

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GED MATH TEST



# About the test:

- The math GED test consists of 50 questions.
- Test time is 90 minutes.
- Part 1 permits the use of a calculator; Part 2 does not.
- Part 2 tests critical thinking skills such as estimation and mental math. A math formulas page is provided for Part 2.

# About the Questions:

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- The test consists of both multiple choice responses and grid responses.
- Multiple choice questions make up 80% of the 50 questions.
- The remaining 20% requires constructing the answer on a standard or alternate grid.

# More About the Questions:

- Each of the following math skills is 20-30% of the GED math test:
  - \*Number sense and operations (10-13 items)
  - \*Measurement and Geometry (12-15 items)
  - \*Data Statistics and Probability (0-13 items)
  - \*Algebra Functions and Patterns (14 items)

# Multiple Choice Format Sample

## Question:

### Multiple-Choice Format

A train travels 120 miles in 2 hours. If a car can travel the same distance in 3 hours, how many hours will it take the car to travel 360 miles?

(1) 9

(2) 6

(3) 4

(4) 3

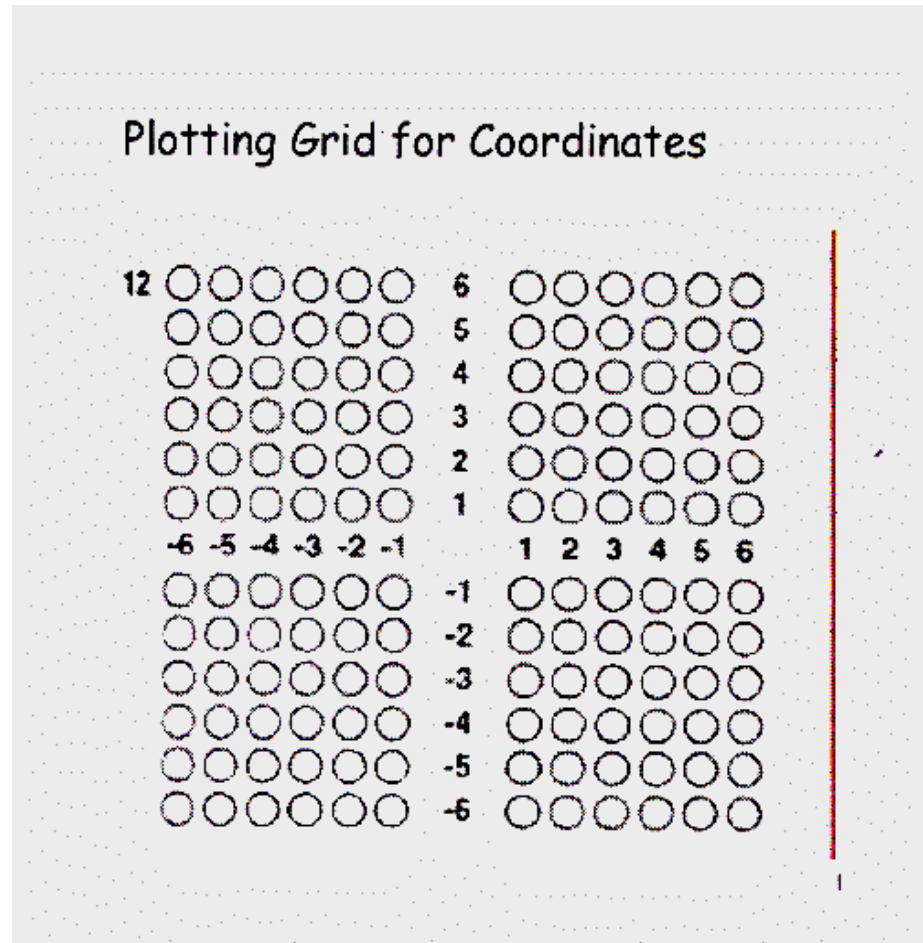
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# Sample Question Answer:

- Multiple Choice Format- The correct answer is the first choice, number 9. If the car travels 120 miles in 3 hours, then it travels 40 miles per hour using division. ( $120/3 = 40$  mph). Furthermore, if the car has to go 360 miles, then the amount of hours is 360 miles divided by 40 miles, equaling a total time of 9 hours ( $360/40 = 9$  hours).

# Sample Question Answer:

Some answers will have to be given in alternate ending or open ended format such as this sample grid:



# Sample Question using open-ended/ alternate ending answer grid:

1. A rectangle is drawn on a coordinate plane so that three vertices are located at these coordinates:  
 $(-5, 2)$ ,  $(5, 2)$ , and  $(-5, -3)$ .

What are the coordinates of the fourth vertex of the rectangle?

1.  $(-5, -2)$
2.  $(-2, -3)$
3.  $(5, -2)$
4.  $(5, -3)$
5.  $(5, 3)$

# Tips for taking the GED Math Test:

- Develop and practice mental math and estimation skills
- “View computation as a tool for problem solving, not an end in itself” (Ginsburg, L. & Gal, I. May 1996 as cited in GED Illinois, 2001).
- Practice finding more than one way to find the same solution because many math problems can be solved in a variety of processes.
- Develop and practice calculator skills
- Practice problem solving skills and interpreting graphical information.

# References:

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