



Understanding the HiSET[®] Exam – Reading Comprehension Social Studies and Science

September 2020



Get to Know the HiSET Exam

Overview of the HiSET
Program



Historical HiSET Test Volumes - National

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| National Data | | | | | | |
| # Examinees Tested | 44,623 | 61,600 | 78,410 | 85,214 | 86,001 | 85,030 |
| # Examinees Completed | 37,871 | 47,775 | 57,122 | 56,006 | 53,255 | 50,879 |
| Completion Rate | 84.9% | 77.6% | 72.9% | 65.7% | 61.9% | 59.8% |
| Passing Rate | 75.1% | 74.7% | 81.5% | 76.5% | 76.7% | 79.4% |

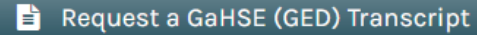
More than 2 million *HiSET*[®] tests delivered

Data from the *2019 Annual Statistical Report on the HiSET[®] Exam*
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/2019_annual_statistical_report.pdf

HiSET Exam Availability in Georgia

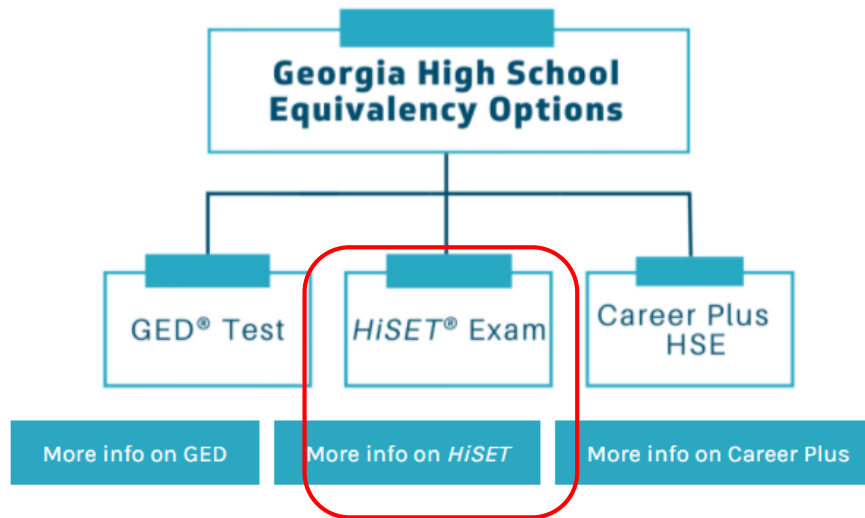
- The HiSET Exam will be available in Georgia in fall 2020
 - HiSET Exam at Home
 - HiSET test centers (as soon as onboarding of is complete)
- Eventually, the HiSET Exam will be available at all Georgia test centers, starting with:
 - Atlanta Technical College
 - Chattahoochee Technical College
 - Columbus Technical College
 - North Georgia Technical College
 - Southern Crescent Technical College
 - Wiregrass Technical College



 Request a GaHSE (GED) Transcript

Georgia High School Equivalency (GED) Program

Welcome to the home of the official Georgia High School Equivalency Program (GaHSE, formerly the GED Testing Program) where you can find everything you need to know about choosing a high school equivalency pathway, taking your tests or enrolling in classes, and earning your high school equivalency diploma. The Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) now offers multiple options for achieving your high school equivalency. Two computer-based testing (CBT) pathways are available through testing centers or proctored at home: the GED® test or the *HiSET*® exam. **The *HiSET*® exam will be available this fall.** TCSG is also piloting a workforce-based solution to a high school equivalency through joint enrollment called Career Plus HSE.



HiSET Test Fees in Georgia

HiSET CBT Exam Fee: (state fee \$8 and center fee \$8 included)

- Full Battery \$133.75
- Initial subject area tests \$26.75 each
- Two retest per subject area \$16 each

HiSET Exam at Home Fee: (state fee \$8 and remote center fee \$17.50 included)

- Fee: Full Battery \$181.25
- Initial subject area tests \$36.25 each
- Two retest per subject area \$25.50 each

HiSET Exam at Home

- Available 15 hours a day, seven days a week
 - English, Spanish, accommodations
- Test takers use their own computer at home or another secure location
 - not supported on tablets or mobile phones
- Test takers register through their My HiSET account
 - No prerequisites to qualify, just meet the GA HSE requirements
 - Same retesting credits and policies apply

<https://www.ets.org/s/cv/hiset/at-home/>

HiSET Scoring Levels

High School Equivalent (HSE) Score

- Minimum scaled score 8 of 20 on each subtest
- Minimum score of 2 on the essay
- Combined scaled score of 45 on entire battery






College and Career Readiness (CCR) Score

- Minimum of scaled score 15 of 20 on each subtest
- Minimum score of 4 on essay
- Performance level indicative of college entry into credit bearing courses

Highest Possible Scores

- 20 on each subtest
- 100 for entire battery

The HiSET Exam

|  Reading |  Writing |  Mathematics |  Science |  Social Studies |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| 50 questions | 61 questions | 55 questions | 60 questions | 60 questions |
| 100% multiple choice | multiple choice (60) essay (1) | 100% multiple choice | 100% multiple choice | 100% multiple choice |
| 65 minutes English 80 minutes Spanish | 120 minutes | 90 minutes | 80 minutes | 70 minutes |

Total Test Time: **7 Hours and 5 Minutes**

Understanding the HiSET Exam

Reading Comprehension –
Science & Social Studies



Why Do Adults Learn?

