



**Georgia Professional
Standards Commission**
Protecting Georgia's Higher Standard of Learning

Upcoming Revisions to GACE Program Admission Assessment (PAA)

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Re-generation of GACE PAA

Clyde Reese

Director, PEP Validity Research

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ETS[®]
**Professional
Educator**
PROGRAMS

Praxis Core and PAA Tests

- measure academic skills in reading, writing and mathematics.
- assess skills that have been identified as critical to a career in education with a focus on skills that are critical to learning and achievement in teacher preparation programs

Claim the three tests support

The candidate has academic skills (reading, writing and mathematics) important for success in teacher preparation

Process for Re-examining Praxis Core and PAA

- Examined the curricula for 25 educator preparation programs to determine coursework common across grade levels and content areas
 - Sampled approximately five programs in each state that currently uses Praxis Core
 - Surveyed one or more faculty members from each participating program
 - Online survey of the relevance and importance of skills measured by Praxis Core
 - All respondents completed the survey for Mathematics
 - Half the respondents completed the survey for Reading; the remainder completed the survey for Writing
 - Convened a national advisory committee to review the survey results and develop test specifications
- **Three faculty members from the Georgia EPPs participated on the national advisory committee**

Survey of Faculty

	Number of Respondents	
	Overall	NAC
Total	236	26
Number of EPPs	89	26
Number of States and Territories	33	22
Content Area		
• Mathematics	236	26
• Reading	126	26
• Writing	116	26

Characteristics of the faculty who responded

- Approximately 81% are teaching at public institutions
- Approximately 15% are teaching at minority-serving institutions
- Approximately 74% are female
- Approximately 79% identified as White, 10% as Black, and 3% as Hispanic
- Majority (approximately 60%) have at least 10 years of experience preparing educator candidates
- Approximately 45% taught course across subjects and grade levels

Judging the importance

Consider the courses required at your college or university that cover content (e.g., assessment, classroom management, human development & learning) relevant for all teacher candidates. How important is the skill for a teacher candidate to be successful?

1. Not at All Important
2. Of Little Importance
3. Of Some Importance
4. Moderately Important
5. Important
6. Very Important

← 4.2 Threshold for “flagging” statements

Survey Results

READING

- 17 skill statements
 - Key Ideas & Details
 - Craft, Structure & Language Skills
 - Integration of Knowledge & Ideas
- No statement received an average judgment below 5 (Important)

WRITING

- 22 skill statements
 - Text Production: Argumentative & Informative/Explanatory Essays
 - Text Production: Revision
 - Language Skills
 - Research Skills
- One statement received an average judgment below 5 (Important)

Survey Results

READING

- 17 skill statements

Re-examination confirmed the content measured by the Reading & Writing tests.

WRITING

- 2

No revisions planned.*

- Text Production: Argumentative & Informative/Explanatory Essays
- Text Production: Revision
- Language Skills
- Research Skills
- One statement received an average judgment below 5 (Important)

* The committee recommended a few clarifying edits to statements to help candidates preparing for the test better understand what the tests call for.

Survey Results

MATHEMATICS

- 39 skill statements in
 - I. Number and Quantity
 - II. Algebra and Functions
 - III. Data Interpretation and Representation, Statistics and Probability
 - IV. Geometry
- 13 statements received an average judgment below 4.2 (Threshold Value)
 - 6 of the 11 statements under “Geometry” received average judgments below 4.2

Redesigned MATHEMATICS

Based on survey and committee evaluations of importance for success in EPPs

- Weightings were changed for the different Mathematics Subareas
 - Reduced emphasis on Algebra and Geometry
 - Increased emphasis on Data Interpretation, Statistics and Probability
- Some flagged topics were dropped from the assessment, e.g.,
 - Identifying rational v. irrational numbers
 - solving problems with radicals
 - working with functions
 - solving problems involving three-dimensional figures (such as volume and surface area of a cone)

