

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF STATE ASSESSMENT
Albany, New York 12234

**INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR ADMINISTERING AND SCORING
THE COMPONENT RETESTS IN MATHEMATICS A**

GENERAL INFORMATION

The general procedures to be followed in administering component retests are provided in the publication *Directions for Administering and Scoring Component Retests*. This document is available on the Department's web site, <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/component.html>. Questions about general administration procedures for component retests should be directed to the Office of State Assessment at 518-474-8220 or 518-474-5902. For information about the rating of the Component Retests in Mathematics A, contact the Office of State Assessment at 518-474-5900.

School administrators should photocopy this information booklet and distribute copies to school personnel who will be involved in the administration and scoring of the component retests.

ADMINISTERING THE COMPONENT RETESTS

Test Description

There are component retests for four mathematics key ideas from *The Learning Standards for Mathematics, Science, and Technology (1996)*: key ideas 4, 5, 6, and 7. Each component retest has two modules administered on two successive dates. Each module consists of six multiple-choice and three 4-credit open-ended questions. For each session, each student is to be given the appropriate test booklet for the component (4, 5, 6, or 7), date, and session. Students are to answer all questions; no choice is permitted. All work should be written in pen except for graphs and drawings, which should be done in pencil. Students are to be allowed a maximum of 50 minutes to complete each module.

Part I of each module comprises six multiple-choice questions, for which the student is to select the correct answer from among the four choices given. Answers to Part I questions are to be recorded on the detachable answer sheet, which is the last page of the test booklet. Each Part I question is worth two credits, for a maximum Part I raw score of 12 credits.

Part II of each module consists of three open-ended questions. Answers to Part II questions are to be recorded in the test booklet. Students must clearly indicate the necessary steps, including appropriate formula substitutions, diagrams, graphs, charts, etc. Each Part II question is worth four credits, for a maximum Part II raw score of 12 credits.

The maximum total raw score for each module is 24 credits. The maximum total raw score for each component retest is 48 credits.

Test Materials

Scrap paper is *not* permitted. Students may use the blank spaces in the test booklet and the page of graph paper at the end of the 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.

A straightedge (ruler) and a compass must be available for the exclusive use of each student while taking the component retests. In addition, each student taking the Component Retests in Mathematics A must have a scientific calculator available for his or her exclusive use during the entire scheduled time for the examination. Since students are *not* permitted to use printed trigonometric and

logarithmic reference tables during this examination, scientific calculators *must* have these features. Graphing calculators without symbol manipulation are permitted but not required. When students enter the testing room, clear, reset, or disable the memory of any calculator with programming capability.

If the memory of a student’s calculator is password-protected and cannot be cleared, the calculator must not be used. Remove or disable any applications that have been added to graphing calculators. Students may *not* use calculators that are capable of symbol manipulation or that can communicate with other calculators, nor may students use operating manuals, instruction or formula cards, or other information concerning the operation of calculators during the examination.

SCORING THE COMPONENT RETESTS

The Component Retest in Mathematics A is to be scored by committees of mathematics teachers. No single teacher is to score all the questions on a student’s paper. The committee membership must comprise at least three teachers. Each of these teachers is responsible for scoring a selected number of the open-ended questions. The more teachers who serve on a committee, the fewer questions each teacher will need to score. This process yields consistent and reliable scores and allows scoring to proceed quickly.

On or about May 20, 2009, rating materials for all of the component retests will be posted on the Department’s web site, <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/component.html>; paper copies of the rating materials will not be sent to schools. Schools must print sufficient copies of these materials to provide them to each rater.

Each component retest booklet includes a detachable answer sheet for student responses to the multiple-choice questions contained within that test booklet. The student’s raw score for Part I should be entered in the box labeled “Score” on the front of the answer sheet. The back of each answer sheet includes a table for recording the credits earned for Part I, the credits earned for each of the three questions in Part II, and the “Total Raw Score” for Parts I and II of that module.

