



BUREAU CHIEF, TEST DEVELOPMENT
Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration

December 2010

TO: Principals of Secondary Schools

FROM: Candace Shyer *Candace Shyer*

SUBJECT: January 2011 Regents Examinations and Regents Competency Tests

This memorandum provides information concerning the format, content, and credit allotment of the Regents Examinations and the Regents Competency Tests to be held in January 2011. *Please make the information for each subject area available immediately to the teachers who will be administering these examinations.*

The publication, *Regents Examinations, Regents Competency Tests, and Second Language Proficiency Examinations: School Administrator's Manual, 2008 Edition*, contains the general procedures to follow in administering these examinations. This manual is available on the Department's web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/sam/secondary/home.html>. Information concerning administering examinations to students with disabilities or to English language learners is also provided in this manual.

Included in the shipment of nonsecure materials are four Information Booklets pertinent to the scoring of the Regents Examinations administered in January. These booklets address the scoring of Regents Examinations in the following content areas: English; Mathematics; the Sciences; Global History and Geography and United States History and Government. The package of nonsecure test materials that is shipped to school principals for the January examination period includes one copy of each of these four publications. School administrators should photocopy these booklets and distribute copies to school personnel who will be involved in the scoring of these examinations.

A separate booklet, *Directions for Administering Regents Examinations, January Administration*, contains specific instructions for administering each Regents Examination. Each Regents Competency Test also has separate detailed directions for its administration and scoring. Also included in the shipment of nonsecure materials are separate *Directions for Administering and Scoring* the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English, the restricted Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics and the restricted Regents Comprehensive Examination in French. All persons involved in administering the January 2011 examinations must read these specific directions prior to the examination. Copies of these directions are included in the shipment of nonsecure test materials.

IMPORTANT: When student papers for any State examination are scored in cooperation with another school, answer papers may be transported to the cooperating school. It remains the principal's responsibility to ensure the security of such papers while they are out of the building.

**PLEASE NOTE: The Following Policy is in Effect
for All Secondary-Level State Examinations.**

Use of Communications Devices

At the beginning of each test administration, proctors must read the following statement to all students taking secondary-level State examinations:

You may **not** use any communications device while taking a State examination, either in the room where the test is being administered or while on a supervised break (such as a restroom visit). Such devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, pagers, CD and audiocassette players, radios, MP3 players, Personal Digital Assistants, video devices, and associated headphones, headsets, microphones, or earplugs.

If your cell phone rings or vibrates, you may not look at or answer it. You may not send, receive, or look at text messages. If your pager beeps or vibrates, you may not look at it. You must therefore turn these and other such devices **OFF right now and secure them underneath your desk** [or in the location specified by the principal]. You must not turn such devices back on until you have completed your examination, handed it in, and left the examination room. Your examination will be invalidated and no score will be calculated for you if you use any such device or related communications technology for any reason under any circumstances, or if you wear headphones while in the testing room.

For Principals and Proctors:

Any student observed to be using any communications device while taking a State examination must be directed to turn it off and put the device away immediately. To allow for all possible outcomes of procedural due process, the student should be allowed to complete the examination.

The incident must be reported promptly to the school principal. If the principal determines that the student was using a communications device during the test administration, the student's test must be invalidated. No score may be calculated for that student.

The incident must be reported in writing to the Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration, as is the case for all testing irregularities, misadministrations, or other violations of State testing policy and procedures.

Note: Some students with disabilities may use certain recording/playback devices *ONLY* if this accommodation is specifically required as a provision of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Accommodation Plan (504 Plan). If not, the general policy on communications devices, as provided above, is in effect and the school may not allow the use of any such equipment.

ENGLISH

Regents Comprehensive Examination in English

Beginning in January 2011, the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English will be administered in a 3-hour, one-day session. The examination will consist of 4 parts. Part 1 will consist of a listening passage with 8 multiple-choice questions. Part 2 will consist of one literary and one informational passage, each with 6 multiple-choice questions. Part 3 will consist of two literary passages linked by a common theme and contains a total of 5 multiple-choice questions and two short constructed responses. One short constructed response is on the controlling idea of the passages and one is on a literary element or technique from one of the passages. Part 4, the Critical Lens, will consist of one 6-credit essay question in which students will apply a quotation to literature read for school. Distribute the directions for administering the listening section of this examination, printed on blue paper, to the proctors *one hour* before the scheduled starting time so that proctors will have sufficient time to become familiar with the dictation materials before the start of the examination.

Students should write their answers to the multiple-choice questions, using a No. 2 pencil only, on the separate answer sheet provided by the Department's contractor, Pearson. Students should write their answers to the constructed-response and essay questions in the essay booklet.

The following table shows the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the examination.

Regents Comprehensive Examination in English

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|------|----------------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | multiple choice | 1–8 | 0 or 1 | 8 |
| 2 | multiple choice | 9–20 | 0 or 1 | 12 |
| 3 | multiple choice | 21–25 | 0 or 1 | 5 |
| | short constructed response | 26, 27 | 0, 1, or 2 | 4 |
| 4 | essay | 28 | 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, or 6.0 | 6 |

Before allowing students to begin the examination, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

For the January 2011 examination, the Department will provide a scoring overlay for scoring the multiple-choice questions. Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, these scoring materials will be made available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Posting time for these scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. The scoring key and rating guide contains the answers to the multiple-choice questions, scoring rubrics for the short constructed responses and the essay question, annotated anchor papers for each score level for each written response, and prescored practice papers with commentary for the short constructed responses and without commentary for the essays. A chart for converting students' raw scores to scale scores will be provided no later than Friday, January 28, 2011, on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student's final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one administration to another, it is crucial that scorers**

use *only* the conversion chart provided for the *January 2011* administration to determine the student's final score.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department's web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/english/>. This booklet includes detailed procedures for training scorers, resolving discrepant scores, and managing the logistics of the scoring process. School administrators should provide a copy of this booklet to all school personnel involved in coordinating the scoring of the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English prior to the date of the examination.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Competency Test in Reading

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Reading is similar in format to the test administered in June 2010. It uses the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test methodology to measure a student's ability to understand written material. It contains a total of 10 nonfiction prose passages and 70 multiple-choice test items, numbered 1–70. Each test item has five choices, labeled a, b, c, d, and e.

