ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items)

Standard 1: Understand the concept of function, and identify important features of functions and other relations using symbolic and graphical methods where appropriate.

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		Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in	
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Understand the definition of a function. Use	Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
functional notation and evaluate a function at a	and vocabulary given at previous grades	pages: 67-72, 73-78, 85, 115, 116, 119, 120, 204-210, 214,	
given point in its domain. (9.2.1.1)		214, 266, 334, 374-375, 376, 377, 378, 389-393	
For example: If $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 3}$, find $f(-4)$.			
(REVIEW)			
,			
Distinguish between functions and other relations	Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
defined symbolically, graphically or in tabular	and vocabulary given at previous grades	pages: 73, 76, 302-303, 305, 364	
form. (9.2.1.2) (REVIEW)			
Find the domain of a function defined	- Vl-1	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
symbolically, graphically or in a real-world context.	Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range and vocabulary given at previous grades	pages: 389-393, 403, 404, 405, 425, 437, 459, 471, 514, 613	
(9.2.1.3)	and vocabulary given at previous grades	pages. 307-373, 403, 404, 403, 423, 437, 437, 471, 314, 013	
(-1)			
For example: The formula $f(x) = \pi x^2$ can			
represent a function whose domain is all real			
numbers, but in the context of the area of a circle,			
the domain would be restricted to positive x.			
(REVIEW)			
Obtain information and draw conclusions from	Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
graphs of functions and other relations. (9.2.1.4)	and vocabulary given at previous grades	pages: 65, 67-72, 115, 169, 293, 351, 409, 583	
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For example: If a graph shows the relationship			
between the elapsed flight time of a golf ball at a			
given moment and its height at that same moment,			
identify the time interval during which the ball is at			
least 100 fee above the ground.			

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)			
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Identify the vertex, line of symmetry and intercepts of the parabola corresponding to a quadratic function, using symbolic and graphical methods, when the function is expressed in the form $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$, in the form $f(x) = a(x - b)^2 + k$, or in factored form. (9.2.1.5) (REVIEW)	Vocabulary allowed in items: line of symmetry, parabola, quadratic, vertex and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 221, 222-227, 228-233, 239, 247, 270, 271, 285, 286, 289, 290, 689, 696	
Identify intercepts, zeros, maxima, minima and intervals of increase and decrease from the graph of a function. (9.2.1.6)	Vocabulary allowed in items: maximum, minimum, interval, zeros and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 230, 231, 232, 242-243, 253, 273, 291, 336-340, 344, 347, 349, 499, 551	
Understand the concept of an asymptote and identify asymptotes for exponential functions and reciprocals of linear functions, using symbolic and graphical methods. (9.2.1.7)	Vocabulary allowed in items: asymptote and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 380-386, 412-417, 418- 425, 435, 455, 472, 473, 475, 476, 479, 508, 511, 512	
Make qualitative statements about the rate of change of a function, based on its graph or table of values. (9.2.1.8)	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 79-85, 116, 119, 219, 439	
For example: The function $f(x) = 3^x$ increases for all x , but it increases faster when $x > 2$ than it does when $x < 2$.			
Determine how translations affect the symbolic and graphical forms of a function. Know how to use graphing technology to examine translations. (9.2.1.9)	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 388-394, 413-417, 420-421, 423-424, 724-730, 760-761	
For example: Determine how the graph of $f(x) = x - b + k$ changes as b and k change.			

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)

Standard 2: Recognize linear, quadratic, exponential and other common functions in real-world and mathematical situations; represent these functions with tables, verbal descriptions, symbols and graphs; solve problems involving these functions, and explain results in the original context.

Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Represent and solve problems in various contexts using linear and quadratic functions. (9.2.2.1) For example: Write a function that represents the area of a rectangular garden that can be surrounded with 32 feet of fencing, and use the function to determine the possible dimensions of such a garden if the area must be at least 50 square feet.	Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 11, 13, 14, 33-339, 40-45, 56, 59-60, 61, 63, 72, 75, 77, 84, 94-100, 102, 104, 117, 118, 119, 121, 166, 167, 236, 237, 238, 245-246, 247, 248, 251, 253, 254, 255-260, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274-281, 282-284, 285-288, 289, 290-291, 314, 328, 340, 348, 349, 378, 417, 447, 454, 471, 478, 478, 613, 740, 777	
Represent and solve problems in various contexts using exponential functions, such as investment growth, depreciation and population growth. (9.2.2.2)	Vocabulary allowed in items: growth factor, decay, exponential and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 414, 416, 421, 423, 424, 426-432, 439, 456, 459, 460, 461, 515, 740	
Sketch graphs of linear, quadratic and exponential functions, and translate between graphs, tables and symbolic representations. Know how to use graphing technology to graph these functions. (9.2.2.3)	Items do not require the use of graphing technology Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic, exponential and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 86, 87-92, 93, 101-105, 117, 119, 131, 166, 222-227, 228-233, 378	
Express the terms in a geometric sequence recursively and by giving an explicit (closed form) formula, and express the partial sums of a geometric series recursively. (Emphasize partial sums.) (9.2.2.4)	Vocabulary allowed in items: recursive, geometric series and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 621-626, 627, 628-634, 638, 639, 641, 674, 681, 741	
For example: A closed form formula for the terms t_n in the geometric sequence 3, 6, 12, 24, is $t_n = 3(2)^{n-1}$, where $n = 1, 2, 3,$, and this sequence can be expressed recursively by writing $t_1 = 3$ and $t_n = 2t_{n-1}$, for $n \ge 2$. Another example: The partial sums s_n of the series $3 + 6 + 12 + 24 +$ can be expressed recursively by writing $s_1 = 3$ and $s_n = 3 + 2s_{n-1}$, for $n \ge 2$.			

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)			
		Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in	
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Recognize and solve problems that can be	 Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at 	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
modeled using finite geometric sequences and	previous grades	pages: 641	
series, such as home mortgage and other			
compound interest examples. Know how to use			
spreadsheets and calculators to explore geometric sequences and series in various contexts. (9.2.2.5)			
sequences and series in various contexts. (7.2.2.3)			
Sketch the graphs of common non-linear	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE	
functions such as $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $f(x) = x $,	previous grades	pages: 204, 208, 209, 210, 211, 302-308, 388, 407, 417, 456	
$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, $f(x) = x^3$, and translations of these			
functions, such as $f(x) = \sqrt{x-2} + 4$. Know			
how to use graphing technology to graph these functions. (9.2.2.6)			

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)

Standard 3: Generate equivalent algebraic expressions involving polynomials and radicals; use algebraic properties to evaluate expressions.

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Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Add, subtract and multiply polynomials; divide a	Vocabulary allowed in items: polynomial, degree	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages:	
polynomial by a polynomial of equal or lower	of a polynomial and vocabulary given at previous	16-21, 58, 61, 62, 78, 166, 224, 226, 233, 310-314, 315-321, 334,	
degree. (Emphasize divide.) (9.2.3.2)	grades	342, 343, 345, 346, 348, 349, 353, 378, 464, 492, 514, 613, 775,	
		776	
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Factor common monomial factors from	Vocabulary allowed in items: polynomial,	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages:	
polynomials, factor quadratic polynomials, and	monomial and vocabulary given at previous	234-239, 240-248, 249-254, 267, 286, 287, 289, 290, 301, 321, 322,	
factor the difference of two squares. (9.2.3.3)	grades	329, 605	
For example: $9x^6 - x^4 = (3x^3 - x^2)(3x^3 + x^2)$.			
(REVIEW)			
(REVIEW)			
Add, subtract, multiply, divide and simplify	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages:	
algebraic fractions. (9.2.3.4)	previous grades	480-485, 486-492, 494-499, 508-510, 511, 512-513, 515, 532, 776	
	I The Samuel		
For example: 1 x is equivalent to			
For example: $\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{x}{1+x}$ is equivalent to			
$1+2x-x^2$			
$\frac{1+2x-x^2}{1-x^2}.$			
1-1			
Check whether a given complex number is a	Vocabulary allowed in items: complex number	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages:	
solution of a quadratic equation by substituting it	and vocabulary given at previous grades	260, 261-266, 287, 291, 321, 349, 364, 506	
for the variable and evaluating the expression,	and vocabulary given at previous grades	200, 201 200, 201, 271, 321, 317, 301, 300	
using arithmetic with complex numbers. (9.2.3.5)			
1+i			
For example: The complex number $\frac{1+i}{2}$ is a			
solution of $2x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$, since			
$2\left(\frac{1+i}{2}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{1+i}{2}\right) + 1 = i - (1+i) + 1 = 0.$			

ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)			
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Apply the properties of positive and negative rational exponents to generate equivalent algebraic expressions, including those involving n^{th} roots. (9.2.3.6) For example: $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{7} = 2^{\frac{1}{2}} \times 7^{\frac{1}{2}} = 14^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{14}$. Rules for computing directly with radicals may also be used: $\sqrt[3]{2} \times \sqrt[3]{x} = \sqrt[3]{2x}$.	• Vocabulary allowed in items: n th root and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 255-256, 258, 260, 266, 297-301, 308, 341, 345, 346, 349, 353-358, 359-364, 382-386, 387, 401, 402, 415, 406, 406, 410, 417, 432, 439, 471, 478, 681, 740	
Justify steps in generating equivalent expressions by identifying the properties used. Use substitution to check the equality of expressions for some particular values of the variables; recognize that checking with substitution does not guarantee equality of expressions for all values of the variables. (9.2.3.7)	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 26-27, 29, 354, 359, 361, 363, 380-386, 434, 439, 442-444, 457, 458, 767	

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)

Standard 4: Represent real-world and mathematical situations using equations and inequalities involving linear, quadratic, exponential and nth root functions. Solve equations and inequalities symbolically and graphically. Interpret solutions in the original context.

		Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in	
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Represent relationships in various contexts using quadratic equations and inequalities. Solve quadratic equations and inequalities by appropriate methods including factoring, completing the square, graphing and the quadratic formula. Find non-real complex roots when they exist. Recognize that a particular solution may not be applicable in the original context. Know how to use calculators, graphing utilities or other technology to solve quadratic equations and inequalities. (Emphasize the complete square.) (9.2.4.1) For example: A diver jumps from a 20 meter platform with an upward velocity of 3 meters per second. In finding the time at which the diver hits the surface of the water, the resulting quadratic equation has a positive and a negative solution. The negative solution should be discarded because of the context.	Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic, nth root and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 236, 237, 238, 245-246, 247, 248, 251, 253, 254, 255-260, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274-281, 282-284, 285-288, 289, 290-291, 314, 328, 340, 349, 514, 697-702, 703-708, 709, 710-716, 717-722, 723, 724-731, 733-736, 737, 738-739, 741	TYOUS
Represent relationships in various contexts using equations involving exponential functions; solve these equations graphically or numerically. Know how to use calculators, graphing utilities or other technology to solve these equations. (9.2.4.2)	Vocabulary allowed in items: exponential and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 411, 412-417, 418, 419-425, 448-454, 455-458, 459, 460, 461, 478, 499, 515	
Recognize that to solve certain equations, number systems need to be extended from whole numbers to integers, from integers to rational numbers, from rational numbers to real numbers, and from real numbers to complex numbers. In particular, non-real complex numbers are needed to solve some quadratic equations with real coefficients. (9.2.4.3)	Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic, complex, non-real and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 3-8, 9-15, 260, 261-266, 287, 291	

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ALGEBRA (encompasses 45-52% of MCA test items) (continued)			
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Represent relationships in various contexts using systems of linear inequalities; solve them graphically. Indicate which parts of the boundary are included in and excluded from the solution set using solid and dotted lines. (9.2.4.4)	Vocabulary allowed in items: boundary and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 185-191, 213, 216, 217, 260, 650	
Solve linear programming problems in two variables using graphical methods. (Write own inequalities.) (9.2.4.5)	Vocabulary allowed in items: constraint, boundary, feasible region and vocabulary given at previous grades	(The standard is not addressed in this textbook.)	
Solve equations that contain radical expressions. Recognize that extraneous solutions may arise when using symbolic methods. (9.2.4.7)	Vocabulary allowed in items: extraneous and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 365-371, 372, 402, 405, 506, 514, 544	
For example: The equation $\sqrt{x-9} = 9\sqrt{x}$ may be solved by squaring both sides to obtain $x-9 = 9\sqrt{x}$			
81x, which has the solution $x = -\frac{9}{80}$. However,			
this is not a solution of the original equation, so it is an extraneous solution that should be discarded. The original equation has no solution in this case.			
Another example: Solve $\sqrt[3]{-x+1} = -5$.)			
Assess the reasonableness of a solution in its given context and compare the solution to appropriate graphical or numerical estimates; interpret a solution in the original context. (9.2.4.8)	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 256, 257, 259, 270, 272, 277, 279, 280, 289, 291, 366-371, 372, 451, 453, 515, 524	

