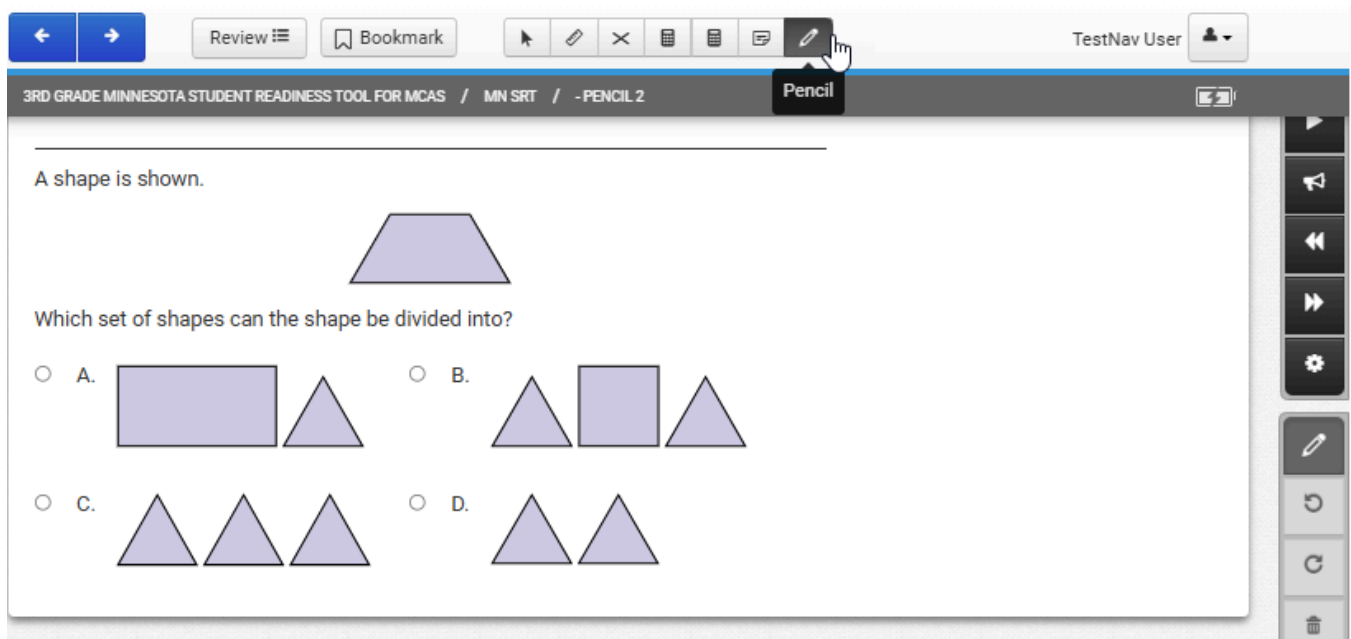


## NEW Pencil Tool on the Math MCA

A new tool is available for students to use on the 2026 Math MCA-III. The **Pencil Tool** allows students to mark or draw directly on all Math MCA questions.

As a demonstration, here is a released MCA item that is available for students to practice using the **Pencil Tool** in the MCA Student Readiness Tool (SRT) for grades 3–5.

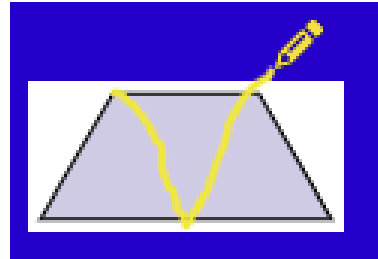
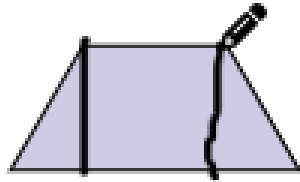


To use the **Pencil Tool**:

1. Select the pencil icon in the top toolbar to activate the **Pencil Tool**.
2. Additional buttons appear on the right side to use the **Pencil Tool**.
  - a. Select the **Undo** button to remove the last mark written.
  - b. Select the **Redo** button to replace the last mark removed.
  - c. Select the **Delete** button to remove all written marks.

After using the Pencil Tool, you must then select the Pointer icon to engage with the response options for the question

Generally, the pencil writes in black. The tool's color automatically adjusts to match the selected contrast setting. The left image shows the pencil tool in the default setting. The right image shows the pencil tool with a different contrast setting.



Here is another released MCA item that is available for students to practice using the **Pencil Tool** in the SRT for grades 6–11.

7TH GRADE MINNESOTA STUDENT READINESS TOOL FOR MCAS / MN SRT / - PENCIL 2

Review Bookmark

TestNav User

Pencil

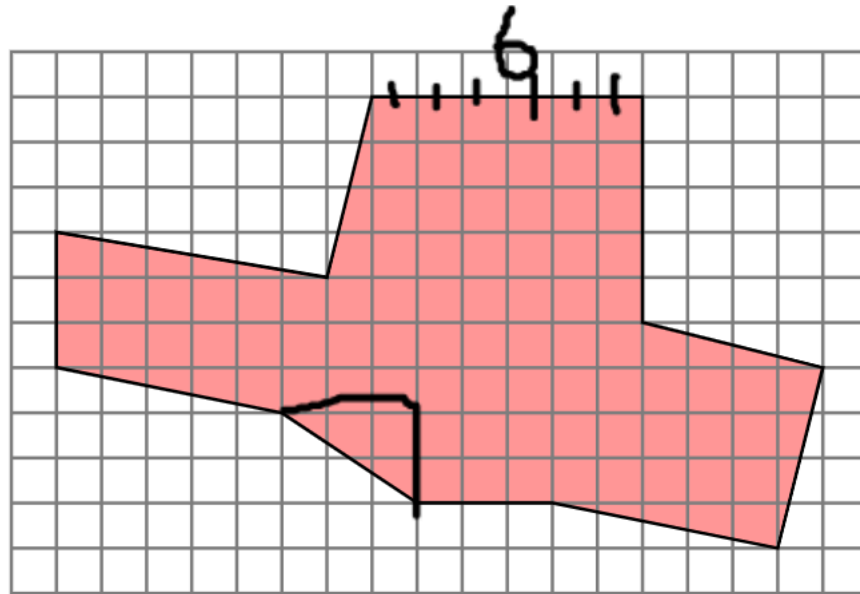
Paul draws a map on a grid of the route that he runs each day. The perimeter of the figure represents his route.

1 unit = 0.1 mile

What is the distance that Paul runs each day?

- ☐ A. 2.7 miles
- ☐ B. 5 miles
- ☐ C. 6.2 miles
- ☐ D. 9 miles

To help find the perimeter in the problem, a student could write on the image like this:



$\text{H} = 0.1 \text{ mile}$

If students choose to come back to an item within a section, their drawing will remain with the item unless they delete it. The **Pencil Tool** allows students to keep track of their work with each item and on images. Note that it creates a virtual overlay on top of the item and does not allow for interaction within an item when it is selected. It also does not interact with the scoring of the item in any way. Students still need to select their response from the options provided by selecting the **Pointer** icon after using the Pencil Tool.

We encourage you and your students to try the **Pencil Tool** and other resources by using the [Student Readiness Tool \(SRT\)](#).

*We welcome all comments, questions, and celebrations! Please contact us if any arise. Thank you!*

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