Before allowing students to begin the test, have them check the cover of the test booklet to be sure it has the correct title, month, and year.

A student's raw score on the test is the total number of items that the student answers correctly. The student must obtain a raw score of 47 in order to pass the January 2011 test. The passing score is printed on the scoring key.

The shipment of nonsecure test materials provided to each school includes special directions for administering and scoring the Regents Competency Test in Reading. Each person involved in the administration of the examination must become thoroughly familiar with these special directions prior to the date of administration.

Regents Competency Test in Writing

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Writing is similar in format to the test administered in June 2010. It is designed as a direct measure of a student's ability to organize and present ideas in written form. The tasks are set in a context that is related to the experience of students and that clearly indicates the purpose for the piece of writing and the specific audience for whom the piece is intended.

The test consists of three separate writing tasks: a business letter of complaint, a report based on information provided, and a composition. The Part III composition may be expository, narrative, descriptive, or persuasive in purpose. Teachers should keep in mind, however, that rarely are tasks *purely* of a single type. For example, a task might require students to *describe* an object and then *explain* something significant about it or *narrate* an incident related to it. Whatever the purpose(s) of the task, information provided to the students makes clear what is expected.

Each of the three tasks requires a relatively brief piece of writing, about 100–200 words. For each task, students are directed to prepare a first draft and then to edit and revise the draft before producing their final response. Students are to write their final responses in the answer booklet provided by the Department.

Before allowing students to begin the test, have them check the cover of the test booklet to be sure it has the correct title, month, and year.

The rating guide, printed on yellow paper, contains a detailed outline of the procedure to follow in rating the students' answer papers. It also contains criteria for rating each of the three writing tasks. The criteria for the letter and the report remain the same for all administrations of the test; the criteria for the composition are task-specific for each new administration.

The shipment of nonsecure test materials to the school includes copies of the detailed directions for administering and scoring the Regents Competency Test in Writing. These directions, printed on white paper, contain specific instructions that the proctors who administer the test are to read to the students *verbatim*.

If you have questions about the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English, the Regents Competency Test in Reading, or the Regents Competency Test in Writing for which you are unable to find answers on our web site, you may send an inquiry by e-mail to emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov or you may call the Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration at 518-474-5912.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Regents Comprehensive Examinations

The January 2011 Regents Comprehensive Examinations in foreign languages are offered in French and Spanish, *only*. The January 2011 examinations are similar in format to the examinations administered in June 2010. However, the examination in French is provided in *restricted* form.

For the Regents Comprehensive Examination in French, the restricted examination booklet for each student is enclosed in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the examination may open an envelope and read the questions. A separate answer booklet, provided for students to write their responses to Parts 2 through 4, is enclosed in the same envelope as the examination booklet. Each Teacher Dictation Copy for Part 2 is enclosed in a sealed envelope. The teacher administering the examination may open the envelope one hour before the scheduled starting time in order to become familiar with the material. Each copy of the scoring key is also enclosed in a sealed envelope. **Only teachers rating Parts 2 through 4 may open an envelope and read the scoring key.** Copies of the *Regents Comprehensive Examination in French, Restricted Edition, Directions for Administering and Scoring, January Administration* are provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Each person involved in the administration of the examination must read and become thoroughly familiar with these special directions prior to the examination administration.

For the Regents Comprehensive Examination in French, all examination booklets (both used and unused), all scoring keys and rating guides (both used and unused), all answer booklets (both used and unused), all teacher dictation copies, and all scrap paper must be returned to the Department. Photocopying and/or retaining copies of any examination material and/or notes pertaining to any of their contents are strictly prohibited.

The Regents Comprehensive Examinations in French and Spanish consist of two tests: a speaking test (Part 1) and a written test (Parts 2 through 4). The speaking test should be administered at the school's convenience during the speaking-test period, which begins 10 weeks prior to date of the written test and ends 5 calendar days prior to the date of written test. Student scores for the speaking test must be reported to the principal no later than January 21, 2011. To indicate that this was done, the school principal should sign and date the report of speaking-test scores when it is submitted to his or her office. The *Regents Comprehensive Examinations in Modern Languages, Teacher's Manual for Administering and Scoring Part 1: Speaking* includes a sample form for reporting student scores. Schools ordering these exams should receive this publication in mid-November.

Part 2 of the examinations measures listening comprehension and requires teacher dictation. School administrators should take this factor into consideration when making plans for the administration of the examinations. Distribute the Teacher Dictation Copy, which is printed on blue paper, to teachers *one hour* before the scheduled starting time so that they will have sufficient time to become familiar with the dictation material before the examinations begin.

Students must write their responses to Parts 2 through 4 of the Regents Comprehensive Examination in Spanish in the answer booklet provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials.

Before allowing students to begin either of these examinations, instruct students to check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

The table on the next page shows the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the examinations.

