

GED CONNECTION®

Integrated video, workbooks, and online GED prep

Part of the PBS LiteracyLink® Project, **GED Connection** addresses the content and format of the GED exam.

GED Connection covers all five subjects on the GED Exam – reading, writing, science, social studies and math – with extra attention to test-taking skills, the essay, the calculator and the alternate answer formats.

39 documentary-style videos (DVD or VHS) introduce content and give learners a chance to see, hear, and learn from experts. DVDs include clickable menus for key topics in each program.

3 full-color workbooks (*Language Arts: Reading & Writing*, *Science & Social Studies*, and *Mathematics*) provide skill-building and test-taking practice. Pre-tests and practice tests help students evaluate their readiness; an answer key includes explanations.

Online Activities, Lessons, and Practice Tests at www.pbs.org/literacy provide interactive coursework and more practice answering GED-type questions.

Program Descriptions

1 – Orientation to GED Connection

Kim Leigh Smith, host of the Math programs, and Pearce Bunting, host of the Social Studies programs, introduce the three components of GED Connection. You'll see previews of the video programs and find out how to use them in combination with the workbooks and the LiteracyLink web site.

2 – Passing the GED Writing Test

Advice from GED graduates and the GED Testing Service, plus sample test questions, will help you get motivated and ready to take the GED Writing Test. Use this program and Program 10, The GED Essay, as test previews.

3 – Getting Ideas on Paper

Who can write? It's a skill that everyone can learn and improve. In this program a variety of professional and student writers, including nationally known writing teacher Natalie Goldberg and authors Denise Chavez and Frank Walker offer inspiration and ideas to help you get started and gain confidence.

4 – The Writing Process

Even professional writers don't just sit down and create a polished piece of writing. You'll see how to approach writing as a process - a series of activities that takes you from ideas to finished work. Writing teachers and adult students share ideas on brainstorming and prewriting, writing, and revising and editing.

5 – Organized Writing

A newspaper reporter, business writers, and a woman writing a book about her solo journey across the Atlantic Ocean are some of the writers you'll meet in this program. You'll hear about a variety of useful organizing techniques, including a basic, three-part structure of introduction, body, and conclusion.

6 – Writing Style and Word Choice

Meet people writing for a variety of reasons - to persuade people to adopt homeless animals, to motivate people to buy cookies, to encourage people to examine their attitudes, and to tell a story. The program explores how purpose and audience affect writing, from point of view and level of formality to word choice.

7 – Effective Sentences

Learn the basic parts of a sentence and how to recognize and correct sentence fragments and run-on sentences. See how professional writers pay close attention to sentence structure and length. See why

writers use a variety of sentence types, and find out how different constructions help draw connections between ideas.

8 – Grammar and Usage

Who or whom? It's or its? Noun-pronoun agreement and possessives are two of the tricky areas of grammar covered in this program; along with covers verbs, adverbs and adjectives. You'll also get tips on how and why to improve your grammar, choosing verb tense, making sure subjects and verbs agree, and using modifiers effectively.

9 -- Spelling, Punctuation, and Capitalization

This program covers the mechanics of writing - from how writers use basic punctuation marks to convey meaning and pace to why computer spell-check programs don't catch everything. Teachers and professional writers offer tips on how and why to improve your skills.

10 – The GED Essay

Meet GED graduates who share their experiences writing their essays - how test day was and wasn't what they expected; how they budgeted their time; and what passing the GED exam has meant to them. You'll find out how to read an essay prompt and what's important in terms of scoring.

11 – Passing the GED Reading Test

This program covers the types of reading materials included on the GED Reading Test and the reading skills required to answer test questions. You can try some sample questions and pick up some tips to help you prepare.

12 – Nonfiction

Find out how a daycare operator reads manuals and instruction booklets for information; meet a film critic who talks about how to separate fact from opinion. You'll also hear writer Luis Rodriguez read and discuss a passage from his powerful memoir about gang life, *Always Running*.

13 – Fiction

Meet a Haitian girl who became a published author, a Blues pianist, a Southern grandmother, and a man with a "tell-tale heart." You'll also read passages from short stories and novels, and listen to authors and students discuss characterization, theme, conflict, point-of-view, and style.

14 – Poetry

Sit in on a GED class presentation by poet Sonia Sanchez and learn about the Favorite Poem Project from U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky. Through readings and discussion you'll learn about poetic form and figurative language and see how poetry can be a powerful way to express ideas.

15 – Drama

By visiting a scriptwriting class for GED students, and going behind the scenes at Actors Theatre of Louisville, the program offers insights on how to read scripts and explores dramatic elements character, conflict, and theme.

16 – Passing the GED Social Studies Test

Meet a GED graduate whose return to school led to a successful career in politics. Get tips on how to read maps and graphics and find out what other kinds of knowledge and skills you'll need to pass the GED Social Studies test.

