

# Preface

The *Mississippi MCT2 Student Review Guide* for *Eighth Grade Language Arts: Reading* is written to help students review the skills needed to pass Section 1 of the MCT2 for Eighth Grade Language Arts end-of-course test. This guide covers the required skills for Competencies 1 and 2 of the Eighth Grade Language Arts as given in the 2006 Mississippi Language Arts Framework Revised specified by the Mississippi State Department of Education.

## How To Use This Book

### Students:

As an eighth grade student, you are required to take the MCT2 test for Language Arts. If you do not score well on this test, you may be placed in a remediation class and lose an elective. This book will help to prepare you for this test.

- 1 Take the pre-tests (one for Reading in this book and one for Writing in a separate companion book), which are designed to identify areas that you need to review.
- 2 Score the pre-tests. Using the pre-test evaluation charts, circle the questions that you answered incorrectly.
- 3 For each question that you missed on the pre-tests, review the corresponding sections in the book. Read the instructional material, do the practice exercises, and take the section review test at the end of each section.
- 4 After reviewing the skills, take the practice tests, which are found in the separate test booklets. These practice tests are written to look similar to the actual MCT2 Language Arts test; therefore, they will give you practice in taking the test.
- 5 After taking each practice test, use the practice test evaluation charts, which are found directly after each practice test, to identify areas for further review and practice. The practice test evaluation charts can be used in the same way as the pre-test evaluation charts.

### Teachers:

This review guide is also intended to save you, the teacher, time in the classroom. It can be used for classroom instruction or for individual student review. This student guide covers the skills in Competencies 1 and 2 of the 2006 Mississippi Language Arts Framework Revised for eighth grade Language Arts that can be tested on Section 1 of the MCT2 test. A companion book is also available that covers Competencies 3 and 4

- 1 When teaching or tutoring individual students, use the strategy outlined above for students. By taking the pre-tests, students can identify areas that need improvement. The pre-test evaluation charts direct students to the sections they need to review for instruction and additional practice.
- 2 For classroom study, use this guide to supplement lesson plans and to give additional review for skills specified by the eighth grade Language Arts Framework Competencies. Purchase a class set of guides for use in the classroom or assign guides to students for out-of-classroom work.
- 3 Assign the practice tests as comprehensive review tests. Note, the practice tests are bound in separate booklets for your convenience.
- 4 Use the practice test evaluation charts found after each practice test to identify areas needing further review.
- 5 To establish benchmarks, you may want to use one of the practice tests as a pre-test. Then, after the students have completed all the exercises in the workbook, use the second practice test to gauge progress. You should see marked improvement between the initial and final benchmarks.
- 6 Please **DO NOT** photocopy materials from these guides. These guides are intended to be used as student workbooks, and individual pages should not be duplicated by any means without permission from the copyright holder. To purchase additional or specialized copies of sections in this book, please contact the publisher at 1-800-745-4706.

Read the following poem, “A Better Way.” Then answer questions 31–34 based upon the poem.

### A Better Way

A quick run to the grocery store  
Just a few items I need.  
No need for a buggy;  
My arms can carry indeed.

- 5 The cashier rings me up  
Then frightens me to death  
With a total that is more  
Than I currently possess.

- 10 So in shame I ask the kind cashier  
To return some items to the aisle;  
It brings my total within reason,  
But I leave without a smile.

- 15 Driving home I do my best  
To devise a better way  
To keep my family clothed and fed  
Without losing all my pay.

- 20 I grab the Sunday paper,  
And with abandon I dig in;  
Sorting and stacking coupons  
And making a strategic plan.

For the sake of motherhood,  
Spending wisely and with care,  
I will save a fortune  
With the money I save there.

- 25 And oh, what fun, oh, what glee  
Does meet me in the store  
When I come out with all I planned  
Plus a little more.

- 30 I now leave the grocer’s  
With my head held high!  
My car is full of groceries  
And my face wears a smile.

A black arrow pointing to the right with the words "GO ON" written in white capital letters inside it.

31. Which of the following is a correct statement of the poet's use of figurative language in the poem?

- A The poet uses metaphor in lines 1 and 2.
- B The poet uses hyperbole in line 6.
- C The poet uses metaphor in lines 9 and 10.
- D The poet uses hyperbole in line 13.

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

33. Which of the following is a correct evaluation of how the poet uses glittering generalities in the poem?

- A To express the narrator's shame in lines 9 and 10
- B To show enthusiasm for clipping coupons in lines 19 and 20
- C To portray the narrator as a responsible mother in lines 21 and 22
- D To describe the joy of saving money in lines 29 and 30

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

32. Which of the following is an accurate statement about the poet's use of sound devices in the poem?

- F The poet uses onomatopoeia in line 3 and alliteration in line 5.
- G The poet uses onomatopoeia in line 15 and alliteration in line 10.
- H The poet uses rhyme in lines 2 and 4 and alliteration in line 30.
- J The poet uses assonance in lines 1 and 2 and alliteration in line 15.

(F) (G) (H) (J)

34. Which statement summarizes the main idea of the poem?

- F The narrator encourages everyone she knows to use coupons when buying groceries.
- G The narrator goes to the grocery store and is ashamed when she does not have enough money to buy the few items that she needs.
- H Once the narrator discovers how to use coupons effectively, she is able to get most of her groceries for free.
- J When the narrator is faced with high grocery prices, she learns how to use coupons to save money.

(F) (G) (H) (J)



# Reading Pre-Test

## Evaluation Chart

On the chart below, circle each question that you answered incorrectly on the Pre-Test. Review the sections for each question that you missed.

If you missed question #:	Go to section(s):	If you missed question #:	Go to section(s):
1	8.1	21	1.4
2	6.3	22	5.1, 15.1, 15.2
3	13.2, 13.3	23	13.1
4	7.3	24	11.5
5	5.2	25	15.3, 15.4
6	13.4	26	5.2
7	11.1, 11.2	27	5.2
8	11.4	28	7.3
9	5.2, 12.2	29	2.1
10	5.3	30	15.1
11	5.2	31	14.1
12	5.1, 5.2	32	14.5
13	Section 1	33	15.4
14	1.2	34	13.4
15	4.4	35	5.2, 12.3, 12.4
16	1.1, 1.2	36	12.4
17	2.1, 2.2, Section 3	37	2.3
18	14.3	38	7.2
19	Section 8	39	11.5
20	8.3, 12.1	40	1.4