**Regents Comprehensive Examinations in Modern Languages
(French and Spanish)**

| Speaking Test Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | open ended | First Task: 1–6 Second Task: 1–6 | 0, 1, or 2 | 24 |
| Written Test Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
| 2 | multiple choice | 1–15 | 0 or 2 | 30 |
| 3 | multiple choice | 16–30 | 0 or 2 | 30 |
| 4 | open ended | 31–33* | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 | 16 |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 100 |

*In Part 4, students select two of the three questions to answer.

Schools will receive printed copies of the scoring key for the restricted Regents Comprehensive Examination in French. All copies must be returned to the Department. Printed copies of the scoring key for the Regents Comprehensive Examination in Spanish will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key to supply one to each rater. Posting times for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations.

If possible, each answer paper for all State examinations in foreign languages should be rated by two teachers to ensure the accuracy of the scores. All student answer papers that receive a final score of 60 through 64 must be rerated to ensure the accuracy of the scores. For the second scoring of each of these examinations, a different committee of teachers may score the student’s paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, it is recommended that **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student’s final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student’s answer paper.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers concerning nonrestricted editions of State examinations provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Please direct questions concerning the Regents Comprehensive Examinations in French and Spanish to Ron Dygert at 518-474-5912.

MATHEMATICS

Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. Prior to the date of the examination, schools should provide all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination with a copy of the *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics*.

Schools *must* make graphing calculators available for the exclusive use of each student while taking the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra. The memory of any calculator with programming capability must be cleared, reset, or disabled when students enter the testing room. If the memory of a student's calculator is password-protected and cannot be cleared, the calculator must not be used. No students may use calculators that are capable of symbol manipulation or that can communicate with other calculators through infrared sensors, nor may students use operating manuals, instruction or formula cards, or other information concerning the operation of calculators during the examination.

Schools must be sure that each student has a straightedge (ruler) while taking the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra.

Students should write their answers to the questions in Part I on the detachable answer sheet, which is printed as the last page of the examination booklet. They should write their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV in the examination booklet. Students must clearly indicate the necessary steps, including appropriate formula substitutions, diagrams, graphs, charts, etc., they used in arriving at their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV.

Scrap paper is *not* permitted. Students may use the blank spaces and the page of graph paper included in the examination booklet as scrap paper. Schools should have a supply of graph paper available for students who request it in the event that they need to change their work on graphs.

Students should write all work in pen except for graphs and drawings, which should be done in pencil.

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

The Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra has four parts, with a total of 39 questions. Students must answer all 39 questions. The following table shows the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the examination.

Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| I | multiple choice | 1–30 | 0 or 2 | 60 |
| II | open ended | 31–33 | 0, 1, or 2 | 6 |
| III | open ended | 34–36 | 0, 1, 2, or 3 | 9 |
| IV | open ended | 37–39 | 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 | 12 |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 87 |

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting times for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for

morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring key and rating guide will include answers to the Part I multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student's total-test raw score to a scale score will be provided on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student's final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one examination administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the January 2011 administration to determine the student's final score.**

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time those answer papers that received a scale score of 50 through 54, or all answer papers. For the second scoring of each of these examinations, a different committee of teachers may score the student's paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student's final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student's answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/math>.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Examination in Geometry

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Geometry is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. Prior to the date of the examination, schools should provide all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination with a copy of the *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics*.

Schools *must* make a graphing calculator available for the exclusive use of each student while taking the Regents Examination in Geometry. The memory of any calculator with programming capability must be cleared, reset, or disabled when students enter the testing room. If the memory of a student's calculator is password-protected and cannot be cleared, the calculator must not be used. No students may use calculators that are capable of symbol manipulation or that can communicate with other calculators through any means, nor may students use operating manuals, instruction or formula cards, or other information concerning the operation of calculators during the examination.

Schools must be sure that each student has a compass and straightedge (ruler) while taking the Regents Examination in Geometry.

Students should write their answers to the questions in Part I on the detachable answer sheet, which is printed as the last page of the examination booklet. They should write their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV in the examination booklet. Students must clearly indicate the necessary steps, including appropriate formula substitutions, diagrams, graphs, charts, etc., they used in arriving at their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV.

Scrap paper is *not* permitted. Students may use the blank spaces and the page of graph paper included in the examination booklet as scrap paper. Schools should have a supply of graph paper available for students who request it in the event that they need to change their work on graphs.

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

The Regents Examination in Geometry has four parts, with a total of 38 questions. Students must answer all 38 questions. The following table shows the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the examination.

Regents Examination in Geometry

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| I | multiple choice | 1–28 | 0 or 2 | 56 |
| II | open ended | 29–34 | 0, 1, or 2 | 12 |
| III | open ended | 35–37 | 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 | 12 |
| IV | open ended | 38 | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 86 |

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting times for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring key and rating guide will include answers to the Part I multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student’s total-test raw score to a scale score will be provided on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student’s final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one examination administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the January 2011 administration to determine the student’s final score.**

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Geometry that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time those answer papers that received a scale score of 50 through 54, or all answer papers. For the second scoring of each of these examinations, a different committee of teachers may score the student’s paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student’s final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student’s answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/math>.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. Prior to the date of the examination, schools should provide all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination with a copy of the *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics*.

Schools *must* make a graphing calculator available for the exclusive use of each student while taking the Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry. The memory of any calculator with programming capability must be cleared, reset, or disabled when students enter the testing room. If the memory of a student's calculator is password-protected and cannot be cleared, the calculator must not be used. No students may use calculators that are capable of symbol manipulation or that can communicate with other calculators through any means, nor may students use operating manuals, instruction or formula cards, or other information concerning the operation of calculators during the examination.

Schools must also be sure that each student has a straightedge (ruler) while taking the Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry.