Determining the Student’s Final Component Retest Score Range

Unlike the scores earned on Regents Examinations, final scores for the component retests are not on a 0–100 scale. The student’s final result will be designated as one of three possible score ranges:

- *Score range 65 and above*
A component retest result of *score range 65 and above* is equivalent to a score of 65 on a Regents Examination and satisfies the State testing requirement for a local or a Regents diploma. Students who are required to take retests in two components in Mathematics A must achieve a component retest result of *score range 65 and above* on both components to achieve the equivalent of 65 on the Regents Examination in Mathematics A.
- *Score range 55–64*
A component retest result of *score range 55–64* is equivalent to a score between 55 and 64 on the corresponding Regents Examination. For students who are eligible as provided in Section 100.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, a component retest result of *score range 55–64* may satisfy the State testing requirement for the local diploma. Students who are required to take retests in two components of Mathematics A must achieve a component retest result of *score range 55–64* (or higher) on both components to earn the equivalent of a score from 55 to 64 on the Regents Examination in Mathematics A.
- *Score range below 55*
A component retest result of *score range below 55* is equivalent to a score below 55 on the Regents Examination in Mathematics A. This result does not satisfy the State testing requirement for a local or a Regents diploma.

A table similar to the one at the right appears on the back of the Module 2 answer sheet. In this table, enter the student's scores for Modules 1 and 2. Add the student's scores for Modules 1 and 2 and record the total score.

To determine the student's final score range, use the conversion chart provided with the scoring materials for that component. Locate the student's final score down the left side of the chart. The score range to the right of the student's final score is the student's final score range. Enter an X or check mark in the appropriate box to indicate the score range (*65 and above*, *55–64*, or *below 55*) on the answer sheet.

Module 1 Score	
Module 2 Score	
Component 4 Total Score	
Score Range for Component 4 (use conversion chart*)	<input type="checkbox"/> score range 65 and above <input type="checkbox"/> score range 55–64 <input type="checkbox"/> score range below 55

Because the score ranges corresponding to raw scores in the conversion chart vary for each component and change from one component retest administration to another, it is crucial that for each administration the conversion chart provided with the scoring materials for that component's administration be used to determine the student's final score range. Extreme care should be taken in recording the student's scores on each part of the test, in adding these scores to determine the total score for each module and for the two modules combined, and in using the conversion chart to obtain the final score range.

Rescoring Student Answer Papers

All student answer papers with a total component retest score that is two or fewer credits below the total score required to achieve *score range 65 and above* or *score range 55–64* must be scored a second time. For the second scoring, a different committee of teachers may score the student's paper or the original committee may score the paper, but 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 test score is based on a fair, accurate, and reliable scoring of the student's answer paper.

When the teacher scoring committee completes the scoring process, test scores must be considered final and must be entered onto students' permanent records.

Principals and other administrative staff in a school or district do not have the authority to set aside the scores arrived at by the teacher scoring committee and rescore student examination papers or to change any scores assigned through the procedures described in this manual and in the scoring materials provided by the Department. Any principal or administrator found to have done so, except in the circumstances described below, will be in violation of Department policy regarding the scoring of State examinations. Teachers and administrators who violate Department policy with respect to scoring State examinations may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Sections 3020 and 3020-a of Education Law or to action against their certification pursuant to Part 83 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

*The procedure for determining the student's score range is the same for Components 5, 6, and 7 except that the school must use the conversion charts provided with the scoring materials for those components.

On rare occasions, an administrator may learn that an isolated error occurred in determining a final score for a student or in recording students' scores in their permanent records. For example, the final score may have been based on an incorrect summing of the student's raw scores for parts of the test or from a misreading of the conversion chart. When such errors involve no more than five students' final scores on any examination and when such errors are detected within four months of the test date, the principal may arrange for the corrected score to be recorded in the student's permanent record. However, in all such instances, the principal must advise the Office of State Assessment in writing that the student's score has been corrected. The written notification to the Department must be signed by the principal or superintendent and must include the names of the students whose scores have been corrected, the name of the examination, the students' original and corrected scores, and a brief explanation of the nature of the scoring error that was corrected.

