

ParaPro Assessment (1755) Study Plan

Test Content Categories	How well do I know the content? (scale 1–5)	What resources do I have/need for this content?	Where can I find the resources I need?	Dates I will study this content	Date completed
I. Reading (33 1/3%)					
A. Reading Skills and Knowledge					
Reading Skills and Knowledge questions measure the examinee’s ability to understand, interpret, and analyze a wide range of text. Questions are based on reading passages—as well as graphs, charts, and tables—drawn from a variety of subject areas and real-life situations. The questions assess the examinee’s ability to:					
1. Identify the main idea or primary purpose					
2. Identify supporting ideas					
3. Identify how a reading selection is organized					
4. Determine the meanings of words or phrases in context					
5. Draw inferences or implications from directly stated content					
6. Determine whether information is presented as fact or opinion					
7. Interpret information from tables, diagrams, charts, and graphs					
B. Application of Reading Skills and Knowledge to Classroom Instruction					
Reading Application questions are typically based on classroom scenarios in which					

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<p>students are involved in reading-related tasks, such as reading assigned passages or working on vocabulary development. Some questions concern <i>foundations of reading</i>: the knowledge and skills students need when they are learning the basic features of words and written text. These questions assess the examinee’s ability to help students:</p>					
<p>1. Sound out words (e.g., recognize long and short vowels, consonant sounds, rhymes)</p>					
<p>2. Break down words into parts (e.g., recognize syllables, root words, prefixes, suffixes)</p>					
<p>3. Decode words or phrases using context clues</p>					
<p>4. Distinguish between synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms</p>					
<p>5. Alphabetize words</p>					
<p>Other questions are concerned with <i>tools of the reading process</i>: common strategies used in classrooms before, during, and after reading to aid students’ reading skills. These questions assess the examinee’s ability to:</p>					
<p>1. Help students use prereading strategies, such as skimming or making predictions</p>					
<p>2. Ask questions about a reading selection to help students understand the selection</p>					
<p>3. Make accurate observations about students’ ability to understand and interpret text</p>					

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4. Help students use a dictionary					
5. Interpret written directions					
II. Mathematics (33 1/3%)					
A. Mathematics Skills and Knowledge					
The Math Skills and Knowledge questions assess the examinee’s knowledge of mathematical concepts and ability to apply them to abstract and real-life situations. The test questions do not require knowledge of advanced-level mathematics vocabulary. Examinees may not use calculators.					
Three categories of math skills are tested:					
1. Number Sense and Basic Algebra					
a. perform basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, fractions, and decimals					
b. recognize multiplication as repeated addition and division as repeated subtraction					
c. recognize and interpret mathematical symbols such as +, <, and >.					
d. understand the definitions of basic terms such as sum, difference, product, quotient, numerator, and denominator					

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e. recognize the position of numbers in relation to each other (e.g., $1/3$ is between $1/4$ and $1/2$)					
f. recognize equivalent forms of a number (e.g., $2^2=4$)					
g. demonstrate knowledge of place value for whole numbers and decimal numbers					
h. compute percentages					
i. demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts of exponents (e.g., $2^2=4$, $2^4=2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2=16$)					
j. demonstrate knowledge of “order of operations” (parentheses, exponents, multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction)					
k. use mental math to solve problems by estimation					
l. solve word problems					
m. solve one-step, single-variable linear equations (e.g., find x if $x + 4 = 2$)					
n. identify what comes next in a sequence of numbers					
2. Geometry and Measurement					
a. represent time and money in more than one way(e.g., 30 minutes = $1/2$ hour; 10:15 = quarter after 10; \$0.50 = 50 cents = half dollar)					

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b. convert between units or measures in the same system (e.g., inches to feet; centimeters to meters)					
c. identify basic geometrical shapes (e.g., isosceles triangle, right triangle, polygon)					
d. perform computations related to area, volume, and perimeter for basic shapes					
e. graph data on an xy-coordinate plane					
3. Data Analysis					
a. interpret information from tables, charts, and graphs					
b. given a table, chart, or graph with time-related data, interpret trends over time					
c. create basic tables, charts, and graphs					
d. compute the mean, median, and mode					
B. Application of Mathematics Skills and Knowledge to Classroom Instruction					
The Math Application questions assess the examinee’s ability to apply the three categories of math skills listed in Section II (Mathematics) in a classroom setting or in support of classroom instruction. The questions focus on testing the mathematical competencies needed to assist the teacher with instruction.					

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III. Writing (33 1/3%)					
A. Writing Skills and Knowledge					
Writing Skills and Knowledge questions assess the examinee’s ability to identify:					
1. Basic grammatical errors in standard written English					
2. Errors in word usage (e.g., their/they’re/there, then/than)					
3. Errors in punctuation					
4. Parts of a sentence (e.g., subject and verb/predicate)					
5. Parts of speech (nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions)					
6. Errors in spelling					
B. Application of Writing Skills and Knowledge to Classroom Instruction					
Writing Application questions are typically based on classroom scenarios in which students are planning, composing, revising, or editing documents written for a variety of purposes. Some questions are concerned with aspects of the writing process—the full range of activities					

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used when composing written documents. These questions assess the examinee’s ability to help students:					
1. Use prewriting to generate and organize ideas (including freewriting and using outlines)					
2. Identify and use appropriate reference materials					
3. Draft and revise (including composing or refining a thesis statement, writing focused and organized paragraphs, and writing a conclusion)					
4. Edit written documents for clarity, grammar, sentence integrity (run-ons and sentence fragments), word usage, punctuation, spelling					
Some questions are concerned with <i>writing applications</i> ; i.e., the application of writing for different purposes. These questions assess the examinee’s ability to help students:					
5. Write for different purposes and audiences (including using appropriate language and taking a position for or against something)					
6. Recognize and write in different modes and forms (e.g., descriptive essays, persuasive essays, narratives, letters)					