Students should write their answers to Part I on the detachable answer sheet, which is printed as the last page of the examination booklet. They should write their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV in the examination booklet. Students must clearly indicate the necessary steps, including appropriate formula substitutions, diagrams, graphs, charts, etc., they used in arriving at their answers to questions in Parts II, III, and IV.

Scrap paper is *not* permitted. Students may use the blank spaces and the page of graph paper included in the examination booklet as scrap paper. Schools should have a supply of graph paper available for students who request it in the event that they need to change their work on graphs.

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

The Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry has four parts, with a total of 39 questions. Students must answer all 39 questions. The following table shows the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the examination.

Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| I | multiple choice | 1–27 | 0 or 2 | 54 |
| II | open ended | 28–35 | 0, 1, or 2 | 16 |
| III | open ended | 36–38 | 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 | 12 |
| IV | open ended | 39 | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 88 |

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting time for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring materials include answers to the Part I multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student's total-test raw score to a scale score will be provided on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student's final examination score. **Because the scale**

scores corresponding to raw scores change from one examination administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the *January 2011* administration to determine the student's final score.

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time answer papers that received a scale score of 50 through 54, or all answer papers. For the second scoring of each of these examinations, a different committee of teachers may score the student's paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that the student's final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student's answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Mathematics* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/math>.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Competency Test in Mathematics

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Mathematics is a ***restricted*** test. The test booklet for each student is enclosed in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the test may open an envelope. School personnel are ***not*** permitted to open an envelope containing a test booklet or to examine a test booklet for any reason other than to read the test to students with disabilities whose IEPs or 504 Plans call for this accommodation. **Each copy of the test booklet is numbered, and all test booklets, both used and unused, *must* be returned to the Department.**

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Mathematics is based on the first seven units of the course described in the Department publication *General High School Mathematics*. The test is similar in format to the test administered in June 2010. It is divided into two parts and contains a total of 60 questions. Part A consists of 20 completion questions for which students are to provide the answer. Each of the questions in Part A is worth one raw-score credit. Part B consists of 40 multiple-choice questions for which students are to select the correct answer from among the four choices given. The choices are labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4. Each of the questions in Part B is worth one raw-score credit.

Please note that general education students taking this test may ***not*** use calculators. Students with disabilities may use calculators when taking this test ***only*** if the use of these devices is included as a testing accommodation in the student's IEP or 504 Plan.

Before allowing students to begin this test, have them check the cover of the test booklet to be sure it has the correct title, month, and year.

The passing score for this test is a raw score (total number of correct answers) of 39.

Copies of the detailed directions for administering and scoring the ***restricted*** Regents Competency Test in Mathematics are provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials.

If you have questions about any of the Regents Examinations in mathematics or the Regents Competency Test in Mathematics for which you are unable to find answers on our web site, you may send an inquiry by e-mail to emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov or you may call the Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration at 518-474-5902.

SCIENCE

Regents Examination in Living Environment

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Living Environment is based on the *Living Environment Core Curriculum*. It is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. The examination has four parts, with a total of 78 questions. Students must answer all questions in all parts. Four-function or scientific calculators must be available to all students who wish to have them during the entire scheduled time for this examination. Students are not permitted to use graphing calculators when taking this examination. The following table shows the types of questions and credit allotment for each part of the January 2011 examination.

January 2011 Regents Examination in Living Environment

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| A | multiple choice | 1–30 | 0 or 1 | 30 |
| B–1 | multiple choice | 31–45 | 0 or 1 | 15 |
| B–2 | 1-credit open ended | 46–50, 53, 55 | 0 or 1 | 10 |
| | multiple choice | 51–52, 54 | 0 or 1 | |
| C | 1-credit open ended | 56–57, 60–66 | 0 or 1 | 17 |
| | 3-credit open ended | 58–59 | 0, 1, 2, or 3 | |
| | 2-credit open ended | 67 | 0, 1, or 2 | |
| D | 2-credit open ended | 68, 74 | 0, 1, or 2 | 13 |
| | multiple choice | 69–71, 73, 75–78 | 0 or 1 | |
| | 1-credit open ended | 72 | 0 or 1 | |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 85 |

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

Students are to record their answers to the multiple-choice questions in Part A and Part B–1 on the detachable answer sheet printed as the last page of the examination booklet. For each question in Part A and Part B–1, students are to choose the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question and write its number on the appropriate line on the answer sheet. The answers to the questions in Part B–2, Part C, and Part D are to be written in the examination booklet.

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting time for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring key and rating guide includes the answers to the multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring each of the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student’s total raw score to a scale score will be provided on the Department’s web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student’s final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one administration to another,**

it is crucial that scorers use only the conversion chart provided for the *January 2011* administration to determine the student’s final score.

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Living Environment that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time those answer papers that received a scale score of 50 through 54, or all answer papers. For the second scoring, a different committee of teachers may score the student’s paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student’s final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student’s answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring Regents Examinations in the Sciences* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/science/>. Prior to the administration date, provide a copy of this publication to all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination.

Please note the statement on page 20 of this memorandum regarding the laboratory requirement for Regents Examinations in science.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Chemistry

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Chemistry is based on the *Chemistry Core Curriculum*. It is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. The examination has four parts, with a total of 83 questions. Students must answer all questions. The following table shows the types of questions and credit allotment for each part of the January 2011 examination.

January 2011 Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Chemistry

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| A | multiple choice | 1–30 | 0 or 1 | 30 |
| B–1 | multiple choice | 31–50 | 0 or 1 | 20 |
| B–2 | 1-credit open ended | 51–63, and 65 | 0 or 1 | 16 |
| | 2-credit open ended | 64 | 0, 1, or 2 | |
| C | 1-credit open ended | 66–76, 78–83 | 0 or 1 | 19 |
| | 2-credit open ended | 77 | 0, 1, or 2 | |
| TOTAL | | — | — | 85 |

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the covers of the examination booklet and the answer booklet to be sure they have the correct title, date, and time.