ACCESS

Gain Access to information and resources and to **Orient Themselves** in the world

VOICE

Express Ideas and Opinions with the confidence they will **Be Heard** and taken into account

ACTION

Solve problems and **Make Decisions** without having to rely on others to mediate for them

BRIDGING

Learning to Learn so they can **Be Prepared** to keep up with a changing world

Webb's Depth Of Knowledge (DOK)

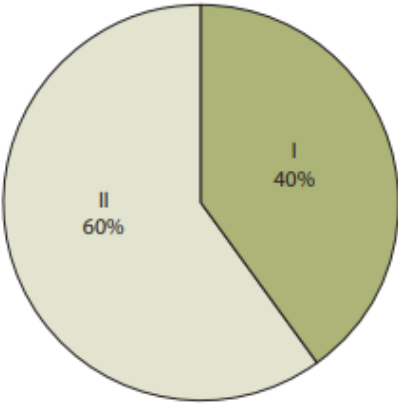
| DOK Level |
|------------------------------|
| Level 1 – Recall |
| Level 2 – Skill/Concept |
| Level 3 – Strategic Thinking |

Level 1 **RECALL** a term, concept, or fact, or identify specific information

Level 2 **APPLY** a skill/concept process, or interpret information

Level 3 **JUSTIFY** strategic thinking, make inferences or draw conclusions

Test At A Glance (TAAG) – Reading

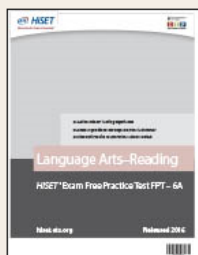
| Test at a Glance | |
|--|---|
| Test Name | Language Arts – Reading |
| Time | 65 minutes (English), 80 minutes (Spanish) |
| Number of Questions | 50 |
| Format | Multiple-choice questions |
|  | Content Categories (Approximate Percentage of Questions) |
| | Application of concepts, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. Literary Texts (40%)II. Informational Texts (60%) |
| | Process Categories |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. ComprehensionB. Inference and InterpretationC. AnalysisD. Synthesis and Generalization |

Reading DOK

| Content | DOK Level | DOK % |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|
| Reading | Level 1 – Recall | 14% |
| | Level 2 – Skill/Concept | 41% |
| | Level 3 – Strategic Thinking | 37% |
| | Level 4 – Extended Thinking | 8% |

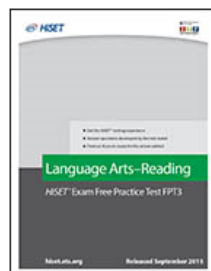
- **Level 1 – Recall:** reflect surface-level understanding of explicit details of the text
- **Level 2 – Skill/Concept:** process text and make inferences to exhibit understanding beyond surface level
- **Level 3 – Strategic Thinking:** analyze and make meaning beyond the text
- **Level 4 – Extended Thinking:** synthesize information and reveal higher-order thinking through complex reasoning

Language Arts – Reading



Language Arts – Reading Practice Test (FPT6A – Released in September 2016)

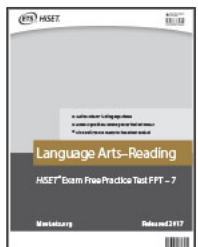
[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 524 kb



Language Arts – Reading Practice Test (FPT3 – Released in September 2015)

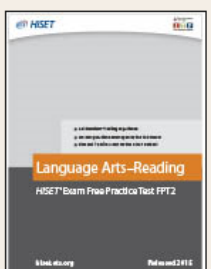
[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 676 kb

Language Arts – Reading



Language Arts – Reading Practice Test (FPT-7 – Released in 2017)

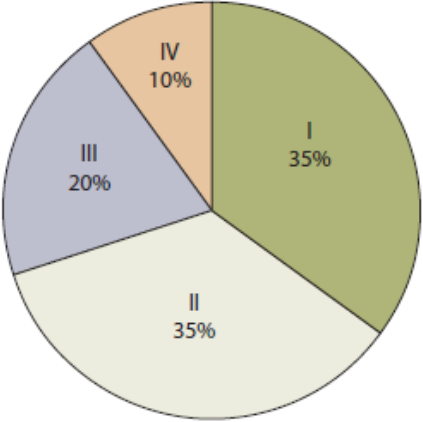
[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 386 kb



Language Arts – Reading Practice Test (FPT2 – Released in 2015)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 378 kb

Test At A Glance (TAAG) – Social Studies

| Test at a Glance | |
|--|---|
| Test Name | Social Studies |
| Time | 70 minutes |
| Number of Questions | 60 |
| Format | Multiple-choice questions |
|  | Content Categories (Approximate Percentage of Questions) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. History (35%)II. Civics/Government (35%)III. Economics (20%)IV. Geography (10%) |
| | Process Categories |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Interpret and ApplyB. AnalyzeC. Evaluate and Generalize |

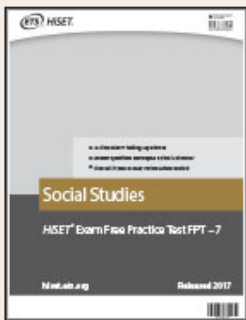
Social Studies DOK

| Content | DOK Level | DOK % |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------|
| Social Studies | Level 1 – Recall | 36% |
| | Level 2 – Skill/Concept | 57% |
| | Level 3 – Strategic Thinking | 7% |

- **Level 1 – Recall:** recall a term, concept or fact or identify specific information contained in a stimulus
- **Level 2 – Skill/Concept:** process or interpret information about people, places events or concepts.
- **Level 3 – Strategic Thinking:** make inferences or draw conclusions about events or issues.

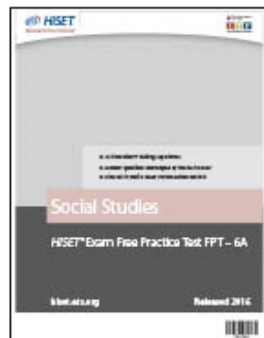
Social Studies

Social Studies



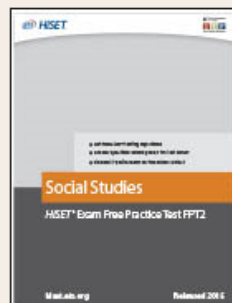
Social Studies Practice Test (FPT7 – Released in September 2017)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 796 kb



Social Studies Practice Test (FPT6A)

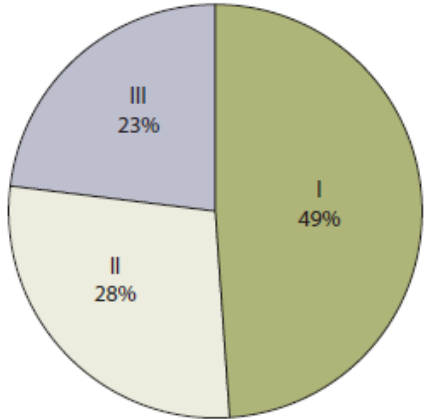
[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 503 kb



