

Using the NAEP Questions Tool as an Instructional Resource

Website: <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx/landing.aspx>

The NAEP Questions Tool (NQT) contains a bank of released NAEP questions that can be used as examples of what NAEP asks students on the assessments and as a supplement to classroom instruction. In addition to viewing or downloading the questions in Word format, scoring rubrics, sample student responses, and performance results for students across the nation and in New York City are also available. On the landing page of the NQT website, the “Tutorial” button contains several videos that demonstrate the major functionality and features of the tool, which are also described below.

Searching for Sample Questions in the NQT

From the NQT landing page, select the content area you wish to search. You can then specify additional criteria using the following categories:

- Grade (4, 8, & 12)
- Type of Question (Multiple Choice, Short Constructed Response, Extended Constructed Response)
- Difficulty (Easy, Medium, Hard)
- Content Classifications
- Year Administered on the NAEP

Keyword Search

In addition to the above listed criteria, the NQT offers a keyword search feature that educators may find very useful when searching for items that address a particular Common Core standard. For example, typing “fraction” in the keyword search box for Grade 4 mathematics questions returns the 6 results shown below:

The screenshot shows the NAEP Questions Tool interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search for Questions" and a dropdown menu showing "Mathematics Search Results". Below the search bar, there are several tabs: "Analyze Data", "Sample Questions", "State Comparisons", "State Profiles", and "District Profiles". The "Sample Questions" tab is selected. The main content area displays "Search Results (6 of 950)" and "My Workspace (0)". On the left, there is a "Refine Search" panel with options for "Select Grade, Type, Difficulty". The "Grade" section has checkboxes for "Grade 4 (6)", "Grade 8 (0)", and "Grade 12 (0)". The "Type" section has checkboxes for "Multiple Choice (3)", "Short Constructed Response (2)", and "Extended Constructed Response (1)". The "Description" section is also visible. The main table shows the following results:

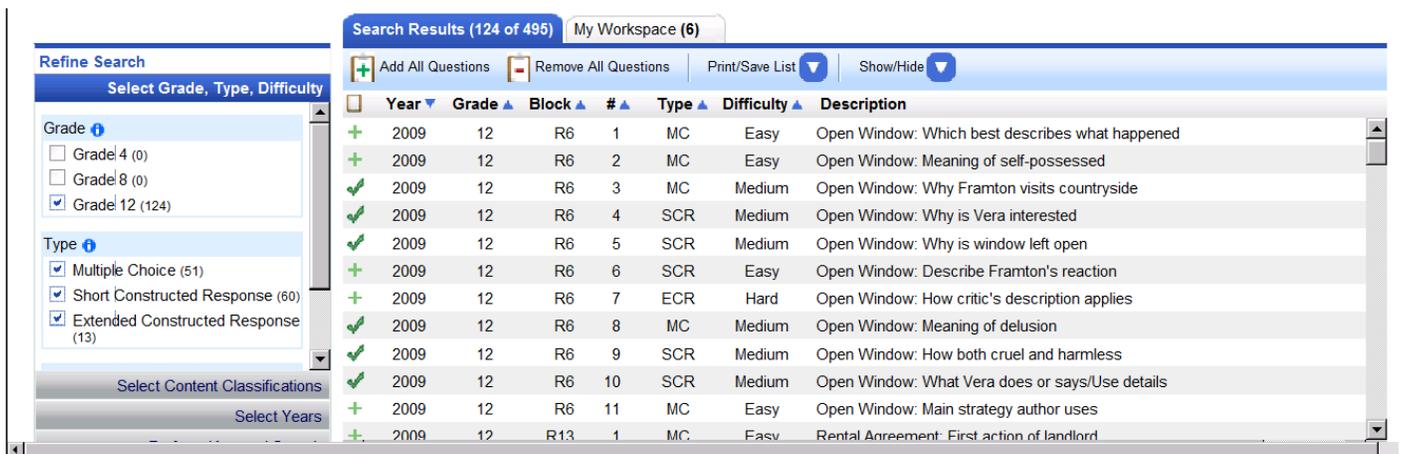
Year	Grade	Block	#	Type	Difficulty	Description
2009	4	M5	11	MC	Medium	Identify pictorial representation of equivalent fractions
2007	4	M9	11	SCR	Easy	List fractions equivalent to given fractions
2007	4	M9	18	SCR	Medium	Compare unit fractions to solve a problem
2005	4	M12	2	MC	Medium	Subtract fractions with common denominators
2003	4	M6	17	MC	Hard	Solve a story problem involving fractions
2003	4	M10	18	ECR	Medium	Analyze a situation involving equivalent fractions

Viewing Sample Questions

You can click on any of the questions from the list of search results to see the question itself. Clicking on “View Question Detail” may provide additional information – for example, it allows you to see passages for reading questions and any diagrams that may be referenced in particular math problems.