Students are to record all of their answers in the answer booklet provided. (The answer booklets are printed on ivory paper and are shrink-wrapped in the same package with the examination booklets.) For each multiple-choice question in Part A and Part B–1, students record their answers on the appropriate line on the cover page of the answer booklet. For these questions, students are to choose the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question. Students are to record their answers to the open-ended questions in Part B–2 and Part C in the subsequent pages of the answer booklet.

Each student *must* be provided with a copy of the 2002 edition of the *Reference Tables for Physical Setting/Chemistry* along with an examination booklet and an answer booklet. Some of the questions on the written test specifically require the use of the reference tables. A supply of the 2002 edition of the reference tables is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Principals should check to be sure that a sufficient number were received. *Be sure to collect the reference tables at the end of the written test and keep them for future use in your school's instructional program.*

In addition, each student *must* have a four-function or scientific calculator to use while taking the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Chemistry. Students are not permitted to use graphing calculators when taking this examination.

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting time for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring key and rating guide provides answers to the multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student's total raw score to a scale score will be provided on the Department's web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student's final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the January 2011 administration to determine the student's final score.**

All student answer papers for the Physical Setting/Chemistry Examination that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time all answer papers. For the second scoring, a different committee of teachers may score the student's paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student's final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student's answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring Regents Examinations in the Sciences* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/science/>. Prior to the administration date, provide a copy of this publication to all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination.

Please note the statement on page 20 of this memorandum regarding the laboratory requirement for Regents Examinations in science.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. It is based on the *Earth Science Core Curriculum* and consists of two components: a laboratory performance test (Part D) and a written test.

The 2008 Edition (Revised 2010) Physical Setting/Earth Science Laboratory Performance Test features three stations. The total number of raw-score credits for the 2008 Edition (Revised 2010) Performance Test is 16. The student's raw score on the performance test should be recorded on the cover of the student's performance-test answer booklet and, after the written test has been administered, in the designated space in the box on the first page of the student's answer booklet. As indicated below, a conversion chart will be provided for converting the student's score on the performance test and score on the written test to the final examination score.

The secure performance test is shipped to schools with the nonsecure test materials so that the Earth science staff can prepare for the administration of this performance component during the last two weeks of the course, but no later than the day before the administration of the written test. The *Directions for Administration*, printed on green paper, and the performance test rating guide, printed on yellow paper, provide specific directions for administering and scoring the 2008 edition (revised 2010). Teachers must review these directions before administering or rating the performance test.

All students, including those retaking the examination, must take the 2008 Edition (Revised 2010) Performance Test during the last two weeks of the course but no later than the day before the written examination. Scores earned on the Earth Science performance test in conjunction with prior administrations of the written examination may *not* be carried over and applied to the student's final examination score for this Regents Examination. This requirement applies both to students enrolled in the course of study and to students who are registered only to retake the examination. All schools administering this examination must notify students of the date and time to appear for the performance test.

All parts of the performance test are considered secure materials and must *not* be shared with students prior to or after the performance test administration. Once the performance test is administered, all unused 2008 Edition (Revised 2010) Performance Tests must be securely destroyed, as well as any copies. All previous editions of the performance test, as well as any copies, must also be securely destroyed and not shared with students.

The written test for January 2011 has four parts, with a total of 85 questions. Students must answer all questions. The table on the next page shows the types of questions and credit allotment for each part of the January 2011 examination.

Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science

| Performance Test Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Performance Test | 7-credit open ended | station 1 | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 | 16 |
| | 4-credit open ended | station 2 | 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 | |
| | 5-credit open ended | station 3 | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 | |
| Written Test Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
| A | multiple choice | 1–35 | 0 or 1 | 35 |
| B–1 | multiple choice | 36–50 | 0 or 1 | 15 |
| B–2 | 1-credit open ended | 51–65 | 0 or 1 | 15 |
| C | 1-credit open ended | 66–85 | 0 or 1 | 20 |

Before allowing students to begin the written test, have them check the covers of the examination booklet and the answer booklet to be sure they have the correct title, date, and time.

For the written test, students are to record all of their answers in the answer booklet provided. (The answer booklets are printed on ivory paper and are shrink-wrapped in the same package with the examination booklets.) For each multiple-choice question in Part A and Part B–1, students record their answers on the appropriate line on the cover page of the answer booklet. For these questions, students are to choose the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question. Students are to record their answers to the open-ended questions in Part B–2 and Part C in the subsequent pages of the answer booklet.

At the administration of the written test, each student *must* be provided with a copy of the 2010 Edition *Reference Tables for Physical Setting/Earth Science* along with an examination booklet and an answer booklet. Some of the questions on the written test specifically require the use of the reference tables. A supply of reference tables is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Principals should check to be sure that a sufficient number were received. *Be sure to collect the reference tables at the end of the written test and keep them for future use in your school’s instructional program.*

In addition, each student *must* have a four-function or scientific calculator to use while taking the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science. Students are not permitted to use graphing calculators when taking this examination.

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will *not* be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting time for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring key and rating guide provides answers to the multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring the open-ended questions. A chart for converting the student’s total raw scores on the performance test and the written test to a scale score will be provided on the Department’s web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student’s final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one**

administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the January 2011 administration to determine the student’s final score.