Social Studies Practice Test (FPT2)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 629 kb

Test At A Glance (TAAG) – Science

| Test at a Glance | |
|--|---|
| Test Name | Science |
| Time | 80 minutes |
| Number of Questions | 60 |
| Format | Multiple-choice questions |
|  | Content Categories (Approximate Percentage of Questions) |
| | I. Life Science (49%) II. Physical Science (28%) III. Earth Science (23%) |
| | Process Categories |
| | A. Interpret and Apply B. Analyze C. Evaluate and Generalize |

Science DOK

| Content | DOK Level | DOK % |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|
| Science | Level 1 – Recall | 6% |
| | Level 2 – Skill/Concept | 65% |
| | Level 3 – Strategic Thinking | 29% |
| | Level 4 - Extended Thinking | <1% |

- **Level 1 – Recall:** recall a term, property or fact.
- **Level 2 – Skill/Concept:** process/interpret data.
- **Level 3 – Strategic Thinking:** make inferences/conclusions from experimental data
- **Level 4 – Extended Thinking**

Science



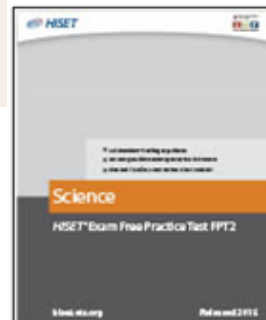
Science Practice Test (FPT7 – Released in September 2017)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 525 kb



Science Practice Test (FPT6A – Released in September 2016)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 1.08 kb



Science Practice Test (FPT2 – Released in 2015)

[Download \(PDF\)](#) | File size: 862 kb

History

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

The poster below is from World War I.



DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

This poster was most likely designed to appeal to all of the following EXCEPT a person's

- A. desire for adventure.
- B. feelings of patriotism.
- C. sense of responsibility.
- D. need for financial security.

History

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

The poster below is from World War I.



DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

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- A. desire for adventure.
- B. feelings of patriotism.
- C. sense of responsibility.
- D. need for financial security.**

D. The poster does not mention how much the navy is willing to pay recruits.

Civics Government

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

Which of the following actions would probably not be protected by the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech and freedom of the press?

- A. A newspaper columnist falsely accusing a city official of stealing funds
- B. A senator questioning the qualifications of a presidential appointee
- C. A radio commentator raising doubts about the ability of a political candidate
- D. An editorial writer criticizing the policies of a police chief

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Civics Government

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

*Intuitive
Logic*

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

Which of the following actions would probably **not be protected** by the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech and freedom of the press?

- A. A newspaper columnist **falsely** accusing a city official of stealing funds
- B. A senator **questioning** the qualifications of a presidential appointee
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DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

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Civics Government

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DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option A is correct because even though the First Amendment protects the freedom of speech and the press, it does not protect speech or press that leads to illegal activity, imminent violence, obscenity, defamation, or libel.

Economics

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

Which of the following statements would be most difficult to prove or disprove?

- A. The United States should impose import taxes on goods from countries that do not allow access to their markets.
- B. The United States does not impose any import taxes on European goods.
- C. Import taxes on goods from Latin America are lower today than they were five years ago.
- D. Import taxes on farm machinery are greater than those on automobiles.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Economics

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

Verb Tense

Future

Present

Present

Present

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DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

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DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option A is correct because it is discussing actions that would take place in the future.

This makes it most difficult to prove or disprove.

Folk remedies are health treatments that people pass on to one another because they seem to work. For example, centuries ago a brew of willow leaves was recommended for the painful disorder called gout. Studies of the chemicals in willow trees later led scientists to develop the drug aspirin. Popular wisdom about cures for various ailments continues to prompt questions for scientific investigation.

A modern folk remedy is to put kitchen meat tenderizer on insect stings. Meat tenderizer contains an enzyme from papaya fruit that breaks down proteins. It has been speculated that this enzyme might break down the proteins in insect venom. This hypothesis was tested in the following experiment.

Twenty-two medical students volunteered to be stung by fire ants, once on each arm. Previous experiments had shown that water by itself is not effective in reducing pain from fire-ant stings. Thus, one sting was covered by a gauze pad that had been soaked in water, and the other was covered by a pad soaked in a solution made of powdered meat tenderizer dissolved in water. Neither the volunteers nor the people observing them knew which arm was treated with the meat tenderizer. The pads were left on for 20 minutes, during which time several precise measurements were taken of the blood flow in the skin around the stings.

At the end of the 20 minutes, the volunteers told the experimenters how each sting felt. The subjects reported no differences in the pain or itching of their two stings. Blood flow readings were found to be slightly higher for the sting areas treated with meat tenderizer, but the difference was very small. The researchers concluded that the experiment found no evidence that meat tenderizer was effective against fire-ant stings.

*Topic
Sentence*

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*Intuitive
Logic*

What is the main reason each volunteer was stung once on each arm but had only one sting treated with meat tenderizer?

- A. So that differences between right-handed students and left-handed students would not affect the results
- B. To allow the researchers to choose the more severe of the two stings for treatment
- C. So the researchers would have twice as much data about the meat tenderizer's effects
- D. To obtain a set of control data with which to compare the experimental data

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

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- B. To allow the researchers to choose the more severe of the two stings for treatment
- C. So the researchers would have twice as much data about the meat tenderizer's effects
- D. To obtain a set of control data with which to compare the experimental data**

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option D is correct because treating one sting with meat tenderizer and leaving one sting untreated allowed the researchers to obtain control data (effects of the untreated sting) to compare to the experimental data (the effects of the treated sting).

Would the validity of the results have been affected if the volunteers had been told which of their two stings was being treated with meat tenderizer?