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DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY (encompasses 18-26% of MCA test items)

Standard 1: Display and analyze data; use various measures associated with data to draw conclusions, identify trends and describe relationships.

		Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in	
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Analyze the effects on summary statistics of changes in data sets. (9.4.1.2) For example: Understand how inserting or deleting a data point may affect the mean and standard deviation. Another example: Understand how the median and interquartile ranges are affected when the entire data set is transformed by adding a constant to each data value or multiplying each data value by a constant.	Vocabulary allowed in items: quartile, percentile, inter-quartile range, standard deviation, central tendency and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 533-538, 551, 576	
Use scatterplots to analyze patterns and describe relationships between two variables. Using technology, determine regression lines (line of best fit) and correlation coefficients; use regression lines to make predictions and correlation coefficients to assess the reliability of those predictions. (9.4.1.3)	Vocabulary allowed in items: regression line, correlation coefficient and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 107-113, 114, 118, 119, 121, 167, 177	
Use the mean and standard deviation of a data set to fit it to a normal distribution (bell-shaped curve) and to estimate population percentages. Recognize that there are data sets for which such a procedure is not appropriate. Use calculators, spreadsheets and tables to estimate areas under the normal curve. (9.4.1.4) For example: After performing several measurements of some attribute of an irregular physical object, it is appropriate to fit the data to a normal distribution and draw conclusions about measurement error. Another example: When data involving two very different populations is combined, the resulting histogram may show two distinct peaks, and fitting the data to a normal distribution is not appropriate.	Vocabulary allowed in items: standard deviation, normal distribution, normal curve and vocabulary given at previous grades	(The standard is not addressed in this textbook.)	

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DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY (encompasses 18-26% of MCA test items) (continued)

Standard 2: Explain the uses of data and statistical thinking to draw influences, make predictions and justify conclusions.

Curriculum Benchmark Identify and explain misleading uses of data; recognize when arguments based on data confuse correlation and causation. (9.4.2.2)	MCA III Test Item Specifications Vocabulary allowed in items: causation and vocabulary given at previous grades	Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition (The standard is not addressed in this textbook.)	Notes
Design simple experiments and explain the impact of sampling methods, bias and the phrasing of questions asked during data collection. (9.4.2.3)	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 519-524, 575	

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DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY (encompasses 18-26% of MCA test items) (continued)

Standard 3: Calculate probabilities and apply probability concepts to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

		Where Benchmark is Taught/Assessed in	
Curriculum Benchmark	MCA III Test Item Specifications	Holt "Algebra 2" Student Edition	Notes
Describe the concepts of intersections, unions and complements using Venn diagrams. Understand the relationships between these concepts and the words AND, OR, NOT, as used in computerized searches and spreadsheets. (9.4.3.6)	Vocabulary allowed in items: intersections, unions, complements and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 562-567, 574, 578, 581, 666, 740	
Understand and use simple probability formulas involving intersections, unions and complements of events. (9.4.3.7)	Vocabulary allowed in items: intersections, unions and complements of events and vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 556-561, 578, 579, 580, 581	
For example: If the probability of an event is p, then the probability of the complement of an event is $1 - p$; the probability of the intersection of two independent events is the product of their probabilities. Another example: The probability of the union of two events equals the sum of the probabilities of the two individual events minus the probability of the intersection of the events.			
Apply probability concepts to real-world situations to make informed decisions. (9.4.3.8) For example: Explain why a hockey coach might decide near the end of the game to pull the goalie to add another forward position player if the team is behind. Another example: Consider the role that probabilities play in health care decisions, such as deciding between having eye surgery and wearing glasses.	Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades	McDougal Littell "Algebra 2 Concepts and Skills" 2010 SE pages: 545-551, 552, 579, 740	

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