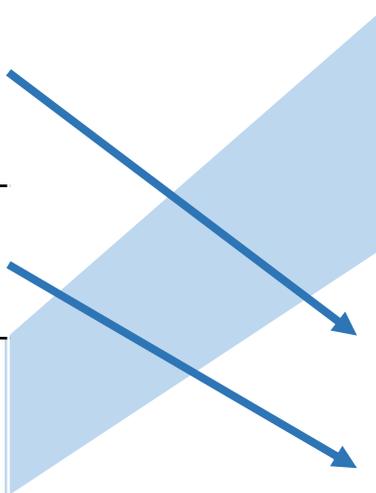
10 statements, including 5 of 11 statements in Geometry, were dropped

- 8 statements were revised to clarify or scale back what's included.
- A formula sheet will be added, giving formulas for the geometric content that remains

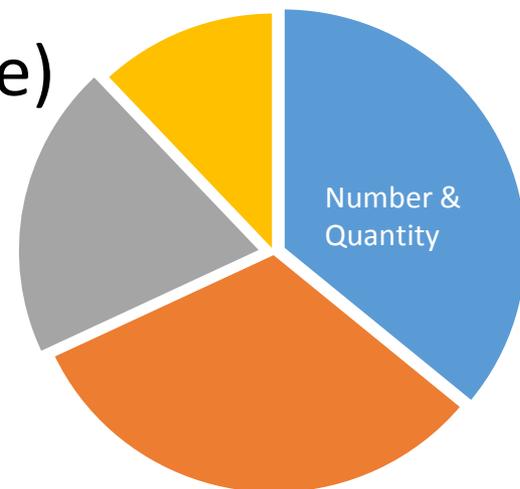
Redesigned MATHEMATICS

	Subarea	Approx. Pct.
I	Number and Quantity	30%
II	Algebra and Functions	30%
III	Geometry	20%
IV	Statistics and Probability	20%

	Subarea	Approx. Pct.
I	Number and Quantity	36%
II	Statistics and Probability	32%
III-A	Algebra	20%
III-B	Geometry	12%



Re-Designed GACE PAA (& Praxis Core) Mathematics

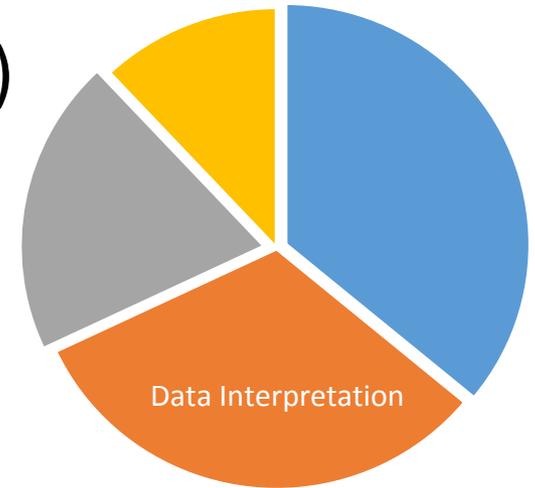


Answer the question below by clicking on the correct response.

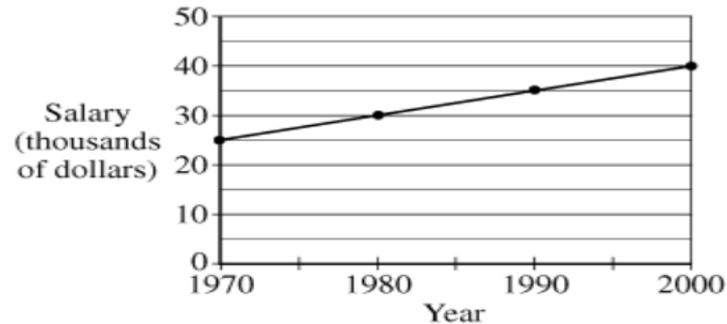
A certain patient's heart beats 16 times in 15 seconds. At this rate, how many times does the patient's heart beat in $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes?

