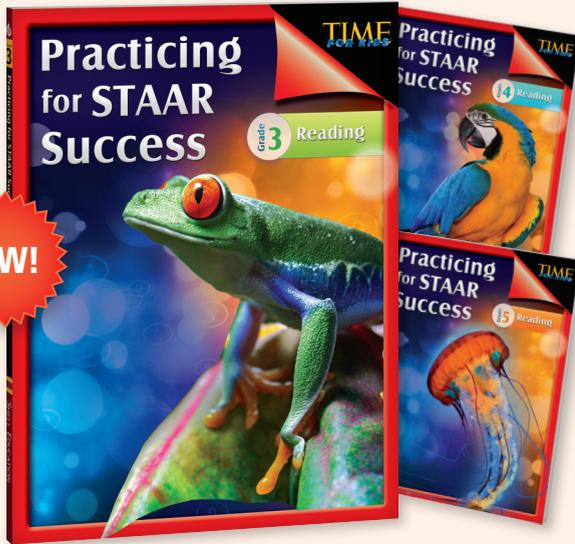


Practicing for STAAR Success



Practicing for STAAR Success: Reading Grades 3–5

Broaden students' knowledge base and prepare them for STAAR testing by incorporating these engaging, rigorous practice exercises based on the TEKS.

- ▶ Each resource features rich **content from TIME For Kids®**.
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Name: _____ Date: _____

Johann Gutenberg and the Printing Press

Directions: Read this text and respond to the questions on pages 45–47.

- Johann Gutenberg was born in Germany around 1398. Back then almost no one could read or write. There were no newspapers or magazines, but there were books. However, each copy of a book was written by hand! Then Gutenberg invented the printing press, and the world would never be the same.
- Gutenberg's family helped to run a mint. Metal coins were made there. Young Johann started to work on a printing press. We do not know exactly when or how he began. He kept his work a secret because he did not want anyone to steal his ideas.
- There was printing before this time. Around 700 c.e., people in Japan and China started printing by using carved wooden blocks. Later, people in Korea invented metal type. But they never came up with an easy way to print large amounts of writing.
- Gutenberg solved the problem by creating movable type. First, he made metal pieces in the shapes of letters. He made lots of copies of each letter. Next, he set the letters into a frame. He had them spell out words. The letters in the frame were called type. He left space between paragraphs. He put the frame into a press. Then, ink was put on the letters. At last, paper was pressed against the type. When it dried, it was a printed page.



Johann Gutenberg

Name: _____ Date: _____

Windy Nights

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Read this poem and respond to the questions on pages 90–92.

- Whenever the moon and stars are set,
Whenever the wind is high,
All night long in the dark and wet,
A man goes riding by.

Late in the night when the fires are out,
Why does he gallop and gallop about?
Whenever the trees are creaking aloud,
And shivering in a deadly chill,
By, on
By, on
By at
By at
By he

Spanish Available!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Allison's Story (cont.)

Directions: Fill in the bubble of each correct answer choice.

- What is the meaning of the word weaving as it is used in the conversation that Allison has with her dad?
 - A. writing in a coherent whole
 - B. introducing as an appropriate element
 - C. directing in a zigzag course
 - D. interlacing into cloth
- Which phrase from the script helps the reader to understand the meaning of weaving?
 - E "Ask yourself some questions; that's always a good way to start."
 - F "This assignment really taught me a lot about myself."
 - G "Just be honest, and tell the truth about yourself!"
 - H "Each day is a different page, and each event is a thread in the tapestry of your life."

Name: _____ Date: _____

La historia de Allison (cont.)

Instrucciones: Lee el pasaje. Luego elige la mejor respuesta a cada pregunta.

Lo recite Allison de su papá que le ayuda a empezar su escrito?
Par hasta la noche anterior
unas preguntas
unas experiencias interesantes
alguien que se lo escriba

pciones del guion ayudan a explicar por qué eligió Allison el título de su
sillo de mi vida ha sido un reto; y me quedo corta al decir esto.
y di la verdad sobre ti misma".
je quiero crear de mi vida?
"¿Que trata sobre de mi vida?
os he tejido el tapiz de mi vida?
ro compartir esa experiencia con los demás."

temate este guion?
noche anterior para abordar una carta.
uda a tus padres cuando completes cualquier cosa.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Allison's Story

by Sarah Katchner Clark

Directions: Read this script and respond to the questions on pages 90–92.

Allison comes from a divorced family. She has to split her time between her mom's house and her dad's house. Allison doesn't think her life is very exciting.

Teacher: Good morning, class! You are going to write an autobiography, which is a story all about you. It should tell about who you are and what you have accomplished in your life. It should be at least three pages long.

Byrae: Yes!

Zoe: Three pages about myself by Monday?

Allison: What could I possibly say about myself to fill up three pages? My life has not been very eventful.

Later that day at Allison's mom's house.

Allison: Hi, Mom, I didn't expect to find you here at this time of day. I just need to grab a few things before I go to Dad's house for the weekend.

Mom: How was your day?

Allison: Mr. Strickland gave us an impossible writing assignment. We have to write autobiographies.

Mom: Consider what is most important to you. Maybe that will inspire you.

Allison: You and Dad are important to me, but how can I write that in an autobiography?

Mom: You'll think of a way.

That evening at Allison's dad's house.

Dad: Allison, are you ready for a rematch in checkers?

Allison: I wish I had time to play checkers, Dad.

Dad: What's wrong? Do you have a lot of homework?

Allison: I have an awful writing assignment that's due on Monday. I have to write three pages about myself.

Dad: An autobiography? That should be a piece of cake; why, I could write a 50-page novel about you!

Allison: Oh great, then you won't mind if I ask you to do this assignment for me, right?



Test Preparation

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