If an administrator has substantial reason to believe that the teacher scoring committee has failed to accurately score more than five student answer papers on any examination, the administrator must first obtain permission in writing from the Office of State Assessment before arranging for or permitting a rescoring of student papers. The written request to the Office of State Assessment must come from the superintendent of a public school district or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic or charter school and must include the examination title, date of administration, and number of students whose papers would be subject to such rescoring. This request must also include a statement explaining why the administrator believes that the teacher scoring committee failed to score appropriately and, thus, why he or she believes rescoring the examination papers is necessary. As part of this submission, the school administrator must make clear his or her understanding that such extraordinary re-rating may be carried out only by a full committee of teachers constituted in accordance with the scoring guidelines presented above and fully utilizing the scoring materials for this test provided by the Department.

The Department sometimes finds it necessary to notify schools of a revision to the scoring key and rating guide for an examination. Should this occur after the scoring committee has completed its work, the principal is authorized to have appropriate members of the scoring committee review students' responses only to the specific question(s) referenced in the notification and to adjust students' final examination scores when appropriate. Only in such circumstances is the school not required to notify or obtain approval from the Department to correct students' final examination scores.

Specific Information for Scoring Component Retests in Mathematics A

Use the *Specific Information for Scoring the Regents Examination in Mathematics A* on the following pages as a guideline for scoring Component Retests in Mathematics A.

Specific Information for Scoring the Regents Examination in Mathematics A

The information below refers to the scoring of open-ended questions on the Mathematics A Examination and is intended as a supplement to the *Guide for Rating Regents Examinations in Mathematics*.

The open-ended questions (Parts II, III, and IV) on the Mathematics A Examination should be scored in accordance with these guidelines:

- If the student gives one legible response, even if it is crossed out, teachers should score the response.
- If there are two or more responses with some crossed out, teachers should score only the response not crossed out.
- If there are one or more partial responses and one complete response, teachers should score the complete response. No credit is deducted for incorrect start-ups.
- If there are two or more complete responses, teachers should score each one. Credit will be allocated in the following way:

If one response is completely correct and the others are completely incorrect, teachers should award 50% credit and round down (2 credits for a 4-credit question, 1 credit for a 2-credit question, and 1 credit for a 3-credit question).

If each response warrants more than 50%, the lesser of the responses is awarded credit. (For example, if a 4-credit question is done two ways, one of which is worth 4 credits and the other worth 3 credits, the student should be awarded 3 credits for the question.)

- If the question requires the student to include units of measure, full credit may not be awarded if the student omits the unit. Students may include the appropriate unit of measure even if it is not required.

Examples:

- 1) If the question asks for the number of feet in the length of a figure, no unit is required in the answer.
- 2) If the question asks for the dimensions of a figure, the proper unit of measure is required in the answer in order to receive full credit.

The rubric will specify how much credit is awarded if units are not used when required.

- If a student gives only a correct numerical answer to a problem but does not show how he or she arrived at the answer, the student will be awarded only 1 credit. All constructed-response questions require the student to show work. If the question has only one part, this rule is straightforward, but this rule needs some clarification for multiple-part questions.

A fully correct answer for a multiple-part question requires correct responses for all parts of the question. For example, if a 3-credit question has three parts, the correct response to one or two parts of the question that required work to be shown is *not* considered a fully correct response with no work shown and would receive 0 credits.

The rubric of a multiple-part question will specify credit for various amounts of work shown.

- Students should receive 0 credits if the solution is completely incorrect, irrelevant, or incoherent or if a correct response was arrived at using an obviously incorrect procedure.

This last statement is illustrated by a student who is asked to find one leg of a right triangle if the hypotenuse is 5 and the other leg is 3, and gives a correct response of 4 by showing that 4 is the average of 3 and 5.

The method of solution must be obviously incorrect to warrant a score of 0.