- A. No; it wouldn't have had any effect on the validity of the results as long as all the volunteers were told.
- B. No; the volunteers were medical students and therefore trained to be objective.
- C. Yes; it might have affected how much pain and itching they thought they felt on either arm.
- D. Yes; they probably would have felt greater discomfort on the arm that was treated with the meat tenderizer.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

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Moments

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DOK
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Critical
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- B. No; the volunteers were medical students and therefore trained to be objective.
- C. Yes; it might have affected how much pain and itching they thought they felt on either arm.
- D. Yes; they probably would have felt greater discomfort on the arm that was treated with the meat tenderizer.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option C is correct because the results would have been invalid if the volunteers were told which of their two stings had been treated with meat tenderizer.

Physical Science

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

In an electromagnet, the magnetic field is produced by the flow of an electric current. The magnetic field is maintained by a continuous supply of electrical energy. The typical parts of an electromagnet are a wire coil, a magnetic metal core, and a source of electricity. The magnetic field of an electromagnet can be manipulated by adjusting the supply of electric current. Electromagnets are used in many devices, including computer printers, imaging machines, and industrial lifting equipment.

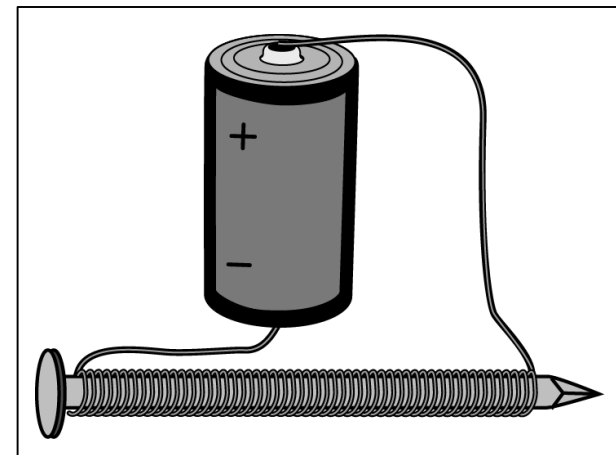
A simple electromagnet can be made by coiling a copper wire around an iron nail and attaching each end of the copper wire to a battery. The more turns of copper wire around the iron nail, the stronger the magnetic field.

DOK
Level

Critical
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Teaching
Moments



Physical Science

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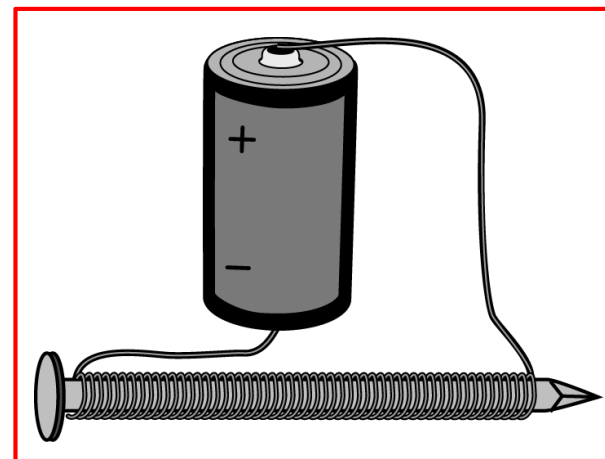
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DOK
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Moments



Physical Science

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

What would happen to the magnetic field of the electromagnet if the battery were removed?

- A. It would expand in size.
- B. It would change direction.
- C. It would weaken.
- D. It would cease to exist.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

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- A. It would expand in size.
- B. It would change direction.
- C. It would weaken.
- D. It would cease to exist.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option D is correct because a magnetic field cannot exist without a battery to supply a flow of electricity.

A drought can be described using measures of rainfall amounts, agricultural productivity, vegetation condition, soil moisture, or streamflow. Yet, in the most basic terms, a drought is a significant deficit in moisture availability due to lower than normal precipitation. This definition, however, is relative to a given region and is dependent on the past and present conditions in that region.

A drought monitoring system used by the National Drought Mitigation Center provides a classification scheme, based on a series of calculations, for the severity of a drought within a region. The table below shows the percentages of Regions E and F in each drought classification on four different days.

Percentage of Region in Each Drought Classification (%)

| | Day | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought | Percentage of Total Area Affected by Drought (%) |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| Region E | July 5 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 13.90 | 31.58 | 47.76 | 100.00 |
| | July 12 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 14.24 | 30.90 | 48.10 | 100.00 |
| | July 19 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.95 | 30.80 | 48.21 | 100.00 |
| | July 26 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.62 | 30.25 | 49.09 | 100.00 |
| Region F | July 5 | 11.91 | 5.74 | 8.01 | 16.36 | 2.17 | 44.19 |
| | July 12 | 11.91 | 5.08 | 9.40 | 15.58 | 2.23 | 44.20 |
| | July 19 | 12.79 | 5.43 | 10.33 | 14.66 | 2.22 | 45.43 |
| | July 26 | 15.85 | 5.82 | 12.38 | 15.08 | 1.57 | 50.70 |

Earth Science

Access
orient

Voice
heard

Action
decisions

Bridge
learn

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A drought monitoring system used by the National Drought Mitigation Center provides a classification scheme, based on a series of calculations, for the severity of a drought within a region. The table below shows the percentages of Regions E and F in each drought classification on four different days.

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decisions

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In the time period presented, in which drought classification were the percentages of affected areas in Regions E and F most similar?

- A. Abnormally dry
- B. Moderate drought
- C. Severe drought
- D. Extreme drought.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Earth Science

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- A. Abnormally dry
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- D. Extreme drought.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Percentage of Region in Each Drought Classification (%)

| | Day | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought | Percentage of Total Area Affected by Drought (%) |
|----------|---------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Region E | July 5 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 13.90 | 31.58 | 47.76 | 100.00 |
| | July 12 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 14.24 | 30.90 | 48.10 | 100.00 |
| | July 19 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.95 | 30.80 | 48.21 | 100.00 |
| | July 26 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.62 | 30.25 | 49.09 | 100.00 |
| Region F | July 5 | 11.91 | 5.74 | 8.01 | 16.36 | 2.17 | 44.19 |
| | July 12 | 11.91 | 5.08 | 9.40 | 15.58 | 2.23 | 44.20 |
| | July 19 | 12.79 | 5.43 | 10.33 | 14.66 | 2.22 | 45.43 |
| | July 26 | 15.85 | 5.82 | 12.38 | 15.08 | 1.57 | 50.70 |

percentages of **Regions E and F** ...most similar?

