

Preparing for PARCC: 10 Key Online Testing Terms

“Write”

“Drag”

“Select”

“Explain”

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Understanding PARCC Vocab is Vital to Student Success

As you know, it's very important for students to get a chance to familiarize themselves with testing techniques and vocabulary prior to any assessment. The [PARCC Online Math Assessment](#) will take this importance to a new height because of its interactive digital nature.

This eBook profiles ten key testing terms students will need to know prior to sitting down at their computer or tablet to take the online PARCC math test.

Flip through the next 10 pages to see explanations and visual examples of these important PARCC terms!

“Enter”

“Write”

“Plot”

1) "Select"

Let's start with an easy one. "Select" means the student must use either his/her **mouse cursor or finger** (on a touchscreen) to choose a specified item (or items), including numbers, points, etc.

6,030,007

6,000,000 70 30,000 7 600,000

Select the numbers that would make up the expanded form of the number above, and then se

2) "Drag"

Students must click down on, and hold, the specified item(s) and then **"drag" the item to the correct location** with their mouse or finger. Also noted as **"dragging"**.

Look at the number below. Match each digit with its correct place value by **dragging** each digit into the correct box.

7,284

Ones Place

Thousands Place

Tens Place

2

3) "Write"

When a student is asked to "write", he or she must **create an equation or expression** in the answer box using the given interactive tools (often a number pad and set of operation symbols).

The image shows a digital interface for a math problem. At the top, there is a white box with a vertical line and a yellow box below it. To the right is a calculator interface with two rows of operation symbols: $-$, $+$, \times , \cdot , \div , and "UNDEFINED" in the first row; and $=$, \neq , $<$, $>$, \leq , \geq , and π in the second row. Below these are rows of numbers and symbols: 7, 8, 9, %; 4, 5, 6, \$; 1, 2, 3, :; and 0, ., ,. On the far right is a vertical toolbar with icons for a grid, a plus/minus sign, numbers 123, ABC, a clear button, left and right arrows, a redo button, and a checkmark. At the bottom, a yellow box contains the text "Write the rule for this function. Input your answer, then press the Submit button." A red box highlights the text, and a blue arrow points to it.

4) "Complete"

Just like a "fill-in-the-blank" problem, this action asks the student to **choose or enter the correct terms and operations** to **"complete"** a true number sentence, sequence, or pattern on the screen.

Complete the table by converting the repeating decimals to fractions.



Repeating Decimal	Fraction
$0.\overline{09}$	<input type="checkbox"/>
$0.\overline{27}$	<input type="checkbox"/>
$0.\overline{45}$	<input type="checkbox"/>
$0.\overline{63}$	<input type="checkbox"/>
$0.\overline{72}$	<input type="checkbox"/>

5) "Create"

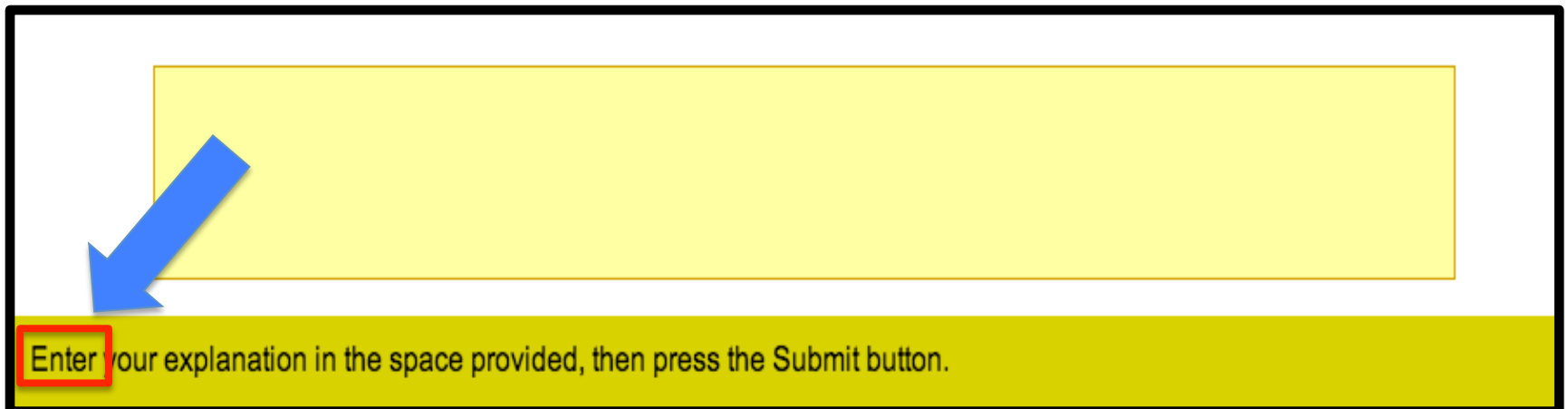
The action word "**create**" asks the student to utilize an on-screen tool (manipulative, number/symbol bank) to **make a specified shape, grid, area, sequence, etc.** in the answer box(es).

