

GED Science Test

The GED Science Test contains 50 multiple-choice questions and is 80 minutes long. The Science Test includes an emphasis on health and the environment, as well as how science impacts an individual in his/her role as a worker, family member, consumer, and citizen. The GED Science Test measures the ability to use information provided either through the passages or graphic-based material or acquired as a part of real-life experience and the ability to use scientific understanding.

Content

The GED Science Test covers each of the following content areas:

- Physical Science (physics and chemistry) – 35%
- Life Science – 45%
- Earth and Space Science – 20%

Format

The Science Test includes multiple-choice questions based on:

- Prose material, which varies in length from a single question stem to more complex passages
- Graphic-based material, such as graphs, charts, tables, diagrams, and photographs
- A combination of prose and graphic-based material

Approximately 60% of the questions are presented with graphic-based material. All passages and graphics represent real-life situations.

Cognitive Level of Questions

The GED Science Test was developed using the National Science Education Standards (NSES). These standards include five hierarchical content standards:

- Unifying concepts and processes that address the application of science in everyday life.
- Science as inquiry that address the scientific methods and procedures that are normally used to obtain evidence.
- Science as technology that demonstrates how tools are designed and used in modern society.
- Science in social and personal perspective that addresses the evaluation of science and basic issues in society that students encounter.
- History and nature of science that addresses the application of scientific concepts and processes used to meet human needs over time.

The GED Science Test requires that candidates use critical thinking skills, such as application, analysis, and evaluation, to answer questions that are provided in a real-life context.