Percentage of Region in Each Drought Classification (%)

| | Day | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought | Percentage of Total Area Affected by Drought (%) | |
|------------|----------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|--------|
| E → | Region E | July 5 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 13.90 | 31.58 | 47.76 | 100.00 |
| | July 12 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 14.24 | 30.90 | 48.10 | 100.00 | |
| | July 19 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.95 | 30.80 | 48.21 | 100.00 | |
| | July 26 | 0.00 | 6.04 | 14.62 | 30.25 | 49.09 | 100.00 | |
| F → | Region F | July 5 | 11.91 | 5.74 | 8.01 | 16.36 | 2.17 | 44.19 |
| | July 12 | 11.91 | 5.08 | 9.40 | 15.58 | 2.23 | 44.20 | |
| | July 19 | 12.79 | 5.43 | 10.33 | 14.66 | 2.22 | 45.43 | |
| | July 26 | 15.85 | 5.82 | 12.38 | 15.08 | 1.57 | 50.70 | |

percentages of Regions E and F ...**most similar**?

Percentage of Region in Each Drought Classification (%)

| | Day | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought | Percentage of Total Area Affected by Drought (%) | |
|------------|----------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|--------|
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| | July 12 | 11.91 | 5.08 | 9.40 | 15.58 | 2.23 | 44.20 | |
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| | Day | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought | Percentage of Total Area Affected by Drought (%) | |
|------------|----------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|--------|
| E → | Region E | July 5 | 0.00 | 6.76 | 13.90 | 31.58 | 47.76 | 100.00 |
| | | July 12 | 0 | 6 | 14 | 30 | 48.10 | 100.00 |
| | | July 19 | | | | | 48.21 | 100.00 |
| | | July 26 | | | | | 49.09 | 100.00 |
| F → | Region F | July 5 | | | | | 2.17 | 44.19 |
| | | July 12 | 12 | 7 | 10 | 15 | 2.23 | 44.20 |
| | | July 19 | | | | | 2.22 | 45.43 |
| | | July 26 | 15.85 | 5.82 | 12.38 | 15.08 | 1.57 | 50.70 |

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| | July 19 | 12.79 | 5.43 | 10.33 | 14.66 | 2.22 | 45.43 | |
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In the time period presented, in which drought classification were the percentages of affected areas in Regions E and F most similar?

- A. Abnormally dry
- B. Moderate drought**
- C. Severe drought
- D. Extreme drought.

DOK
Level

Critical
Thinking

Trouble
Spots

Teaching
Moments

Option B is correct because, based on the data table, the percentages of Regions E and F for all four days in the moderate drought classification were more similar than for any other drought classification.

Understanding the HiSET Exam

Resources for Educator and
Test Taker

- Test Preparation Tips and Strategies
- Test Prep Resources



Test Preparation Tips and Strategies

- Tips and Strategies for Getting Ready for the HiSET® Exam:
 - <https://hiset.ets.org/prepare/tips>
- Figure out how well the test taker knows the content
- Test takers can plan their study time using the HiSET Study Companion
 - English:
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/study_companion.pdf
 - Spanish:
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/study_companion_es.pdf

Free Test Prep on the HiSET Website

- Download the Free Printable Practice Tests and sample questions:
 - <https://hiset.ets.org/resources/prep/#free-practice-tests>
 - https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/sample_questions.pdf
- Use the list of Khan Academy® Math Tutorial Videos and Exercises:
 - https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/list_free_videos.pdf
- Access the Math Interactive Practice Tests:
 - <https://www.ets-cls.org/hiset/>
- Use the Writing Response Scoring Guide and Scored Writing Response Samples
 - https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/writing_response_scoring_guide.pdf
 - https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/2016_scored_sample_writing_responses.pdf

HiSET Website and Resources in Spanish

All our resources are also available in Spanish, easily accessed by clicking the **En Español** tab on the upper right of the HiSET home page(s)



Spanish language webpage <https://hiset.ets.org/es/test-takers>

Materiales de preparación para el examen *HiSET*® <https://hiset.ets.org/es/prepare/materials/>

HiSET Test at a Glance (TAAG)

- 2020 English TAAG https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/2020_taa.pdf
- 2020 Spanish TAAG https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/2020_taa_es.pdf

Mathematics

| Test at a Glance | |
|---------------------|---|
| Test Name | Mathematics |
| Time | 90 minutes |
| Number of Questions | 55 |
| Format | Multiple-choice questions |
| Calculator | Calculator neutral. Please refer to the state policies for the state in which you are testing. |
| | Content Categories (Approximate Percentage of Questions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Numbers and Operations on Numbers (19%) II. Measurement/Geometry (18%) III. Data Analysis/Probability/Statistics (18%) IV. Algebraic Concepts (45%) |
| | Process Categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Understand Mathematical Concepts B. Analyze and Interpret Information C. Synthesize Data and Solve Problems |

The following is a list of the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)* that are included in the Mathematics test.

