

2025 MCAS Overview and Resources

ELA Session 1: Tuesday, March 25, 2025

ELA Session 2: Wednesday, March 25, 2025

Kinds of Selected-Response Questions

- Multiple Choice
- Two-Part Multiple Choice
- Multiple Selection
- Hot Spot
- Dropdown
- Drop and Drag

Vocabulary Used on Previous ELA MCAS Tests

Kinds of Writing and Prompts

Argumentative ([Slideshow reminder on how to tackle this kind of essay](#))

Based on “When Mindfulness Meets the Classroom” and “Instead of Detention,” write an editorial for your local newspaper in which you argue why it is important for teachers in your school to be trained in mindfulness. Be sure to use information from **both** articles to develop your editorial.

Expository ([Slideshow reminder on how to tackle this kind of essay](#))

(Literary Analysis, Explanatory, Compare/Contrast, Cause/Effect, Problem/Solution, Sequence, Description)

Compare and Contrast: Based on *The Namesake* and “Names,” write an essay that compares and contrasts Gogol’s and the speaker’s attitudes toward their names. Be sure to use details from both the excerpt and the poem to develop your essay.

Synthesis: Based on the excerpts, write an essay explaining how Hanneke in *The Signature of All Things* and Mr. Knightley in *Emma* each play a significant role in the life of the main character. Be sure to use details from both excerpts to develop your essay.

Narrative ([Slideshow reminder on how to tackle this kind of essay](#))

Based on “Snapping an Iconic Photo” and “The Story of the Migrant Mother,” write a reflection on Florence Thompson from the perspective of one of her adult children, including the effect Thompson had on her children’s lives. Be sure to use what you know about the characters, settings, and events from **both** passages to develop your reflection.

[Check out our MCAS Resources website!](#)