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. In addition, the principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score a second time those answer papers that received a scale score of 50 through 54, or all answer papers. For the second scoring, a different committee of teachers may score the student’s paper or the original committee may score the paper. However, **no** teacher may score the same open-ended questions that he or she scored in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that the student’s final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student’s answer paper.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring Regents Examinations in the Sciences* provides further information about the scoring of this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/science/>. Prior to the administration date, all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination should be provided with a copy of this publication.

Please note the statement on page 20 of this memorandum regarding the laboratory requirement for Regents Examinations in science.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics

The January 2011 Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics is a ***restricted*** examination. The examination booklet and the answer booklet for each student are enclosed together in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the examination may open an envelope. School personnel are ***not*** permitted to open an envelope containing an examination booklet and an answer booklet or to review these examination documents for any reason other than to read the examination to students with disabilities whose IEPs or 504 Plans call for this accommodation.

The Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics is based on the *New York State Learning Standards for Mathematics, Science, and Technology*, as included in the *Physical Setting/Physics Core Curriculum*. It is similar in format to the examination administered in June 2010. The examination has four parts with a total of 75 questions. Students must answer all questions.

The following table shows the types of questions and credit allotment for each part of the January 2011 examination.

January 2011 Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics

| Part | Question Type | Number of Questions | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| A | multiple choice | 35 | 35 |
| B-1 | multiple choice | 15 | 30 |
| B-2 | open ended | 11 | |
| C | open ended | 14 | 20 |
| | | TOTAL | 85 |

Copies of the *Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics, Restricted Edition, Directions for Administering and Scoring, January Administration* are provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Each person involved in the administration of the examination must carefully read these directions prior to the examination administration.

The *Information Booklet for Scoring Regents Examinations in the Sciences* provides further information about this examination. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department's web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/science/>. Prior to the administration date, all school personnel involved in the scoring of this examination must receive a copy of this publication.

Before allowing students to begin this examination, have them check the covers of their examination booklets and answer booklets to be sure they have the correct title, date, and time.

Each student must be provided with scrap paper, a copy of the 2006 edition of the *Reference Tables for Physical Setting/Physics*, and one sealed examination envelope in which one examination booklet and one answer booklet are packaged together. In addition, each student must have a scientific or graphing calculator, a protractor, and a centimeter ruler for his or her exclusive use during the entire examination. Some of the questions on the examination specifically require the use of the reference tables. A supply of the 2006 edition of the reference tables is provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Principals should check to be sure that a sufficient number were received. After each student completes the examination, the student must place the reference tables and all scrap paper inside the front cover of his or her examination booklet before replacing the examination booklet in the envelope and resealing the envelope.

Students are to record their answers to all of the examination questions, multiple-choice and open-ended, directly in the answer booklet. Except as an accommodation for a student with a disability, schools are not permitted to substitute any other answer sheet. For each multiple-choice question, students are to choose the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question and write its number on the appropriate line in the answer booklet.

A Scoring Key and Rating Guide is provided to indicate the correct answers to the multiple-choice questions and the principles and procedures for rating Parts B–2 and C. In addition, teachers should become familiar with the Department publication *Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics: Rating Guide for Parts B–2 and C*. This publication can be found on the Department's web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/science/phyratg02.pdf>. This guide provides a set of directions, along with some examples, to assist teachers in rating parts B–2 and C of this examination. Each Scoring Key and Rating Guide is numbered and is enclosed in a sealed envelope, which must be given, one to each rater, with the seal intact. Please note that the student responses to the multiple-choice questions and the open-ended questions must be hand scored. No form of scanning, re-recording, or reproduction of the students' responses to any examination question is permitted.

The restricted edition of this examination must be scored and rated without reference to the examination booklet. All information necessary for scoring is contained in the Scoring Key and Rating Guide. If raters have any questions regarding a student response that is not addressed in the rating guide, they should call the Department at 518-474-5900.

A chart for converting the student's total raw score to a scale score will be provided in the Scoring Key and Rating Guide as well as on the Department's web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student's final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the January 2011 administration to determine the student's final score.**

All student answer papers for the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Physics that receive a scale score of 60 through 64 must be scored a second time. The principal may also elect to have the scoring committee score all answer papers a second time. For the second scoring, a different committee of teachers may rate the student's paper or the original committee may rate the paper. However, **no** teacher may rate the same open-ended questions that he or she rated in the first rating of the paper. It is the responsibility of the

school principal to ensure that the student's final examination score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable rating of the student's answer paper.

All examination booklets (both used and unused), all scoring keys and rating guides (both used and unused), all answer booklets (both used and unused), all student reference tables, and all scrap paper must be returned to the Department. Photocopying and/or retaining copies of any examination material and/or notes pertaining to any of their contents are strictly prohibited.

Please note the statement below regarding the laboratory requirement for Regents Examinations in science.

Laboratory Requirement

Laboratory experience is required in each of the four Regents science courses. This requirement follows directly from the fact that these courses are laboratory sciences, and successful completion of any one of them earns for the student one unit of credit for a laboratory science. Students must be engaged in laboratory activities for at least thirty 40-minute periods or the equivalent (1200 minutes), as certified by the secondary school principal.

Students must prepare satisfactory written reports of these laboratory experiences. Schools should keep these reports for six months following the date of the examination, except in instances where a senior requests such reports for further work.

Please note that Section 8.2 of the Rules of the Board of Regents states: "Only those persons who have satisfactorily met the laboratory requirements as stated in the core for a science shall be admitted to a Regents Examination in such science."