| CCRS Code | College and Career Readiness Standards |
|-----------|---|
| 6.RP.3 | Use ratio and rate reasoning to solve real-world and mathematical problems, e.g., by reasoning about tables of equivalent ratios, tape diagrams, double number line diagrams, or equations. |
| 6.SP.5 | Summarize numerical data sets in relation to their context, such as by: Describing the nature of the attribute under investigation, including how it was measured and its units of measurement. Giving quantitative measures of center (median and/or mean) and variability (interquartile range and/or mean absolute deviation), as well as describing any overall pattern and any striking deviations from the overall pattern with reference to the context in which the data were gathered. Relating the choice of measures of center and variability to the shape of the data distribution and the context in which the data were gathered. |
| 7.EE.2 | Understand that rewriting an expression in different forms in a problem context can shed light on the problem and how the quantities in it are related. For example, $a + 0.05a = 1.05a$ means that "increase by 5%" is the same as "multiply by 1.05." |
| 7.EE.3 | Solve multi-step, real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and negative rational numbers (including integers, rational numbers, and decimals), using tools with numbers in any form; recognize that operations on rational numbers result in rational numbers; understand that adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing rational numbers involve the same properties of operations as operations with whole numbers; understand that the order of operations applies to rational numbers. For example, if a woman making \$25 an hour receives a 5% raise, she now earns $25 \times 1.05 = 26.25$ an hour; if she then receives a 20% increase, her salary is $26.25 \times 1.20 = 31.50$ an hour; if she receives a 5% decrease in her salary, her salary is $31.50 \times 0.95 = 30.00$ an hour; if she receives a 10% increase followed by a 10% decrease, her salary is $31.50 \times 1.10 \times 0.90 = 31.50$ an hour; if she receives a 5% increase followed by a 5% decrease, her salary is $31.50 \times 1.05 \times 0.95 = 31.50$ an hour. |

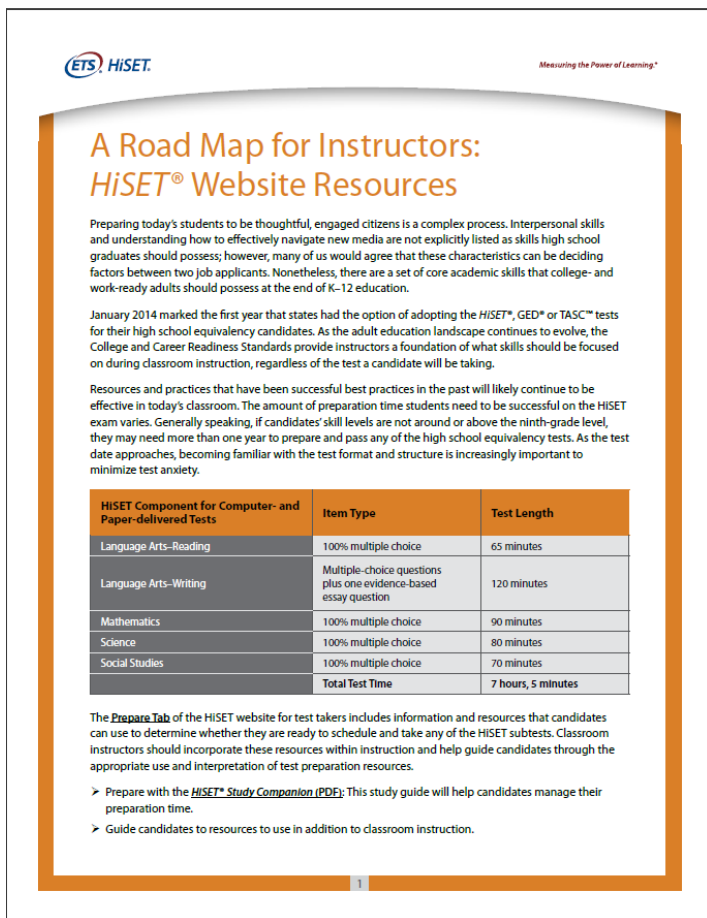
Content Categories

The **Content Category Descriptors** are numbered under each **Content Category** below. The **Process Category Descriptors** are numbered under the Mathematics **Process Categories** section starting on page 14.

I. Numbers and Operations on Numbers

1. Use properties of operations with real numbers, including rational and irrational numbers (e.g., identify rational and irrational numbers, locate these numbers between two points on a number line, find the product and sum of rational and irrational numbers, and determine if the product or sum is rational or irrational).
2. Rewrite expressions involving radicals and rational exponents using the properties of exponents (e.g., find an equivalent expression to the cube root of $27x^3y^6$).

HiSET Exam Road Map for Instructors



ETS HiSET. Measuring the Power of Learning.

A Road Map for Instructors: HiSET® Website Resources

Preparing today's students to be thoughtful, engaged citizens is a complex process. Interpersonal skills and understanding how to effectively navigate new media are not explicitly listed as skills high school graduates should possess; however, many of us would agree that these characteristics can be deciding factors between two job applicants. Nonetheless, there are a set of core academic skills that college- and work-ready adults should possess at the end of K-12 education.

January 2014 marked the first year that states had the option of adopting the HiSET®, GED® or TASC™ tests for their high school equivalency candidates. As the adult education landscape continues to evolve, the College and Career Readiness Standards provide instructors a foundation of what skills should be focused on during classroom instruction, regardless of the test a candidate will be taking.

Resources and practices that have been successful best practices in the past will likely continue to be effective in today's classroom. The amount of preparation time students need to be successful on the HiSET exam varies. Generally speaking, if candidates' skill levels are not around or above the ninth-grade level, they may need more than one year to prepare and pass any of the high school equivalency tests. As the test date approaches, becoming familiar with the test format and structure is increasingly important to minimize test anxiety.

| HiSET Component for Computer- and Paper-delivered Tests | Item Type | Test Length |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Language Arts-Reading | 100% multiple choice | 65 minutes |
| Language Arts-Writing | Multiple-choice questions plus one evidence-based essay question | 120 minutes |
| Mathematics | 100% multiple choice | 90 minutes |
| Science | 100% multiple choice | 80 minutes |
| Social Studies | 100% multiple choice | 70 minutes |
| Total Test Time | | 7 hours, 5 minutes |

The **Prepare Tab** of the HiSET website for test takers includes information and resources that candidates can use to determine whether they are ready to schedule and take any of the HiSET subtests. Classroom instructors should incorporate these resources within instruction and help guide candidates through the appropriate use and interpretation of test preparation resources.

- Prepare with the **HiSET® Study Companion (PDF)**; This study guide will help candidates manage their preparation time.
- Guide candidates to resources to use in addition to classroom instruction.

