

**Virginia Department of Education
General Educational Development
Competencies**

The Tests of General Educational Development (GED) are designed to measure the major and lasting academic outcomes students normally acquired by completing a typical high school program of study. Except for the essay, all tests are multiple-choice. There are five tests:

Language Arts, Writing, Part I (75 minutes)

Content areas covered: Organization (15%); Sentence Structure (30%); Usage (30%); and Mechanics (25%). In this test, examinees demonstrate their proof-reading skills by making corrections to real-life documents.

Language Arts, Writing, Part II (45 minutes)

is the essay. This test measures your ability to generate a clear, well-organized piece of writing by your response to a question or about a subject or issue familiar to the examinee. Each will be rated on a 1-4 basis (4 being the highest rating to receive), and you must receive a 2 rating or higher in order to pass the entire Writing test.

Social Studies (85 minutes)

The test measures concepts and skills in a variety of ways from these content areas: 40% U.S. and World History; 25% Civics & Government; 20% economics; and 15% geography.

Science (95 minutes)

This test includes the following content areas: 45% Life Science; 20% Earth and Space Science and 35% physical sciences. This material is presented in prose and/or visuals/graphics.

Language Arts, Reading (65 minutes)

This test consists of two areas: 75% of Literary Texts (poetry, drama, prose fiction) and 25% Nonfiction Texts (nonfiction prose, critical reviews of fine & performing arts, and workplace & community documents). This test measures your ability to understand, apply, and analyze literary selections.

Math (90 minutes)

This test will be divided into 2 parts: Part I allows the use of a calculator and Part II does not. It covers basic number operations through Algebra.

<http://www.wjcc.k12.va.us/content/programs/adulteducation/AE-website/Pages/GED%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions.htm>