Regents Competency Test in Science

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Science is a ***restricted*** test. The test booklet for each student is enclosed in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the test may open an envelope. School personnel are ***not*** permitted to open an envelope containing a test booklet or to examine a test booklet for any reason other than to read the test to students with disabilities whose IEPs or 504 Plans call for this accommodation. **Each copy of the test booklet is numbered, and all test booklets, both used and unused, must be returned to the Department.**

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Science is similar in format to the test administered in June 2010 and is based on the 10 blocks of the *Science Syllabus for Middle and Junior High Schools* identified in the publication *Information Bulletin: Regents Competency Testing Program in Science, A Guide to the Core Process Skills and Content Understandings*.

The test consists of 70 questions, all of which the students must complete. The passing score is a minimum of 46 correct answers. The test gives equal coverage to the life, physical, and Earth sciences. About 10 percent of the test covers the core material from *Block J: Science, Technology, and Society*. Questions test knowledge of basic vocabulary and specific core understandings, comprehension of those understandings and their application to new situations, and mastery of the core process (inquiry) skills. A scoring key that accompanies the examination includes the answers to the multiple-choice questions and rubrics for scoring question 70.

Before allowing students to begin this test, have them check the cover of the test booklet to be sure it has the correct title, month, and year.

The Department provides a separate hand- or machine-scorable answer sheet on which students are to record their answers to questions 1 through 69 on this test, all of which are multiple choice. A detachable answer sheet for completion question 70 is printed as the last page of the test booklet. Instruct students to detach this answer page from the test booklet prior to beginning work on the test and to write their response to completion question 70 on the detached answer page. Question 70 may require students to construct a data table, complete a graph, explain a described activity, or demonstrate mastery of other core science process (inquiry) skills.

Copies of the detailed directions for administering and scoring the *restricted* Regents Competency Test in Science are provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials.

If you have questions about scoring any of the Regents Examinations in the sciences for which you are unable to find answers on our web site, you may send an inquiry by e-mail to emscurric@mail.nysed.gov or you may call the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Standards at 518-474-5922. Please direct questions concerning the Regents Competency Test in Science to Judy Pinsonnault at 518-474-5902.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Regents Examination in Global History and Geography

Regents Examination in United States History and Government

The Regents Examinations in Global History and Geography and in United States History and Government assess student achievement of the New York State Learning Standards in social studies at the commencement level. The Regents Examination in Global History and Geography is based on the content column of the *Global History and Geography Core Curriculum*. The Regents Examination in United States History and Government is based on the content column of the *United States History and Government Core Curriculum*. Some of the questions are designed to test the student’s ability to apply the social studies skills listed in the core curriculum.

Both January 2011 examinations have three parts. Students are to answer all questions in all parts. Part I contains 50 multiple-choice questions. Part II contains one thematic essay question. Part III A contains open-ended questions based on several documents, and Part III B contains one essay question based on the documents and the student’s knowledge of specific social studies content.

Before allowing students to begin either of these examinations, have them check the cover of the examination booklet to be sure it has the correct title, date, and time.

Students are to write their answers to the Part I questions on the detachable answer sheet printed as the last page of the examination booklet. Schools that choose to use machine-scorable answer sheets for Part I should refer to the *School Administrator’s Manual*, for guidelines concerning the format and scoring of these answer sheets.

Students are to write their answers to Part III A open-ended questions directly in the examination booklet. They are to write their answers to Parts II and III B essay questions in a separate essay booklet provided to schools in the shipment of nonsecure test materials. Students may use scrap paper, provided by the school, for planning essays. Be sure students write their names on their scrap paper.

The following tables show the types of questions and the credit allotment for each part of the January 2011 examinations.

January 2011 Regents Examination in Global History and Geography

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| I | multiple choice | 1–50 | 0 or 1 | 50 |
| II | essay | Part II thematic essay | 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, or 5.0 | 5 |
| III A | 1-credit open ended | 1, 2a, 2b, 3, 6, 8, 9 | 0 or 1 | 13 |
| | 2-credit open ended | 4, 5, 7 | 0, 1, or 2 | |
| III B | essay | Part III DBQ essay | 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, or 5.0 | 5 |

January 2011 Regents Examination in United States History and Government

| Part | Question Type | Question Numbers | Raw-Score Credits Attainable for Each Question | Total Number of Raw-Score Credits |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| I | multiple choice | 1–50 | 0 or 1 | 50 |
| II | essay | Part II thematic essay | 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, or 5.0 | 5 |
| III A | 1-credit open ended | 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 9 | 0 or 1 | 12 |
| | 2-credit open ended | 3, 4 | 0, 1, or 2 | |
| III B | essay | Part III DBQ essay | 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, or 5.0 | 5 |

Printed copies of the scoring key and rating guide will **not** be sent to schools. Instead, the scoring materials will be made available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/scoring/home.html>. Schools must print sufficient copies of the scoring key and rating guide to supply one to each rater. Posting time for the scoring materials for the January Regents Examinations will be approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. The scoring materials for these examinations provide the answers to the multiple-choice questions, content-specific rubrics for the Parts II and III B essay questions, and the answers to each Part III A open-ended question. For each essay question, the Department provides annotated anchor papers for each score level and annotated prescored practice papers. A chart for converting students’ raw scores to scale scores will be provided on the Department’s web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/>. The scale score is the student’s final examination score. **Because the scale scores corresponding to raw scores change from one administration to another, it is crucial that scorers use *only* the conversion chart provided for the *January 2011* administration to determine the student’s final score.**

The *Information Booklet for Scoring Regents Examinations in Global History and Geography and United States History and Government* provides further information about the scoring of these examinations. This booklet is provided to each school in the shipment of nonsecure test materials and is available on the Department’s web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/ss/>. This booklet includes detailed procedures for training scorers, resolving discrepant scores, and managing the logistics of the scoring process. Prior to the date of the examinations, all school personnel involved in coordinating the scoring process should receive a copy of this booklet.

