed her dogs.

1. In this passage, the word **chores** means—
 - A reading
 - B jobs
 - C exercises
 - D shows

There are also several questions for which you must write your own answer. Read the directions for these questions carefully. The directions will be different for each one. Then write your answer in the space provided in your test booklet. Write a complete answer for every question.

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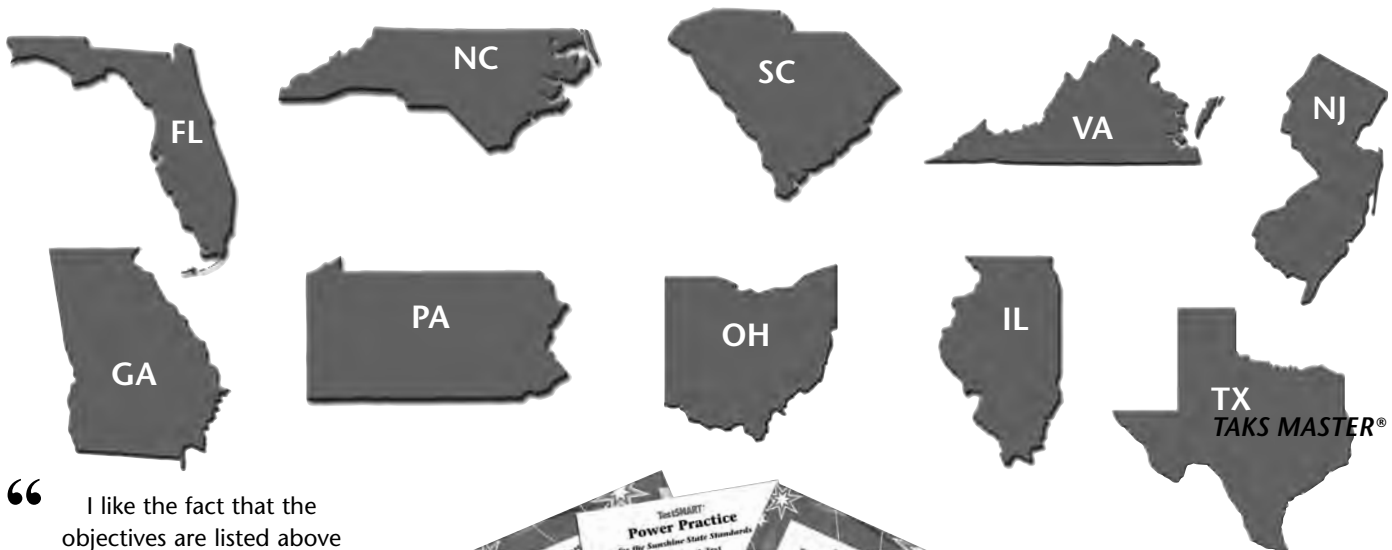
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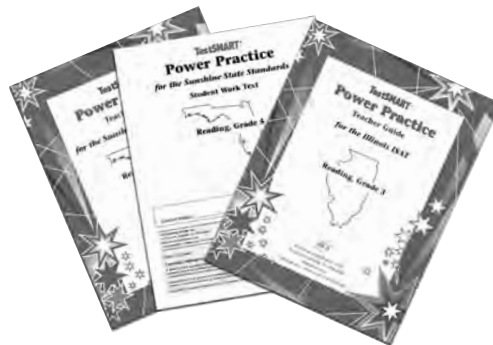
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Gerbils Make Great Pets

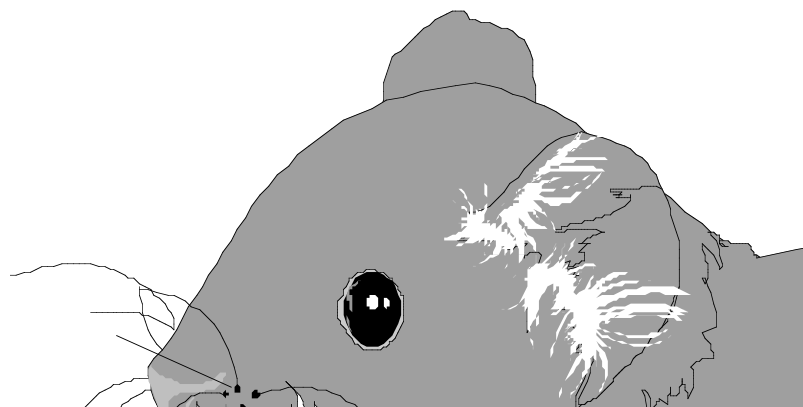
Gerbils are small pets that are easy to care for. They need very little space, their food is easy to find in stores, and they do not need special training. These furry little animals are friendly and playful.

Gerbils need to have food in their cage at all times. They stuff extra food into pouches in their mouths. These pouches are like little pockets. When the gerbils are hungry, they use their front paws to push the food from their pouches and into their mouths. Then they can eat the food. Gerbils also need fresh vegetables two or three times a week, but they do not drink much water.

Plastic, wire, or glass cages are good places for gerbils to live. Cardboard boxes do not make good homes for gerbils because they are **gnawing** animals. What does that mean? It means they like to chew and chew and chew. They can chew holes right through cardboard and could easily destroy a cardboard cage.

Gerbils need to chew because chewing keeps their teeth healthy. They can chew wooden sticks, cardboard boxes, or tubes. They need something to chew in their cage all the time. Gerbils will even chew through plastic water bottles. This can leave them with no water!

If you would like a small pet to watch and enjoy, a gerbil is a good choice. It is fun to watch a gerbil as it digs, chews, climbs, and stores food. There is only one problem. A gerbil likes to sleep during the day and play at night. If you put a running wheel in its cage, at night you may have trouble sleeping. The gerbil will keep you awake. You can watch the furry little animal run and run and never get anywhere. This may make it worth missing a few hours of sleep!



Context Clues (I.B)

1. What does the word **gnawing** mean in this passage?
- A Climbing
 - B Chewing
 - C Running
 - D Digging

Cause/Effect (IV.A)

2. Why is a cardboard box a bad place to keep a gerbil?
- A A gerbil can chew through it and escape.
 - B It would be difficult to see the gerbil.
 - C It would be difficult to put water in the cardboard box.
 - D The gerbil would make too much noise in the box.

Facts/Details (II.A)

3. When do gerbils like to play?
- A In the morning
 - B In the afternoon
 - C At night
 - D Before dark

Identify Genre (VII.A)

4. This passage is—
- A a set of directions
 - B a story
 - C an informational passage
 - D a poem

Fact/Opinion (VI.A)

5. Which of the following is an OPINION expressed in this passage?
- A Gerbils must chew to keep their teeth healthy.
 - B Gerbils store food in their pouches.
 - C It is easy and fun to care for a gerbil.
 - D Plastic or glass cages can be homes for gerbils.

Facts/Details (II.A)

6. Gerbils must chew on things because—
- A chewing keeps their teeth healthy
 - B they need water to drink
 - C this is how they have fun
 - D they don't like sticks or cardboard in their cages

Summarize Ideas/Themes (III.B)

7. Which is the best summary of this passage?
- A Gerbils like to store food in their pouches.
 - B Gerbils are gnawing animals.
 - C Gerbils are fun to watch at night.
 - D Gerbils are good pets because they are easy to care for and fun to watch.