Summary of Test Development Process*

| Year 1 Planning Activities	Year 2 Item Development	Year 3 Field Testing	Year 4 "Live" Assessment
Review TEKS curriculum to identify TEKS to be assessed ? Develop preliminary test objectives ? Draft item development guidelines ? Develop prototype items ? Develop preliminary test blueprint ? Meet with committees of Texas educators to finalize TEKS to be assessed, test objectives, item development guidelines, and prototype items	Write items ? Review/revise items internally ? Have all items critically reviewed by recognized university-level experts in the content area ? Meet with committees of Texas educators to review/revise items ? Prepare items for field testing	Field-test items ? Meet with committees of Texas educators to review the field-test data ? Finalize the test blueprint ? Construct the first "live" test ? Meet with panel of recognized university-level experts in the content area to critically review the content of the test	Administer test ? Use data from live administration to set passing standards

* Test development process for end-of-course assessments includes coordination with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop, as appropriate, questions that measure college readiness.

TAKS Grade 8 Science
Sample Questions

Objective 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of earth and space systems.

7.13B Science concepts. The student knows the components of our solar system. The student is expected to relate the Earth's movement and the moon's orbit to the observed cyclical phases of the moon.

Sample Question 1
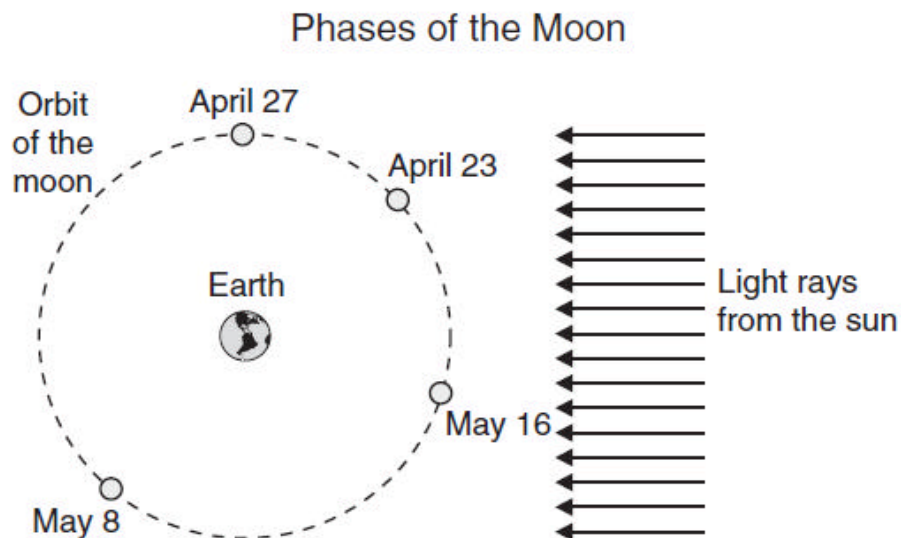
Phases of the Moon

The diagram above shows the moon orbiting the Earth. An observer on Earth sees different phases on different dates. Which of the following dates is closest to the new-moon phase?

A   April 23

B   April 27

C   May 8

D   May 16

2008 TAKS Grade 8 Science Released Items Objective 5 Question #3

TAKS Grade 8 Science
Sample Questions

Objective 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of earth and space systems.

7.13B Science concepts. The student knows the components of our solar system. The student is expected to relate the Earth's movement and the moon's orbit to the observed cyclical phases of the moon.

Sample Question 2
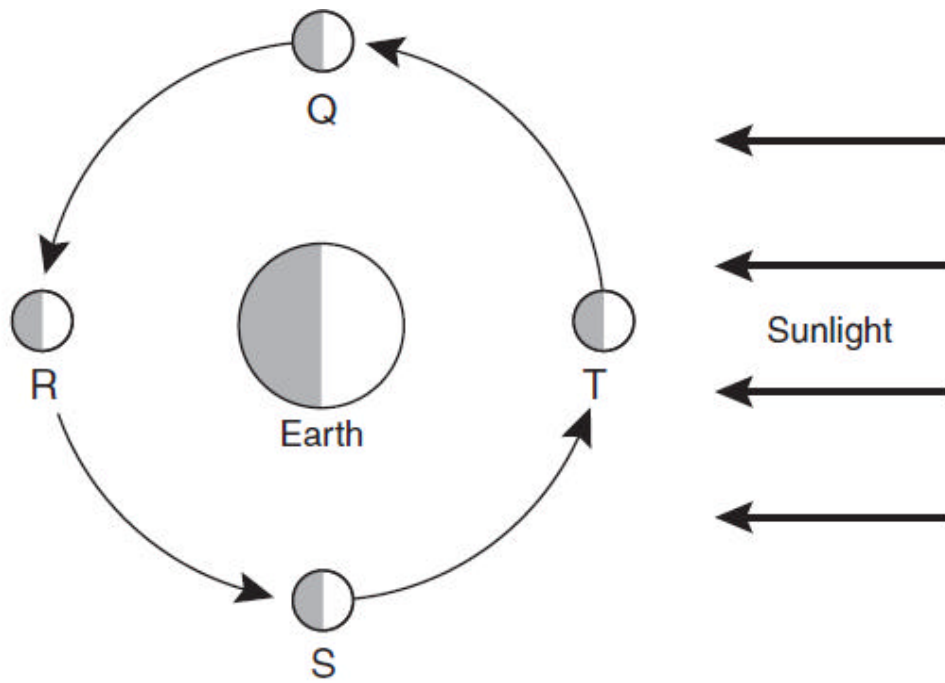
The diagram shows the orbit of the moon around Earth. Between which two points will the moon appear to change from a new moon to a quarter moon?

A   Q and R

B   R and S

C   S and T

D   T and Q

2006 TAKS Grade 8 Science TAKS Released Test Question #37

TAKS Grade 8 Mathematics
Sample Questions

Objective 2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of patterns, relationships, and algebraic reasoning.

8.5A Patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking. The student uses graphs, tables, and algebraic representations to make predictions and solve problems. The student is expected to predict, find, and justify solutions to application problems using appropriate tables, graphs, and algebraic equations.

Sample Question 1

Mr. Flores ran a 26.1-mile marathon last year.
He completed the race in 5 hours 6 minutes.
This year Mr. Flores would like to run the
same marathon in 4.5 hours. How many miles
per hour should Mr. Flores run to complete
the marathon in 4.5 hours?
[$D = rt$]

F 5.8 mph

G 6.2 mph

H 11.8 mph

J 5.6 mph

2004 TAKS Grade 8 Mathematics Released Test Question #14

TAKS Grade 8 Mathematics
Sample Questions

Objective 2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of patterns, relationships, and algebraic reasoning.

8.5A Patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking. The student uses graphs, tables, and algebraic representations to make predictions and solve problems. The student is expected to predict, find, and justify solutions to application problems using appropriate tables, graphs, and algebraic equations.

Sample Question 2

The table shows the relationship between the weight of a package and the cost of mailing it.

Mailing a Package

Weight (ounces)	Cost
1 or less	$0.37
2	$0.60
3	$0.83
4	$1.06
8	$1.98

Based on the pattern in the table, what will it cost to mail a 13-ounce package?

A $3.04

B $2.99

C $3.13

D $4.81

2006 TAKS Grade 8 Mathematics Released Test Question #38