

Year 9 NAPLAN Practice Pack

Practice across all four NAPLAN domains for Year 9: Reading, Writing, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. Work through it under quiet, timed conditions if you can, then mark it with the answer key and note anything that needs a closer look before test week.

DOMAINS	4	SCORED ITEMS	29	FORMAT	Print friendly
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How to use this pack

NAPLAN is one piece of information among many, not a pass-or-fail test — proficiency levels describe current skills, not a fixed ceiling.

- Work in one sitting per domain where possible, close to the real test's pace.
- For Reading and Conventions, mark your answers only after finishing the whole domain.
- For Writing, time yourself and read your response aloud afterwards — awkward phrasing is easier to hear than see.
- For Numeracy, attempt every question before checking the key; a guess with working shown is more useful to a tutor than a blank space.

Reading

Read the passage once for the main idea, then again before answering — several questions ask you to evaluate the argument, not just locate a fact.

READING PASSAGE

Governments in several countries have begun restricting social media access for younger teenagers, arguing that early exposure is linked to poorer mental health outcomes and disrupted sleep patterns. Advocates of these restrictions cite research showing correlations between heavy platform use and increased rates of anxiety among adolescents, and argue that a minimum age requirement gives young people more time to develop the judgement needed to navigate online interactions safely.

Opponents of the policy raise several objections. They argue that correlation is not the same as causation, and that other factors, such as broader social pressures or the design of school systems, may explain some of the same trends. They also point out that determined teenagers can usually circumvent age verification systems, meaning restrictions may simply push the same behaviour onto platforms with weaker safety features rather than removing it altogether. A further concern is that blanket bans can cut off legitimate benefits, including access to support communities for young people who feel isolated in their local area.

The debate highlights a broader tension in technology policy: balancing protection from genuine harm against the practical limits of enforcement and the value some restricted activities still provide.

- 1** According to the passage, what do advocates of social media restrictions argue is linked to early exposure?
- A) Improved academic results
 - B) Poorer mental health outcomes and disrupted sleep
 - C) Increased physical activity
 - D) Stronger family relationships

2 What is the main objection opponents raise about the "correlation" evidence?

- A) The research was too expensive
- B) Correlation is not the same as causation
- C) The research did not exist
- D) The sample sizes were too large

8 Why might correlation between platform use and anxiety not prove that platform use causes anxiety?

- A) Because anxiety cannot be measured
- B) Because other factors might explain some of the same trend
- C) Because the research was conducted too recently
- D) Because teenagers do not experience anxiety

3 What practical problem with restrictions do opponents point out?

Writing

- A) Teenagers can usually circumvent age verification

NAPLAN Writing is marked on a single extended response, not a set of short answers.

- B) Restrictions cost too much to enforce

- C) Restrictions are supported by all technology companies

- D) Restrictions are illegal in most countries

WRITING TASK

Persuasive: Write to convince local government to invest in free public Wi-Fi in your community.

4 According to the passage, what legitimate benefit might blanket bans remove?

- Support your argument with at least three distinct reasons
 - A) Access to school textbooks
- Acknowledge and respond to a likely counter-argument
 - B) Access to support communities for isolated young people
- Use persuasive techniques deliberately: a rhetorical question, evidence, emotive language
- Conclude with a clear, specific call to action
 - C) Access to public libraries

Your response

Plan briefly, then write. The ruled space continues below.

5 Which best describes the structure of this passage?

- A) It only presents one side of the debate
- B) It presents arguments on both sides of the debate
- C) It is a personal narrative
- D) It is a set of instructions

6 What can be inferred about the author's stance from how the passage is written?

- A) Strongly in favour of restrictions
- B) Strongly against restrictions
- C) Presented in a balanced, analytical way
- D) Impossible to tell what the topic is

7 What broader tension does the final sentence identify?

- A) Between two unrelated technologies
- B) Between protection from harm and the practical limits of enforcement
- C) Between two countries' laws
- D) Between parents and schools only

Conventions of Language

Spelling, grammar and punctuation in isolation — the skills that also make Writing and Reading responses clearer.

- 9** Which sentence correctly uses a semicolon?
- A) I finished my homework; then I went outside.
 - B) I finished my homework, then; I went outside.
 - C) I finished my homework; then, I went outside; and relaxed.
 - D) I finished, my homework; then I went outside.
- 10** Which sentence has correct subject-verb agreement?
- A) The list of items are on the table.
 - B) The list of items is on the table.
 - C) The list of items were on the table.
 - D) The list of items being on the table.
- 11** Which sentence is a complex sentence (one independent clause, at least one dependent clause)?
- A) The rain fell and the wind blew.
 - B) Because the rain fell heavily, the match was postponed.
 - C) The rain fell heavily.
 - D) Rain and wind.
- 12** In "Her argument was compelling, yet ultimately unconvincing," what is the relationship between the clauses?
- A) Cause and effect
 - B) Contrast
 - C) Addition
 - D) Time sequence
- 13** Which word best completes: "The committee's decision was ____; no one expected such a dramatic change."
- A) predictable
 - B) unprecedented
 - C) routine
 - D) delayed
- 14** Which sentence correctly punctuates a non-restrictive clause?
- A) My brother, who lives in Perth, is visiting next week.
 - B) My brother who lives in Perth is visiting next week.
 - C) My brother, who lives in Perth is visiting next week.
 - D) My brother who lives in Perth, is visiting next week.
- 15** Which word is closest in meaning to "ambivalent"?
- A) Certain
 - B) Having mixed feelings
 - C) Extremely angry
 - D) Completely indifferent
- 16** Which sentence avoids a dangling modifier?
- A) Walking to school, the rain started falling.
 - B) Walking to school, I felt the rain start falling.
 - C) The rain, walking to school, started falling.
 - D) Started falling, walking to school, the rain.
- 17** Which sentence uses "fewer" correctly?
- A) There were fewer people at the event this year.
 - B) There was fewer people at the event this year.
 - C) There were less people at the event this year.
 - D) There is fewer people at the event this year.
- 18** Which word is spelled correctly?
- A) accomodate
 - B) accommodate
 - C) accomodate
 - D) accommadate
- 19** Expand: $3(2x - 5)$.
- A) $6x - 5$
 - B) $6x - 15$
 - C) $5x - 15$
 - D) $6x + 15$

Numeracy

Attempt every question, including the written ones — partial working still shows what you know.

20 Factorise: $x^2 + 7x + 12$.

- A) $(x+3)(x+4)$
- B) $(x+2)(x+6)$
- C) $(x+1)(x+12)$
- D) $(x-3)(x-4)$

21 A right-angled triangle has legs of 6 cm and 8 cm. What is the length of the hypotenuse?

- A) 9 cm
- B) 10 cm
- C) 12 cm
- D) 14 cm

22 Solve for x: $2x - 5 = 3x + 1$.

- A) $x = -6$
- B) $x = 6$
- C) $x = -4$
- D) $x = 4$

23 What is the gradient of the line $y = 4x - 3$?

- A) -3
- B) 3
- C) 4
- D) -4

24 Simplify: $x^5 * x^3$.

- A) x^8
- B) x^{15}
- C) x^2
- D) $2x^8$

25 Simplify: $(x^4)^2$.

- A) x^6
- B) x^8
- C) x^{16}
- D) $2x^4$

26 A bag has 3 red and 5 blue marbles. Two are drawn without replacement. What is the probability both are red?

- A) $3/8$
- B) $6/64$
- C) $3/28$
- D) $6/56$

27 A right-angled triangle has a 30-degree angle and a 10 cm hypotenuse. Using $\sin(30) = 0.5$, what is the length of the side opposite the angle?

- A) 5 cm
- B) 8.7 cm
- C) 10 cm
- D) 3 cm

28 A number plus twice itself equals 36. Write an equation and solve for the number. Show your working.

29 Factorise fully: $4x^2 - 16$. Show your working.

Answer key — Reading, Conventions and Numeracy

Direct answers only, in question order. Work the set first, then check.

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| 1. B) Poorer mental health outcomes and disrupted sleep | 2. B) Correlation is not the same as causation | 3. A) Teenagers can usually circumvent age verification | 4. B) Access to support communities for isolated young people | 5. B) It presents arguments on both sides of the debate |
| 6. C) Presented in a balanced, analytical way | 7. B) Between protection from harm and the practical limits of enforcement | 8. B) Because other factors might explain some of the same trend | 9. A) I finished my homework; then I went outside. | 10. B) The list of items is on the table. |
| 11. B) Because the rain fell heavily, the match was postponed. | 12. B) Contrast | 13. B) unprecedented | 14. A) My brother, who lives in Perth, is visiting next week. | 15. B) Having mixed feelings |
| 16. B) Walking to school, I felt the rain start falling. | 17. A) There were fewer people at the event this year. | 18. B) accommodate | 19. B) $6x - 15$ | 20. A) $(x+3)(x+4)$ |
| 21. B) 10 cm | 22. A) $x = -6$ | 23. C) 4 | 24. A) x^8 | 25. B) x^8 |
| 26. C) $\frac{3}{28}$ | 27. A) 5 cm | 28. $x + 2x = 36$; $x = 12$ | 29. $4(x - 2)(x + 2)$ | |

Writing is not included in the answer key above because it is marked holistically against writing criteria, not against a single correct answer. Use the checklist on the writing task page to self-check, then ask a tutor or teacher to mark it properly.

Notes and tutor hand-off

Bring this page to your next session so the tutor can start from what actually blocked you.

Which Reading questions did you get wrong, and why?

Which Conventions of Language rule keeps tripping you up?

Which Numeracy question took the longest, and what made it hard?

One thing to ask a tutor or teacher about before the test:

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