1

- Understand the HiSET exam
- Build background knowledge
- Develop fundamental skills
- Assess readiness

Test Prep Resources

General prep information

- Study Companion
- Sample Questions
- Scored Sample Writing Responses
- Writing Response Scoring Guide

Practice tests and companion materials

- Free and paid practice tests
- Practice Tests – Quick Reference Guide
- Practice Test Results: Are You Ready to Take the Exam?
- HiSET Practice Test Blank Answer Sheets
- Mathematics Formula Sheet

Khan Academy®

- Free screened videos and exercises to improve fundamental skills

ETS HiSET Measuring the Power of Learning®

HiSET® Math

Khan Academy® Instructional Support Videos and Exercises

The HiSET® program has identified videos and exercises available at www.khanacademy.org to support HiSET Math test preparation. The Mathematics test assesses mathematical knowledge and competencies. It measures your ability to solve quantitative problems using fundamental concepts and reasoning skills. The questions present practical problems that require numerical operations, measurement, estimation, data interpretation and logical thinking. Problems are based on realistic situations and may test abstract concepts such as algebraic patterns, precision in measurement and probability.

The following online lesson plans can improve these fundamental skills needed to be successful on the HiSET Math test.

Mathematics: Number and Quantity

The Real Numbers

Extend the properties of exponents to rational exponents

| Topic | Lesson Page |
|---|---|
| Pre-Algebra Exponents Radicals and Scientific Notation – Exponents | https://www.khanacademy.org/math/pre-algebra/pre-algebra-exponents-radicals/pre-algebra-exponents/v/exponents-warmup |
| Arithmetic Operations – Exponents | https://www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-sixth-grade-math/cc-6th-arithmetic-operations/cc-6th-exponents/v/introduction-to-exponents |
| Algebra Basics Foundations – Exponents | https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra-basics/basic-alg-foundations/alg-basics-exponents/v/introduction-to-exponents |
| Pre-Algebra Exponents Radicals and Scientific Notation – Negative Exponents | https://www.khanacademy.org/math/pre-algebra/pre-algebra-exponents-radicals/pre-algebra-negative-exponents/v/negative-exponents |

Use properties of rational and irrational numbers

| Topic | Lesson Page |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Algebra 1 – Irrational numbers | https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra/rational-and-irrational-numbers/alg-1-irrational-numbers/v/introduction-to-rational-and-irrational-numbers |

Assessing Readiness

Pre-test:

- Free Practice tests and answer sheets: <https://hiset.ets.org/resources/prep/>
- Interactive CBT Practice <http://www.ets-cls.org/hiset/>

Benchmarks:

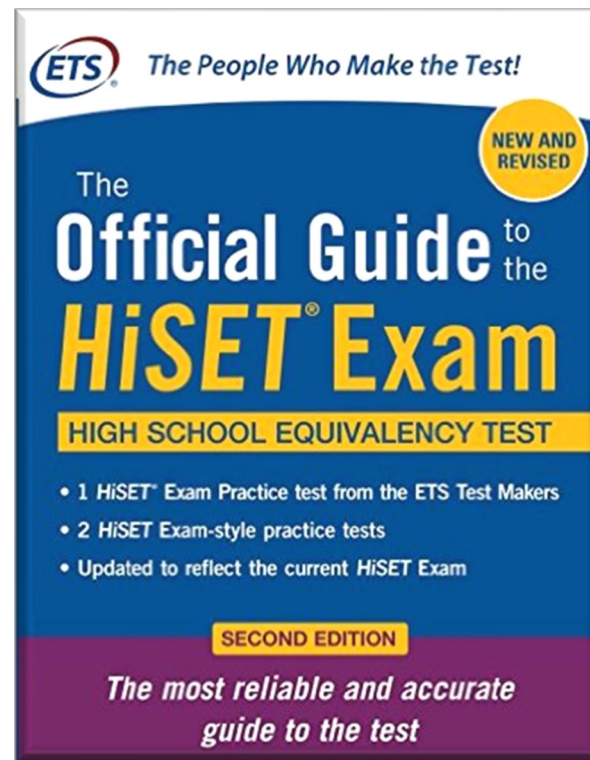
- Paid Practice Tests https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/practice_test_order_form.pdf
- Official Guide to the HiSET Exam practice tests
- Official Practice Test (restricted): https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/opt_order_form.pdf

Support Resources:

- Practice Test Reference Guide:
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/practice_test_quick_reference_guide.pdf
- Are you Ready to Take the HiSET® exam?
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/practice_test_results.pdf

Official Guide to the HiSET® Exam

Available in
English
and
Spanish



HiSET Academy™ & Online Practice Test



- HiSET Academy™ Official Practice Test in digital format
- Purchased exclusively through Essential Education
- Full battery or single tests

Contact dan@essentialed.com to set up a demonstration

The screenshot shows a digital practice test interface. At the top, it says 'HiSET Test Practice' and 'Dan Griffith Return to Home Room'. Below that, it says 'HiSET Science Practice Test 1' and 'Mark to Review Later Question 1/25'. The question asks: 'Which of the following choices best describes the information shown in this diagram?'. The diagram shows a green, oval-shaped 'Photosynthetic bacterium in nature'. A sun icon labeled 'Solar energy' has an arrow pointing to the bacterium. On the left, a water molecule (H₂O) and a carbon dioxide molecule (CO₂) have arrows pointing into the bacterium. On the right, an oxygen molecule (O₂) has an arrow pointing out of the bacterium. A green arrow labeled 'Fuel' points from the bacterium to the right. Below the diagram, there is a source note: 'Source: National Science Foundation, adapted from "NSF Announces New Awards That Will Investigate More Efficient Ways to Harvest Sunlight to Make New Biofuels and Biomaterials." available at https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_images.jsp?tid=16-115017&pg=NSF'. At the bottom right of the screenshot, there is a 'Next >' button.

Which of the following choices best describes the information shown in this diagram?

- The bacterium absorbs carbon and water, combines these elements with fuel and solar energy, allowing the bacterium to create its own oxygen.
- The bacterium expels oxygen, making room for hydrogen peroxide and carbon dioxide. These elements are then combined with solar energy to produce fuel.
- The bacterium absorbs carbon and hydrogen, combines these elements with solar energy to create fuel, then releases oxygen as a byproduct.
- The bacterium takes in carbon dioxide, water, and solar energy. It then synthesizes these elements into fuel for itself, releasing oxygen as a byproduct.

