

OVERVIEW

- SC READY is a statewide assessment that includes tests in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. SC READY is administered to **all** students in grades three through eight.
- Students with disabilities and English language learners (ELLs) must participate in testing with the appropriate accommodations, if necessary, or in the South Carolina National Center and State Collaborative (SC-NCSC) alternate assessment, as defined in their IEPs. The SC-NCSC assesses students with significant cognitive disabilities.
- SC READY tests are not timed. Estimated times for the average student are: 2 hours for ELA Session 1; 1.5 hours for ELA Session 2; and 2 hours for Mathematics.
- The ELA test is administered in two days. Session 1 includes a variety of question types, plus a Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA) question. The TDA question consists of a passage with a writing task related to the passage. Session 2 includes reading passages with accompanying questions.
- The grades 6–8 mathematics test is divided into two sections to be administered in one day. The first section is a “calculator” section; the second is a “no calculator” section. Students are allowed to use calculators **only** during the calculator section of the grades 6–8 mathematics tests.
- Items on SC READY are aligned with the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA and Mathematics Standards.



SC READY 2018 TESTING WINDOW

English Language Arts and Mathematics

Online and Paper Administrations

April 16–June 8

SC READY (grades 3–8) assessments must be **administered during the last twenty school days** as determined by each district’s instructional calendar.

Districts and schools will schedule **specific testing dates** and **the order** in which the tests are administered within the window.

The SCDE recommends that districts schedule testing for grade three students at the beginning of the testing window due to the need for test scores when making decisions required by the South Carolina Read to Succeed Act (posted at <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t59c155.php>).

Additional Resources

More detailed information about SC READY is located on the South Carolina Department of Education website at: <http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/south-carolina-college-and-career-ready-assessments-sc-ready/>.

SC READY blueprints are located at:

<http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/south-carolina-college-and-career-ready-assessments-sc-ready/sc-ready-test-blueprints/>.

Standards for each grade level are located on the SCDE website in the following locations.

<http://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/english-language-arts/standards/>

<http://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/mathematics/standards/>

Information related to accommodations for students with disabilities is available at the following link on the SCDE website: <http://ed.sc.gov/tests/middle/sc-ready/sc-ready-and-students-with-disabilities/>.



Test Format

- SC READY assessments will be administered in a **computer-based format only**, with the following exceptions:
 - Students who cannot take online assessments due to their disabilities, as specified in their IEPs or 504 plans, may be tested in a paper-based format.
 - Districts receiving a **waiver** from the computer-based requirement may test in a paper-based format.

Types of Test Items

- ELA and mathematics tests contain test questions with varying degrees of difficulty.
- The ELA test includes a variety of question types, e.g., selected-response, evidence-based selected response, multi-select, technology-enhanced items for online testers, and a Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA) question, which consists of a passage with a related writing task.
- The mathematics test includes a variety of questions, e.g., selected-response, multi-select, short answer, and technology-enhanced items for online testers. Technology-enhanced items may include drag and drop, graphing, constructed-response (type in a number), and others.

Sample Items

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

A student is writing a research report about George Washington Carver. Read the paragraph from the report and the directions that follow.

George Washington Carver was an important scientist and educator. He developed methods of farming to keep soil healthy. At the time, southern farmers grew a lot of cotton, which weakened the soil. Carver showed farmers how to rotate planting cotton with planting different crops—such as peanuts and soybeans—to help make the soil healthy again. He also came up with many different uses for these crops so more people would grow them. Carver's work helped reshape farming in the South in the early twentieth century.

The student found information in different sources. Choose **two** pieces of information that support the claim in the student's paragraph.

- ☐ A He appreciated art and studied painting at Simpson College in Iowa.
- ☐ B Although known for his peanut research, Carver did not invent peanut butter.
- ☐ C In 1947, a fire destroyed many of the contents of a museum dedicated to Carver's work.
- ☐ D In 1939, he received a presidential medal for his contributions to agriculture in the South.
- ☐ E He was the first African American graduate of the college now known as Iowa State University.
- ☐ F Carver thought of hundreds of ways to use peanuts, including nonfood ideas such as paper and ink.

Key = D & F

MATHEMATICS

Tammy counted the number of cans of soup on each of four shelves at a supermarket. The table below shows the numbers of cans of soup.

Cans of Soup	
Shelf	Number of Cans
1	22
2	18
3	14
4	29

Tammy added all the numbers of cans of soup on these shelves and then rounded the total to the nearest 10. What is the number of cans of soup on these shelves rounded to the nearest 10?

- ☐ A 60
- ☐ B 70
- ☐ C 80
- ☐ D 90

Key = C

Tutorials and Online Tools Training (OTT)

- Tutorials provide step-by-step instructions on how to navigate the online system and should be reviewed by students in advance of their first test day.
- The Online Tools Training is a computer module that simulates the testing environment and allows students an opportunity to try out the testing software and tools prior to the administration of SC READY.
- Samples of the new item types have been included in the Online Tools Training (OTT) for SC READY.
- The OTT and the Online Testing Video Tutorial for SC READY can be accessed at the following website (using Google Chrome): <https://wbte.drcedirect.com/SC/portals/sc>.

Reporting

- Student results are reported as scale scores and performance levels for each test.
- Performance levels for each test are: Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Approaches Expectations, and Does Not Meet Expectations.
- Students receive information for each standard on each test.