- 128
- 96
- 85
- 64
- 24

Re-Designed GACE PAA (& Praxis Core) Mathematics



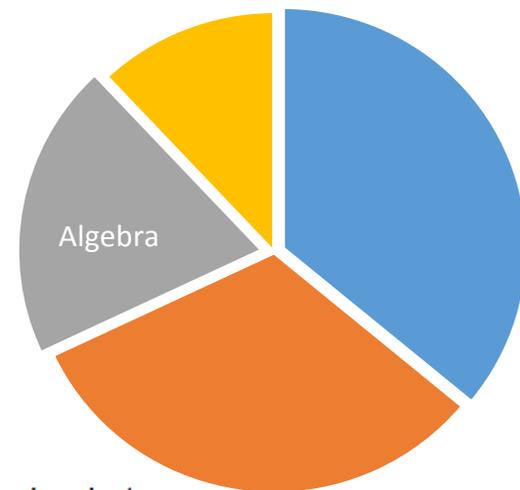
Answer the question below by clicking on the correct response.



The graph above shows how the salary for a specific job has changed between 1970 and 2000. If this trend continues, what will be the salary for this job in the year 2020 ?

- \$45,000
- \$50,000
- \$55,000
- \$60,000
- \$65,000

Re-Designed GACE PAA (& Praxis Core) Mathematics



Answer the question below by clicking on the correct response.

If x is between 200 and 500 and y is between 1,000 and 2,000, then $\frac{x}{y}$ must be a number between

$\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

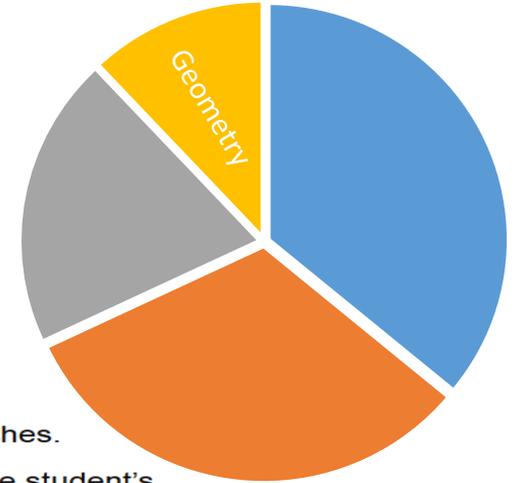
$\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{1}{10}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{20}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$

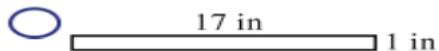
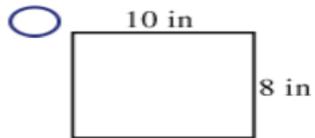
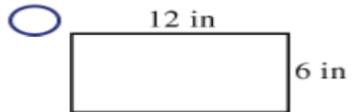
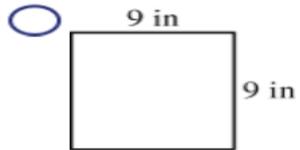
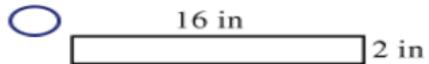
Re-Designed GACE PAA (& Praxis Core) Mathematics



Answer the question below by clicking on the correct response.

The largest area that a rectangle with a perimeter of 36 inches can have is 80 square inches.

A student makes the claim stated above. Which of the following rectangles shows that the student's claim is **not** correct?



Reflections on the Work

- Sharon Hixon, Dean, School of Education, Professor of Education, Dalton State College
- Sumitra Himangshu, Associate Professor and Assessment Coordinator, School of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Middle Georgia State University



State Implementation

- Policy
- Timelines
- Preparation
- Discussion/Suggestions



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For questions about PAA:

Policy or Implementation
annemarie.fenton@gapsc.com

GACE assistance:
GACESupport@ets.org

Preparation:
www.ets.org





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