HiSET Test Prep Providers

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HOME ABOUT REQUIREMENTS **PREPARE** TAKE SCORES RESOURCES AFTER THE EXAM

Home > Prepare > Test Prep Providers Language

HiSET® Test Prep Providers

Essential Education — The official ETS test prep provider for the HiSET exam

The *HiSET Academy™* Online Learning Program, from Essential Education, is a customized, adaptive learning program to accelerate learning. The program can be used to supplement Adult Education Courses or fully support independent study.

Access to the HiSET Academy includes:

- **Diagnostic Assessment** — After working through the pre-assessment and personalized learning plan, you take the built-in practice test evaluating depth of knowledge. Based on your responses, specific HiSET Academy lessons and Essential Skills Workbook practice are prescribed to help you improve.
- **Interactive Instruction** — Over 200 hours of lessons in math, reading, writing, science and social studies. This functions as a personal tutor for the adult learner.

For more information:

Website: <https://www.essentialed.com/students/hiset-academy>
Phone: 1-800-931-8069
Email: dan@essentialed.com

For Instructors Only

Working with the *HiSET®* program, Essential Education brings you the online HiSET Official Practice Tests designed to measure readiness for the HiSET exam, providing adult learners and instructors pinpoint diagnostics for improvement.

Essential Education is the exclusive provider of this online study tool that:

- Covers all five curriculum subjects
- Aligns to the format and structure of the HiSET exam
- Provides actionable feedback on learning gaps and areas of proficiency
- Links to HiSET Academy lessons for further study (additional purchase may apply)

For more information:

Website: www.essentialed.com/hiset-opt
Phone: 1-800-931-8069
Email: dan@essentialed.com

Other Test Prep Providers

There are several programs* developed by outside test prep providers which may help you prepare for the

For Test Takers

My HiSET Account

Schedule appointments, view scores, update your profile and manage your test-taking experience.

[Sign in / Sign Up](#)

Find an adult education center or test center near you

Not sure if you're ready?

[Sign up to get resources that can help you make your decision.](#)

HiSET® Test-taker Bulletin (PDF)

Questions?

- [FAQ](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Free ETS eLearning Tools

- Educators can continue to develop adult learners' reading, writing and English-language learning skills with these free eLearning tools developed by ETS Research & Development scientists.
 - Writing Mentor® <https://mentormywriting.org/>
 - RelayReader™ <https://relayreader.org/>
 - Amazon Alexa Skills
[https://www.amazon.com/s?k=Foundry+English&i=alexa-skills&ref=nb sb noss](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=Foundry+English&i=alexa-skills&ref=nb_sb_noss)

Understanding the HiSET Exam

Preparing for Test Day

- Learn More about the Path to HSE
- HiSET Study Companion
- Tips for Test Day
- Smart Tips for Taking the Test



HiSET Test Taker Bulletin



Measuring the Power of Learning™

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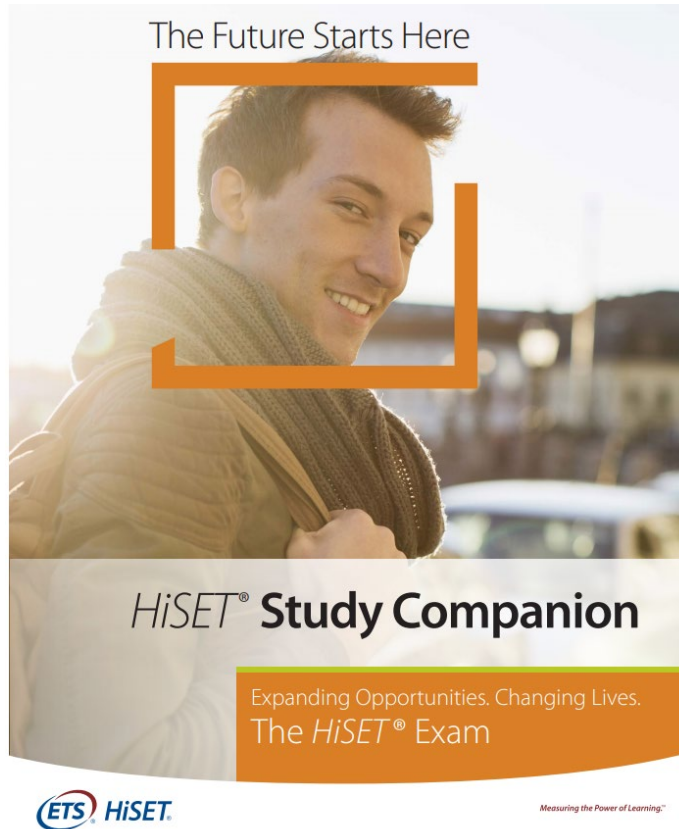
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Learn More about the Path to HSE

- Review the HiSET Test Taker Bulletin:
https://hiset.ets.org/s/pdf/test_taker_bulletin.pdf
- Create a My HiSET account
- Check your eligibility in your state or jurisdiction
- Review your state's requirements page:
<https://hiset.ets.org/requirements/state/>
- Select a test center and adult education program
- Review fees, payment and refund policies
- Request disability accommodations if necessary
- Select a test date and schedule your appointment
- Prepare for test day

Study Companion



A test taker's study guide to:

- Learn what the test covers
- Assess how well the test taker knows the content
- Plan and organize preparation time
- Practice, practice, practice
- Understand how questions will be scored
- Develop a study plan
- Become comfortable with the types of questions on the HiSET exam



Q&A

Questions and Answers

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- <https://www.facebook.com/ETSHiSET/>
- https://twitter.com/HiSET_ETS
- HiSET program newsletter



Thank You for Attending
We Are Here to Support You

**Adam Springwater, Sr. Client Relations
Manager, aspringwater@ets.org**



**Tanya Haug, National Director,
thaug@ets.org**

<https://hiset.ets.org/>

