

## Task-Based Activity: Reading a brochure to understand the GED

Learner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Pre self-assessment

I need to improve my skills at reading brochures:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## Activity

### What are the GED Tests?

GED Tests are a set of five tests in the core high school curriculum areas:

- Language Arts: Reading
- Language Arts: Writing
- Mathematics Part 1 (use of calculator)

Part 2 (no calculator)

- Social Sciences
- Science

The test measures important knowledge and competencies (such as your ability to understand and apply information; to evaluate, analyze and draw conclusions; and to express ideas and opinions in writing) that are usually obtained in a regular high school program of study.

The tests consist of questions that require the use of important ideas. Only a few questions ask for specific details, definitions or facts. Multiple-choice questions are used for each of the five tests. The Language Arts: Writing Test includes an essay component; all candidates must pass this section to obtain a score for the test. The Mathematics test includes the use of standard and coordinate plane grids and a calculator.

The GED Tests are available in French and English. Special editions and accommodations are available to help people with special needs and physical and/or learning disabilities. Please refer to page four for more information.

The tests used in Canada have been developed specifically for Canadians.

## Am I eligible to take the GED Tests?

To write the GED Tests in Ontario, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Be at least 18 years old\*
2. Have not graduated from high school
3. Have been out of the school system for at least one year
4. Be a resident of Ontario

\* Candidates who are 18 years old must provide a date of leaving letter from the last high school they attended. Home-schooled candidates must provide a letter from their Board of Education indicating that they have been home-schooled.

## Why do people write the GED Tests?

Some of the reasons people write their GED Tests are:

- To receive a high school equivalency certificate
- To qualify for employment
- To gain promotion within their own organization
- To apply for admission to an educational or training institution
- To achieve personal satisfaction

## How long do the tests take and what subjects are included in each test?

The five tests take a total of seven hours and five minutes to complete.

| Test                                    | Content   | No. of Questions | Time                  |
|---|---|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Language Arts: Writing (Part I)</b>  | Organization 15%<br>Sentence Structure 30%<br>Mechanics 25%<br>Usage 30%  | 50               | 1 hour,<br>15 minutes |
| <b>Language Arts: Writing (Part II)</b> | Essay Component   | Essay            | 45 minutes            |
| <b>Language Arts: Reading</b>           | Literary Text 75%<br>• Poetry<br>• Drama<br>• Fiction (Pre-1920, 1920-1960, 1960 to present)<br>Non-fiction Text 25%<br>• Non-fiction Prose (Biography, Critical Review of Fine and Performing Arts)<br>• Workplace Documents | 40               | 1 hour,<br>5 minutes  |
| <b>Mathematics</b>                      | Numbers, Number Sense and Operations 20-30%<br>Data, Statistics, and Probability 20-30%<br>Geometry, and Measurement 20-30%<br>Algebra, Functions, and Patterns 20-30%  | 50               | 1 hour,<br>30 minutes |
| <b>Social Studies</b>                   | History 40%<br>Civics 25%<br>Economics 20%<br>Geography 15%   | 50               | 1 hour,<br>30 minutes |

|                |   |    |                    |
|----------------|---|----|--------------------|
| <b>Science</b> | Live Science 45% (Biology and Health)<br>Earth and Space Science 20%<br>Physics Science 35% (Chemistry and Physics) | 50 | 1 hour, 20 minutes |
|----------------|---|----|--------------------|

Source: [http://www.ilc.org/pdfs/ged/ged\\_handbook\\_en.pdf](http://www.ilc.org/pdfs/ged/ged_handbook_en.pdf)

1. How many tests are there in the GED? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What languages is the GED available in Canada?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the minimum age to write the GED? \_\_\_\_\_

4. List three reasons why someone might write the GED.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

5. How many questions are in the social studies section of the GED?

6. What is the total amount of time it would take to complete all five tests?

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Post self-assessment**

I think my skills have improved as a result of completing this activity.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Learner comments:

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## Assessment

### Task-Based Activity: Reading a brochure to understand the GED

Learner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Practitioner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

| Performance Descriptors  | Needs Work | Improving | Excellent |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|
| <p><b>A1.2: Read texts to locate and connect ideas and information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• scans text to locate information</li><li>• locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts</li><li>• makes low-level inferences</li><li>• makes connections between sentences and between paragraphs in a single text</li><li>• reads more complex texts to locate a single piece of information</li><li>• follows the main events of descriptive, narrative and informational texts</li><li>• obtains information from detailed reading</li><li>• begins to identify sources and evaluate information</li></ul> |            |           |           |
| <p><b>A2.2: Interpret simple documents to locate and connect information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• performs limited searches using one or two search criteria</li><li>• extracts information from tables and forms</li><li>• uses layout to locate information</li><li>• makes connections between parts of documents</li><li>• makes low-level inferences</li><li>• begins to identify sources and evaluate information</li></ul>   |            |           |           |

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| <b>The learner needs to work on the following:</b> |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| <b>This task was successfully completed</b>        |  | <b>This task needs to be tried again</b> |  |
| <b>Practitioner Comments:</b>                      |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| <b>Learner Comments:</b>                           |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |