

Name: _____

Section: _____

NJASK-8 Preparation

The science section of the NJASK-8 assesses your general knowledge and skills related to science and your understanding of the physical, life, and earth science content areas. Because there is such a vast amount of information (what you have learned from 5th to 8th grade) it will be necessary for you to begin your preparations immediately. It is not feasible for me to teach you new concepts and to review what you have learned since 5th grade; you will have to take an active part preparing for the test.

To assist with this daunting task, you will be given science practice tests every two weeks. A considerable amount of the questions on these practice tests have been taken from:

Cohen, P. S., Deutsch, J., & Sorrentino, A. (2004). *Preparing for the NJ GEPA - Science*. New York: Amsco School Publications, Inc.

Each test consists of multiple choice and open-ended questions, and will help you review a particular science topic (i.e. - chemistry, physics, etc.). The multiple choice portion of the test is worth ten homework points and the open-ended portion(s) is worth five homework points each. For the open-ended questions, two of the points are earned by simply trying the question and a score out of three points will be given based on the quality of the answer. You will be given approximately two weeks to complete these practice tests and you may use any resource possible (the *Preparing for the NJ GEPA* book, the internet, parents/siblings, among other resources) to assist you. The only exception to the manner in which you may complete these tests is copying from a classmate;

this is not acceptable and will not help you make the best use of these tests.

Since we may not be discussing concepts related to these tests at the time you are completing them they may be a bit challenging. Therefore, if you hand your test to me prior to the due date, I will check it for you and provide you with feedback. This will enable you to make corrections to earn the best possible grade. However, I will not have ample time to check your practice test if you give it to me the day prior to when it's due. Keeping this in mind, it will be beneficial not to procrastinate.

It is recommended that students put their best effort into completing the practice tests prior to having me check them because this will increase the number of correct answers while limiting the number of corrections you need to make. Consistent effort completing these practice tests throughout the year will certainly help you prepare for the NJASK-8 in April/May.