In order for the public to be familiar with the types of questions in NAEP assessments, questions are made available to the public and not used again in NAEP. The following are examples of NAEP questions and the correct responses:

8th Grade Science
A human CANNOT survive the loss of which of the following?
- The appendix
- The liver
- A lung
- A kidney

The liver

What is the probability of this color being picked?
- red

3 out of 6
What is NAEP?
The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative assessment of what America’s students know and can do. NAEP was developed in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. Teachers, principals, parents, policymakers, and researchers all use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in America.

How is NAEP content developed?
The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), located within the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences, administers the assessment. NCES is also responsible for developing the test questions, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), located within the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences, administers the assessment. NCES is also responsible for developing the test questions, assessing the students, scoring, conducting analyses, and reporting the results.

Each NAEP assessment is built from a content framework that serves as a blueprint, specifying what should be assessed. The National Assessment Governing Board, which sets NAEP policy, also develops the frameworks for the assessment. The frameworks reflect the knowledge and experience of subject-area experts, school administrators, policymakers, teachers, parents, and others. The Governing Board also determines the schedule of assessments.

How is NAEP different from other assessments?
NAEP serves a different role than state assessments. While each state has its own unique assessment designed to reflect its state content standards, NAEP administers the same assessment in every state. This allows each state and participating urban district to be compared to national results and to evaluate its progress over time. Samples of students in all states take NAEP and are measured in the same way, providing a common measure of achievement across states. NAEP reports information on student performance for the nation, states, and selected large urban districts in a variety of subject areas. NAEP also presents results for different student groups including data by gender, socioeconomic status, and race/ethnicity. There are no results for individual students, classrooms, or schools.

Why is student participation valuable?
The participation of all selected students enables NAEP to provide the most accurate picture of student performance. NAEP uses a carefully designed sampling procedure to ensure that the results of the assessment are representative of students in the United States. Each participating student represents hundreds of other similar students. These students characterize the geographic, racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity that is America’s student body.

What online resources are available?
• The NAEP website provides more extensive information: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard
• The NAEP Data Explorer provides access to both performance and background data: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata
• The State Comparisons Tool allows for sorting and comparing state results: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nde/statecomp
• Answers to frequently asked questions are provided for parents of students who have been selected to participate in NAEP: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents
• The Governing Board’s website provides information on NAEP frameworks, the assessment schedule, and NAEP law: http://www.naep.org