

Grade 6

FCAT 2.0 Reading

Sample Questions

The intent of these sample test materials is to orient teachers and students to the types of questions on FCAT 2.0 tests. By using these materials, students will become familiar with the types of items and response formats they will see on the actual test. The sample questions and answers are not intended to demonstrate the length of the actual test, nor should student responses be used as an indicator of student performance on the actual test. Additional information about test items can be found in the *FCAT 2.0 Test Item Specifications* at <http://fcab.fldoe.org/fcab2/itemspecs.asp>.

The FCAT 2.0 Reading tests and sample questions and answers are based on the 2007 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

The sample questions for students and the sample answers for teachers will only be available online, at <http://fcab.fldoe.org/fcab2/fcabitem.asp>.

Directions for Answering the Reading Sample Questions

Mark your answers on the Sample Answer Sheet on page 8. If you don't understand a question, ask your teacher to explain it to you. Your teacher has the answers to the sample questions.

Read the article “Two-Wheel Fun” before answering Numbers 1 through 7.

TWO-WHEEL FUN

By Laurence Swinburne and John F. Warner

What is the most popular way to travel in the whole world, not counting a human being’s two legs? You say by car? No. Train? Wrong again. Airplane? I’m sorry, but you’re not even close.

The most popular way of going from one place to another is by bicycle. That’s right. And it is a surprise to most Americans. After all, we see hundreds, even thousands of cars each day. We don’t see nearly as many bikes.

In the United States most bike riders are either young people or adults bicycling for exercise. About nine million bikes are sold in our country each year. Nearly three million are sold for use by adults. The rest are for children between the ages of five and fourteen.

But in the rest of the world, far more people use the bike as their main way of traveling than drive cars. They ride bikes to work, to school, to stores, and to church. Many families even go on vacation on bicycles.



This early bicycle was invented about 1816. It did not have any pedals. It did have a steering bar connected to the front wheel.

Perhaps most of these people would rather move about in cars. However, unlike cars and other kinds of machines used for traveling, the bicycle costs less.

Bicycles have been around for a long time—about 300 years. You would not like to ride around on those early bikes, though. They didn’t have any pedals. The riders had to push along with their feet. Of course going downhill was easier. But this bike only went straight ahead. There was no way to turn the front wheel. If the rider wanted to change direction, he or she had to get off and move the bicycle.

When pedals were put on the front wheels, riding became easier. The most popular kind of bike in the late 1800s had a very high front wheel and a small back wheel. It was a long fall to the ground!



This bicycle was popular around 1870. It had pedals on the front wheel. It also had a brake.

Another problem was that there were no rubber tires. The bike was very uncomfortable. It's no wonder that one bike was called the "Boneshaker."

Then in the 1880s, air-filled rubber tires were put on the bicycle's wheels. Since then the bicycle has not changed very much. Of course bikes come in different shapes and colors now, but the main design is still the same.



This was a very popular bicycle in the late 1800s. It was called a "high-wheeler." The front wheel of some models was five feet high.

Bike Sports

Bicycle racing is a very popular sport in most of the world. It was popular in this country before the car took its place as a major way of moving. From 1898 through 1910, a young black American, Marshall Taylor, was the best racer in the world.

There is a bicycle race in France that covers almost 2,400 miles. It is probably the toughest race in the world. Usually, it takes three weeks to finish.

Bike racing is coming back to the United States, but it still has a long way to go to catch up to the popularity it has in Europe.

Another growing bicycle sport in our country is bike polo. It can be played on a football field. There are four players on each side. The bike riders try to hit a wooden ball with a mallet as they race by. The purpose is to drive the ball through goalposts for a score.

Be Safe!

Thousands of people are hurt each year as a result of bicycle riding. The sad part of this fact is that most of these accidents did not have to happen. If only the people had followed simple safety rules! Here are some you should pay attention to:

1. Stay on the right side of the road.
2. Ride in a single file.
3. Watch all ways for cars before crossing streets.
4. Obey traffic lights and traffic signs.
5. When turning or stopping, use hand signals.
6. Don't "hook on" to a truck, car, or bus with your hand.
7. Most important of all, keep your bike in good condition.