17 – Themes in U.S. History

How did diverse cultures come together to create the American nation? An archaeologist at Jamestown, a professor who portrays abolitionist Frederick Douglass, and a historian at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian bring the early history of the United States to life.

18 – Themes in World History

How did irrigation, the printing press, and gunpowder change history? Find out as you explore the events, inventions, and ideas that have shaped the world from Ancient Egypt and the Great Wall of China to the modern Middle East.

19 – Economics

What does the global economy have to do with you – and with pizza? Find out, as businesspeople and economics teachers explain basic concepts such as scarcity, supply and demand, and GNP.

20 – Civics and Government

From recent immigrants to voters to public officials, the people you'll meet in this program will help you learn about the foundations and structure of American government as well as the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

21 – Geography

Geography is called “the mother of all sciences,” and you'll understand why after watching. Explore human impact on the Florida Everglades, learn how maps helped cure cholera, and find out why a California woman went in search of a confluence (the point where longitude and latitude meet).

22 – Passing the GED Science Test

This program introduces you to science and the scientific method. You'll also learn what's expected of you on the GED Science Test, and you can try some sample test questions.

23 – Life Science

This program is packed with information about the diverse and fascinating subject of living things. From a farm that preserves traditional breeds of animals to an aquarium featuring a man-made coral reef, scientists explain key concepts in life science, including cell structure, photosynthesis, and ecosystems.

24 – Earth and Space Science

From earthquakes to everyday weather, our earth is constantly changing. In this program you'll visit an earthquake center, a lake ecosystem, and a renewable energy research center to learn how natural events and cycles, as well as human activities, affect our planet and its resources.

25 – Chemistry

Think that chemistry happens only in laboratories? Think again. You'll see fascinating chemical changes occur in a glassblower's studio, even in the kitchen. Then you'll hear about the world of atoms behind those reactions, and learn why chemistry is an important part of life and industry.

26 – Physics

Fasten your seat belt and get ready to find out a little bit about the science behind a rollercoaster ride, a space shuttle launch, a singer's voice, and an MRI. See how the study of the relationships between matter and energy affect our lives in many ways.

27 – Passing the GED Math Test

Find out what to expect from and how to prepare for the GED math test, including information on the calculator used on the test. Learn about the content, the thinking skills required to answer questions, and the different question formats you will encounter.

28 – Number Sense

Explore the language of math and find out how you can use logic and common sense to make number problems more manageable. Learn about the value and size of numbers, how to recognize patterns when working with numbers, and how and when to estimate.

29 – Problem Solving

Learn a process for solving basic math and word problems, either single- or multi-step. Find out the rules that govern the four basic math operations and how to apply them to estimate and calculate answers. You will also learn how to write and solve simple equations.

30 – Decimals

Review how to read decimal numbers, calculate with them, and solve everyday problems involving decimals.

Learn about the meaning and value of decimals, and develop an understanding of how to work with everyday decimals when dealing with time, money, and measurement

31 – Fractions

Find out what fractions represent, how to judge the relative sizes of different fractions, how to calculate with them, and how to solve everyday fraction problems. Learn how to apply them when you are dealing with time, money, and measurement.

32 – Ratio, Proportion, and Percent

Explore how and why people use ratios, proportions, and percentages to compare numbers and solve problems and how to apply them.

33 – Measurement

Learn how to calculate in the English and metric systems, and how to solve for the perimeters and areas of various shapes and other ways to apply your knowledge of measurement to solve problems.

34 – Formulas

Review pi and commonly used formulas you will be expected to know for the GED Exam and see how people use formulas to figure out volume, distance, circumference and areas of regular and irregular shapes in real life and work situations.

35 – Geometry

Review geometry terms, basic properties of angles and triangles, and methods for solving a variety of geometry problems. Find out how people use geometric principles and formulas, and how lines, angles, and shapes are used to design and build structures.

36 – Data Analysis

Find out the meaning of mean, median, and mode. Learn how data is collected and organized in tables, charts, and graphs. See how people use data analysis to make predictions and draw conclusions and how data can help us define what is typical or average.

37 – Statistics and Probability

See how statistics are gathered and used and explore the basics of chance and probability. Learn how statistics and probability are used to help us understand the chance of random events occurring.

38 – Introduction to Algebra

Explore basic algebraic concepts and properties and learn how to write and solve equations. You will gain an understanding of the rules of algebra and how to apply the rules to express mathematical ideas and solve equations.

39 – Special Topics in Algebra and Geometry

Explore patterns in math and in the real world and see how mathematical relationships can be plotted on the coordinate plane. Learn how algebra and geometry are connected and how people use algebra to define important mathematical relationships

For more information, contact Margaret Townsley, KET Enterprise Marketing & Publications Manager, mtownsley@ket.org.