Creating Instructional Resources

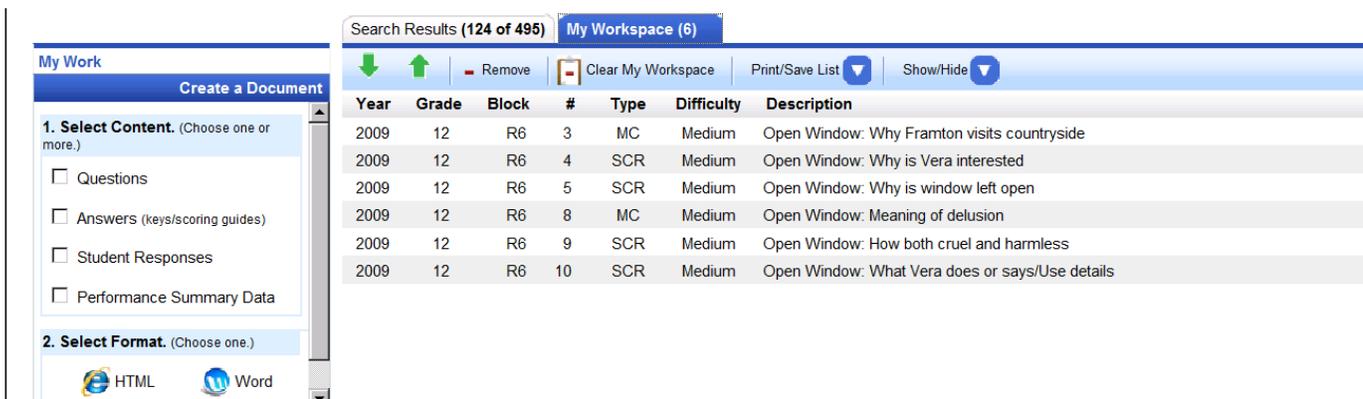
While you may print individual questions, teachers may find it more useful to create resources based around multiple questions. Start by selecting criteria using the search function. Click on the green + icon in the first column next to the questions you wish to include. The + sign will turn into a √ mark, as it has for the six items shown below.



The screenshot shows the search results interface. On the left, there is a 'Refine Search' panel with options for 'Grade' (Gradel 4, 8, 12) and 'Type' (Multiple Choice, Short Constructed Response, Extended Constructed Response). The main area displays a table of search results with columns for Year, Grade, Block, #, Type, Difficulty, and Description. Six items are selected, indicated by green checkmarks in the first column.

	Year	Grade	Block	#	Type	Difficulty	Description
+	2009	12	R6	1	MC	Easy	Open Window: Which best describes what happened
+	2009	12	R6	2	MC	Easy	Open Window: Meaning of self-possessed
✓	2009	12	R6	3	MC	Medium	Open Window: Why Framton visits countryside
✓	2009	12	R6	4	SCR	Medium	Open Window: Why is Vera interested
+	2009	12	R6	5	SCR	Medium	Open Window: Why is window left open
+	2009	12	R6	6	SCR	Easy	Open Window: Describe Framton's reaction
+	2009	12	R6	7	ECR	Hard	Open Window: How critic's description applies
✓	2009	12	R6	8	MC	Medium	Open Window: Meaning of delusion
✓	2009	12	R6	9	SCR	Medium	Open Window: How both cruel and harmless
✓	2009	12	R6	10	SCR	Medium	Open Window: What Vera does or says/Use details
+	2009	12	R6	11	MC	Easy	Open Window: Main strategy author uses
+	2009	12	R13	1	MC	Easy	Rental Agreement: First action of landlord

Notice that the “My Workspace” tab has a “(6)” next to it. The six selected items from previous steps have now been added to this user’s workspace. By clicking on the “My Workspace” tab and selecting options from the “My Work” section on the left-hand side of the screen, users can then export questions, answers, student responses, and national performance data to a Microsoft Word file.



The screenshot shows the 'My Workspace' interface. On the left, there is a 'My Work' section with options for '1. Select Content' (Questions, Answers, Student Responses, Performance Summary Data) and '2. Select Format' (HTML, Word). The main area displays a table of selected items from the workspace.

Year	Grade	Block	#	Type	Difficulty	Description
2009	12	R6	3	MC	Medium	Open Window: Why Framton visits countryside
2009	12	R6	4	SCR	Medium	Open Window: Why is Vera interested
2009	12	R6	5	SCR	Medium	Open Window: Why is window left open
2009	12	R6	8	MC	Medium	Open Window: Meaning of delusion
2009	12	R6	9	SCR	Medium	Open Window: How both cruel and harmless
2009	12	R6	10	SCR	Medium	Open Window: What Vera does or says/Use details