"Two-Wheel Fun" by Laurence Swinburne and John F. Warner. Reprinted by permission of Virginia Bowman (daughter of Mr. Swinburne) and Margaret B. Warner (wife of Mr. Warner). All rights reserved. "Man riding two-wheeler in England": Copyright © Robin Weaver / Alamy. "Older bicycle model": Copyright © Stockbyte Silver / Alamy. "Old boneshaker bicycle": Copyright © Cols Travel / Alamy.

Now answer Numbers 1 through 7 on your Sample Answer Sheet on page 8. Base your answers on the article "Two-Wheel Fun."

- 1 How do the authors organize the article's first two paragraphs?
- A. They describe a major event and show its effect on bicycle popularity.
 - B. They pose questions that are answered with information about bicycles.
 - C. They list successes in the development of bicycles in the order they occurred.
 - D. They present a problem about travel and the solution through the use of bicycles.
- 2 According to the article, what was the greatest threat to riders of the "high-wheeler" in the late 1800s?
- F. the awkward attachment of pedals to the frame
 - G. the steering problems caused by two wheel sizes
 - H. the elevation of the driver's seat above the ground
 - I. the increase in speed created by one wheel's larger size
- 3 An early bicycle was nicknamed the "Boneshaker" mainly because it
- A. had no pedals to control its operating speed.
 - B. wandered because of having no steering bar.
 - C. had no balance because of its two wheel sizes.
 - D. trembled because the wheels had little cushioning.
- 4 According to the article, bike polo is different from bike racing because bike polo
- F. is more popular.
 - G. requires more space.
 - H. is played on a football field.
 - I. allows a flexible number of players.

- 5 Read this sentence from the article.

The purpose is to drive the ball through goalposts for a score.

In which sentence below is the word *drive* used in the same way as in the sentence above?

- A. Carlos had the drive to be the best in his class.
 - B. Tara will drive the car the entire way on the family vacation.
 - C. He informed the customer that the new car would drive well.
 - D. She will drive the nail into the wall before hanging the picture.
- 6 The authors wrote this article about bicycles most likely to
- F. persuade readers to bicycle for exercise.
 - G. inform readers about the history of bicycles.
 - H. amuse readers with the different shapes of bicycles.
 - I. warn readers about bicycle safety when riding in pairs.
- 7 Which statement is best supported by information in the article?
- A. Saving money is the main reason to ride a bicycle.
 - B. Modern bicycles are as comfortable as earlier bicycles.
 - C. Riding a bicycle should include following basic safety rules.
 - D. Riding bicycles while on vacation is a widespread practice among families.

Read the website “Welcome to Marksdale State Park” before answering Numbers 8 through 10.



Welcome to Marksdale State Park

Where fun, fitness, and education come together



[Find a State Park](#) [Trail Map/Directions](#) [Camping/Lodging](#) [Fees/Schedules](#) [Nature Information](#)

Don't miss our new sizzling summer classes available May 23–Aug 5!!

- **Swimming lessons:** Ages 4–adult. Cost: \$5 per class or \$15 for one month.
- **Hiking:** Have a state park ranger hike through our trails with you and teach you about the park's wildlife and plants. We have a number of endangered plants and animals that our park helps protect. Click [here](#) to learn more today!
- **Soccer:** Our youth soccer program is unusual in that it is non-competitive. Different teams are formed every day. The focus is on individuals learning new skills and learning to work as a team, not on one team winning it all.
- **Boating:** These classes are for adults only. See director for fees and schedule. Fishing allowed with permit only.
- **Bicycling:** Our trails are built to accommodate bicyclists. Signs are posted for self-guided tours of our park. Group cycling is also available with a park guide. Trails range from easy to challenging.

A Message from the Director:

Hiking trails! Sport fields! Playgrounds! Campgrounds! Water activities! Located on Lake McQueeney, Marksdale State Park offers something for everyone. Marksdale is a perfect spot for a hot summer day. Sign up for one of our new summer community classes, or take a camping trip with your friends or family. Our facilities are set up with modern systems, so you don't have to rough it to enjoy nature—unless you want to!