In some cases, the rubric will specifically state which responses should receive a score of 0.

- Students who use trial and error to solve a problem must show their method. Merely showing that the answer checks or is correct is not considered a complete response for full credit. Most rubrics will address this issue directly. For more detail, teachers are encouraged to consult the *Guide for Rating Regents Examinations in Mathematics*, which is available on the Department web site at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/math/matha-b.htm>.

Sample Question – Mathematics A

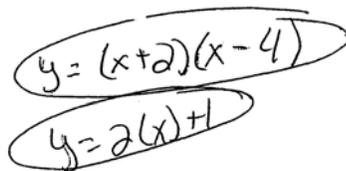
Solve the following system of equations algebraically.

$$y = x^2 + 4x - 2$$
$$y = 2x + 1$$

Rubric

- [4] $(-3, -5)$ and $(1, 3)$, and appropriate algebraic work is shown.
- [3] Appropriate work is shown, but one computational error is made.
or
- [3] Appropriate algebraic work is shown, but only one solution is found or only the x - or the y -values are found.
- [2] Appropriate work is shown, but two or more computational errors are made.
or
- [2] Appropriate work is shown, but one conceptual error is made.
or
- [2] $(-3, -5)$ and $(1, 3)$, but a method other than algebraic is used.
or
- [2] The correct quadratic equation in standard form, $x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0$ is written, but no further correct work is shown.
- [1] Appropriate work is shown, but one conceptual error and one computational error are made.
or
- [1] A correct substitution is made, but no further correct work is shown.
or
- [1] $(-3, -5)$ and $(1, 3)$, but no further correct work is shown.
- [0] A zero response is completely incorrect, irrelevant, or incoherent, or is a correct response that was obtained by an obviously incorrect procedure.
-

Student Response


$$y = (x+2)(x-4)$$
$$y = 2(x)+1$$

Comment

Score: 0

The student's response shows major misunderstanding of the problem.

Student Response

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x+1 = x^2+4x-2 \\ -4x \qquad \qquad -4x \\ \hline -2x+1 = x^2-2 \\ \qquad -1 \qquad \qquad -1 \\ \hline -2x = x^2-3 \\ -x^2 \qquad \qquad -x^2 \\ \hline -x^2 - 2x = -3 \\ \qquad -2x = -3 \end{array}$$

Comment

Score: 1

The student correctly substituted for y, but has shown no further correct work.

Student Response

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x+1 = x^2+4x-2 \\ -1 \qquad \qquad \qquad +1 \\ \hline 2x = x^2+4x-3 \\ -2x \qquad \qquad \qquad -2x \\ \hline 0 = x^2+2x-3 \\ (x+3)(x-1) \\ \\ (3, -1) \end{array}$$

Comment

Score: 2

The student has put the equation in standard form (set equal to zero) but has shown no further correct work.

Student Response

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x+1 = x^2+4x-2 \\ -2x \qquad \qquad \qquad -2x \\ \hline 1 = x^2+2x-2 \\ -1 \qquad \qquad \qquad -1 \\ \hline 0 = x^2+2x-3 \\ (x+3)(x-1) = 0 \\ x+3=0 \qquad x-1=0 \\ \boxed{x=-3} \qquad \boxed{x=1} \end{array}$$

Comment

Score: 3

The student has shown appropriate algebraic work but has given only part of the correct solution.

Student Response

$$\begin{aligned}y &= x^2 + 4x - 2 - 2x + 1 = 0 \\y &= x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0 \\x^2 + 2x - 3 &= 0 \\(x-1)(x+3) & \\x=1 \quad | \quad x &= -3 \\y = 2(1) + 1 \quad | \quad y &= 2(-3) + 1 \\y = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 \quad | \quad y &= -6 + 1 = -5 \\y = 3 \quad | \quad y &= -5 \\(1, 3) \quad \quad \quad & (-3, -5)\end{aligned}$$

Comment

Score: 4

The student has a complete and correct answer.