The screenshot shows a math problem interface. On the left, a grid contains a vertical rectangle with a height of 6. Below it are two empty yellow boxes. A blue arrow points to the bottom box. On the right, a tool palette includes symbols for fractions, powers, roots, and constants, as well as arithmetic operators and comparison symbols. Below the palette is a numeric keypad with digits 0-9, a percent sign, and a dollar sign. At the bottom, a yellow text prompt reads: "Fill in the table by creating equivalent ratios of $\frac{3}{5}$, using the factors on the left side of the table, then press the Submit button." The word "creating" is highlighted with a red box.

Fill in the table by **creating** equivalent ratios of $\frac{3}{5}$, using the factors on the left side of the table, then press the Submit button.

6) “Enter”

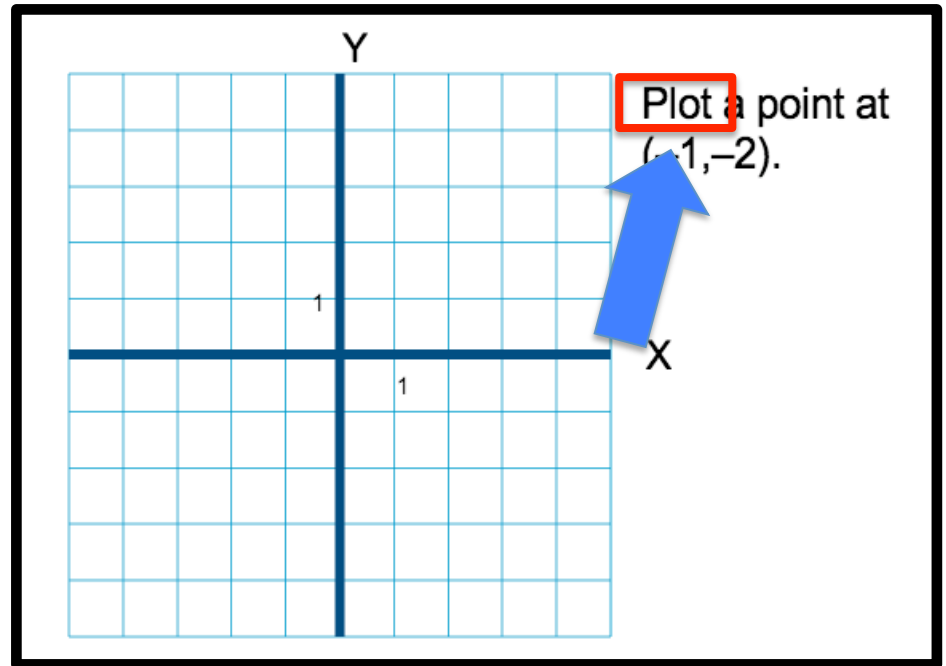
This action asks the student to use their keypad/ keyboard to “**enter**” the result of a question or prompt in the answer box (often a number, words, or digit).



The diagram shows a form with a large yellow rectangular input area. A blue arrow points from the bottom-left corner of this area to a yellow bar at the bottom of the form. The yellow bar contains the text: "Enter your explanation in the space provided, then press the Submit button." The word "Enter" is enclosed in a red square box.

7) "Plot"

This action asks the students to "plot" a point (or multiple points) on a grid or graph by **clicking on the point with their mouse cursor or finger** on a touch screen.



8) "Show"

This is a twist on a math classic. The action asks the students to **use on-screen buttons or manipulatives** to **"show"** how they came to a result, conclusion, and/or estimate.

Drag each fraction into a box to show its correct location on the number line.

$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$
$\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$

9) “Explain”

This action asks the student to “**explain**” how he/she arrived at a result, conclusion, or estimate **via typed words in an answer box instead** of digits or operation symbols.

Lana wrote down a three-digit number. Use the following clues to figure out what number she wrote down. **Explain** how you found your answer.



- A. The digit in the ones place is the same as the digit in the hundreds place.
- B. The digit in the tens place is a 4.
- C. The digit in the hundreds place is 2 greater than the digit in the tens place.

10) “Show or Explain”

This last online testing term a combination of action #10 (“show”) and action #11 (“explain”). Students will often be presented with the option to “**Show or Explain**”, in which they can **choose** to either **show** their findings via digits/operations or **explain** them via written word.

PARCC Practice makes perfect!

The images in this eBook are taken directly from the Wowzers PARCC—mirroring math quizzes!

Learn more about how Wowzers can help prepare your students for the PARCC math assessments at:

info.wowzers.com/special-parcc-offer
or call the Wowzers Team at
312-273-1240!

Write the rule for this function. Input your answer, then press

Plot a point at $(-1, -2)$.

Fill in the table by creating equivalent ratios of $\frac{3}{5}$, using the factors on the left side of the table, then press the Submit button.

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