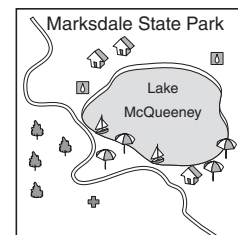
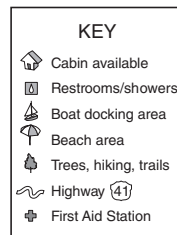
Glen Harwood, Park Director

Award for the Spring Photography Contest: Congratulations to Melissa Rhoades, a sophomore at Marksdale High School! Her winning shot was of a young girl catching her first baseball on our field. Chosen for the look of supreme joy on the girl's face, the picture offers a first-rate look at what it means to visit our park. Learning new skills and having fun are two things we are all about. Come play!

Special note about trash in our park: In an effort to keep our park clean, for your sake and that of our wildlife, we have placed trash cans and recycling bins with secure lids throughout the park. Please ensure that the lids are on tightly when you are finished. It keeps our raccoon friends from getting into things they shouldn't! Their curiosity and fine motor skills are impressive! Your cooperation is appreciated.



Are you 13–17 years old? Ever wonder what it would be like to be a park ranger? It's a competitive field, but you can get ahead by volunteering with our Teen Ranger Program. Depending on your age and responsibilities, you can even earn college credit for certain universities!



“Welcome to Marksdale State Park” property of the Florida Department of Education.

Now answer Numbers 8 through 10 on your Sample Answer Sheet on page 8. Base your answers on the website “Welcome to Marksdale State Park.”

- 8 The section *Special note about trash in our park* is different from the other sections of the website because it
- F. uses humor in the message.
 - G. addresses adults rather than teenagers.
 - H. offers volunteer opportunities for teenagers.
 - I. uses exclamation marks for specific directions.
- 9 How does the creator of this website organize the information?
- A. by listing events and activities for the visitors
 - B. by answering questions created by the visitors
 - C. by explaining the meaning of the map to the visitors
 - D. by comparing the tasks of park rangers to those of visitors
- 10 Which text feature on the website provides the most accurate information about the locations of Marksdale State Park facilities?
- F. the map and key
 - G. the subtitle and graphics
 - H. the message written by the director
 - I. the list of activities shown in the left column

Name _____

Answer all the Reading Sample Questions on this Sample Answer Sheet.

1 (A) (B) (C) (D)

8 (F) (G) (H) (I)

2 (F) (G) (H) (I)

9 (A) (B) (C) (D)

3 (A) (B) (C) (D)

10 (F) (G) (H) (I)

4 (F) (G) (H) (I)

5 (A) (B) (C) (D)

6 (F) (G) (H) (I)

7 (A) (B) (C) (D)



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.fldoe.org

To offer students a variety of texts on the FCAT 2.0 Reading tests, authentic and copyrighted stories, poems, and articles appear as they were originally published, as requested by the publisher and/or author.

Every effort has been made to trace the ownership of all copyrighted material and to secure the necessary permissions to reprint selections.

Copyright Statement for This Office of Assessment Publication

Authorization for reproduction of this document is hereby granted to persons acting in an official capacity within the Uniform System of Public K–12 Schools as defined in Section 1000.01(4), Florida Statutes. The copyright notice at the bottom of this page must be included in all copies.

All trademarks and trade names found in this publication are the property of their respective owners and are not associated with the publishers of this publication.

This publication is provided by the Florida Department of Education to Florida public schools free of charge and is not intended for resale.

Permission is NOT granted for distribution or reproduction outside of the Uniform System of Public K–12 Schools or for commercial distribution of the copyrighted materials without written authorization from the Florida Department of Education. Questions regarding use of these copyrighted materials should be sent to the following:

The Administrator
Office of Assessment
Florida Department of Education
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Copyright © 2012
State of Florida
Department of State



The Florida Department of Education and its test contractors currently employ strategies to protect the environment in the production and destruction of FCAT 2.0 materials. The Department encourages schools and districts to recycle nonsecure FCAT 2.0 interpretive publications after use.