Online Teacher Evaluation Form

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. This form is available on the Department’s web site at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.

Regents Competency Test in Global Studies

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in Global Studies is a **restricted** test. The test booklets (Part 1 and Part 2) for each student are enclosed in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the test may open an envelope. School personnel are **not** permitted to open an envelope containing the test booklets or to examine

the test booklets for any reason other than to read the tests to students with disabilities whose IEPs or 504 Plans call for this accommodation.

The Regents Competency Test in Global Studies is based on the syllabus *Social Studies 9 & 10: Global Studies*. The questions on this test are based on the “Content Outline” and “Major Ideas” sections of the syllabus. Some of the questions are designed to test the student’s ability to apply the social studies skills listed in the core curriculum.

Before allowing students to begin the test, have them check the covers of the test booklets to be sure they have the correct title, month, and year.

The test has two parts. Part 1 consists of 50 multiple-choice questions, numbered 1–50, for which a total of 50 credits is allowed. Students are to record their answers to this part on a separate hand- or machine-scorable answer sheet. For translated editions, a detachable answer sheet is included as the last page of the Part 1 test booklet. Part 2 consists of four 10-credit essay questions. Students are required to answer a total of *two* essay questions, worth a maximum of 20 credits. They are to write their responses to the essay questions directly in the test booklet.

In Part 1, some of the questions require students to interpret and to draw conclusions from data presented in various forms.

Each Part 2 essay question consists of two parts. Part A, worth a maximum of 4 credits, is designed to elicit data. Part B is a writing component worth a total of 6 credits. Scorers are to rate the Part B writing activity on a holistic basis using the chart “Criteria for Rating Student Responses: Essay Questions, Part B” provided with the rating guide for the test.

The essay questions in Part 2 are drawn from the total curriculum in global studies. Some essay questions may be based on specific units, while others may be more broadly based and reflect major ideas from several units or subunits. Some of the questions may give students an opportunity to show an understanding of the processes involved in interpreting information presented in a variety of forms.

The maximum total raw score on the test is 70 (50 on Part 1 and 20 on Part 2). The passing score is a minimum raw score of 46 credits.

A *restricted* rating guide is enclosed with the test to help scorers evaluate Part 2 answers. In addition to the criteria for rating essays, the guide includes a listing of some objectives tested by the question and sample data for each question. It also includes a table for converting total test raw scores to percentages.

Copies of the detailed directions for administering and scoring the *restricted* Regents Competency Test in Global Studies are included in the shipment of nonsecure test materials to the school. Each person involved in the administration of this test must become thoroughly familiar with these special directions prior to the date of administration.

Each copy of the test booklet is numbered, and all test booklets *must* be returned to the Department. The rating guide for scoring the essay section of the test is also numbered and *must* also be returned to the Department.

Regents Competency Test in United States History and Government

The January 2011 Regents Competency Test in United States History and Government is a *restricted* test. The test booklets (Part 1 and Part 2) for each student are enclosed in a sealed envelope. Only students taking the test may open an envelope. School personnel are *not* permitted to open an envelope containing the test booklets or to examine the test booklets for any reason other than to read the tests to students with disabilities whose IEPs or 504 Plans call for this accommodation.

The Regents Competency Test in United States History and Government is based on the syllabus *Social Studies 11: United States History and Government*. The questions on this test are based on the “Content Outline” and “Major Ideas” sections of the syllabus. Some of the questions are designed to test the student’s ability to apply the social studies skills listed in the core curriculum.

Before allowing students to begin this test, have them check the covers of the test booklets to be sure they have the correct title, month, and year.

The test has two parts. Part 1 consists of 50 multiple-choice questions, numbered 1–50, for which a total of 50 credits is allowed. Students are to record their answers to this part on a separate hand- or machine-scorable answer sheet. For translated editions, a detachable answer sheet is included as the last page of the Part 1 test booklet. Part 2 consists of four 10-credit essay questions. Students are required to answer a total of *two* essay questions, worth a maximum of 20 credits. They are to write their responses to the essay questions directly in the test booklet.

In Part I, some of the questions require students to interpret and to draw conclusions from data presented in various forms.

Each Part 2 essay question consists of two parts. Part A, worth a maximum of 4 credits, is designed to elicit data. Part B is a writing component worth a total of 6 credits. Scorers are to rate the Part B writing activity on a holistic basis using the chart “Criteria for Rating Student Responses: Essay Questions, Part B” provided with the rating guide for the test.

The essay questions in Part 2 are drawn from the total curriculum in United States history and government. Some essay questions may be based on specific units, while others may be more broadly based and reflect major ideas from several units or subunits. Some of the questions may give students an opportunity to show an understanding of the processes involved in interpreting information presented in a variety of forms.

The maximum total raw score on this test is 70 (50 on Part 1 and 20 on Part 2). The passing score is a minimum raw score of 46 credits.

A *restricted* rating guide accompanies the test to help scorers evaluate Part 2 answers. In addition to the criteria for rating essays, the guide includes a listing of some objectives tested by the question and sample data for each question. It also includes a table for converting total test raw scores to percentages.

Copies of the detailed directions for administering and scoring the *restricted* Regents Competency Test in United States History and Government are included in the shipment of nonsecure test materials to the school. Each person involved in the administration of this test must become thoroughly familiar with these special directions prior to the date of administration.

Each copy of the test booklet is numbered, and all test booklets *must* be returned to the Department. The rating guide for scoring the essay section of the test is also numbered and *must* also be returned to the Department.

Please direct questions (e-mail is preferred) concerning examinations in social studies to the following Department staff:

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|
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