

CAHSEE Mathematics - Chapter 1

Notes To The Teacher

Introduction

How to use the Student Workbook? The student workbook was designed to be used as independent study or in after school tutoring classes. Therefore, the directions and activities are simplified and cut to the core of what will be tested on CAHSEE Math. It is also perfect for parents to use with their children, for students to study at home, or for teachers to use in class with study groups where each group is self-paced. The student workbook is also great for short-term review classes that precede a test administration date and for students who have taken CAHSEE Math one or more times without passing.

Math and Test Anxiety Reduction Strategies Were Used As Follows:

- Attractive Colors with “friendly font.”
- Overview information is provided so students know exactly what is on the test.
- Students project what their score might be so they know how to improve.
- Students are guided to develop a focused study plan so they don’t become overwhelmed trying to study “everything;” including information that is not tested.
- The standards are referenced for each practice problem so students can prioritize and focus on studying the content they need to know.

How to use this Teacher Edition? This Teacher Edition (TE) will give you ideas on how to support students as they implement their independent study plan which focuses on specific areas of math content identified through the Self-Analysis. The focus of the student workbook is for students to gain a strategy to pass CAHSEE math and review the math content that will be tested in the context of achieving proficiency on the exam. Therefore, helping students complete the Self-Analysis and then translating those results into a study plan is critical.

- If teaching in a short-term whole group setting, individual or group assistance is recommended over whole class instruction. However, we do recommend direct instruction to familiarize students with test taking strategies. The blackline masters in each content section facilitate this process.

The Teachers’ Role:

- **Demystify the CAHSEE Math Test**
- Policy information is included in the student edition. The included excerpts were taken directly from bulletins on the California Department of Education (CDE) website. The policy information provided addresses common concerns that students have about the test. Be sure to allow time for students to read and discuss the regulations.
- Allow students time to study the CAHSEE Math blueprints in their student workbook so they know what is being tested.
- Allow students to turn to the practice problems to see examples of what math problems look like that go with a given standard. In the right corner of each practice problem, the standard for that problem is referenced as well as how many items from that standard will appear on CAHSEE Math.

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How To Use The Blueprint

In order to make what is on CAHSEE Math clear, ask students the following questions as they look at the blueprints in their student workbook:

How many problems are on CAHSEE Math? (80) *Note: the state will add in 12 field test questions for a total of 92 items. However, a students' score is based on the 80 items.

Most of the standards tested on the CAHSEE Math come from what grade? (7)

Which standards have the most test items? (3 items... 6SDAP1.1 Compute the mean, median, and mode of data sets; 7 NS 1.2 Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers (integers, fractions, and terminating decimals) and take positive rational numbers to whole-number power; 7AF 1.5 Represent quantitative relationships graphically and interpret the meaning of a specific part of a graph in the situation represented by the graph. 7AF 4.1 Solve two-step linear equations and inequalities in one variable over the rational numbers, interpret the solution or solutions in the context from which they arose, and verify the reasonableness of the results. 7MG2.1 Use formulas routinely for finding the perimeter and area of basic two-dimensional figures and the surface area and volume of basic three-dimensional figures, including rectangles, parallelograms, trapezoids, squares, triangles, circles, prisms, and cylinders.

All of the standards from grade six fall under which mathematical strand? (Statistics, data and probability) How many statistics, data and probability questions are there from grade 6? (8)

How much time do you have to complete the test? (the test is untimed)

***Remind students to ask for time beyond the allotted in the testing schedule, if needed.**

What math content strands (areas) are tested on CAHSEE Math?

- Part of algebra 1
- Algebra and functions
- Statistics, data and probability
- Measurement and geometry
- Mathematical reasoning
- Number sense

What math content areas have the most test questions on CAHSEE Math? Algebra and Functions (17 items) Measurement and Geometry (17 items)

What are some other things that you know about CAHSEE Math based on looking at the blueprints? (Make sure students defend their answers by referencing what they are looking at on the blueprints)

Possible Observations:

- Most of the standards in grade 6 and Algebra 1 are not on the test.
- Combining grade 7 algebra and functions with algebra 1, makes a lot of algebra questions.
- A lot of the math content has only 1 question on the test.
- Statistics, data and probability has questions from grade 6 and 7.