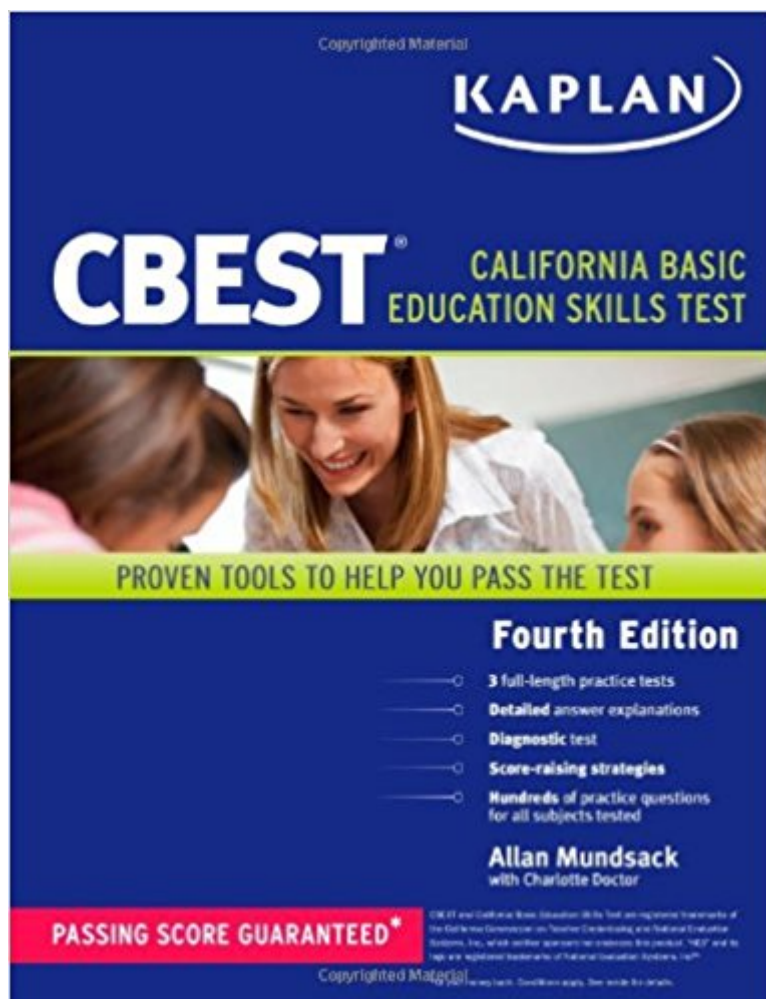


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# Kaplan CBEST (Kaplan Test Prep)



## Synopsis

The most comprehensive and up-to-date strategies, practice, and review for the CBEST (California Basic Education Skills Test). The CBEST is designed to test basic reading, math, and writing skills critical to the job of an educator. Kaplan CBEST offers aspiring teachers a complete guide to preparing for the test, including:

- In-depth content review
- Three full-length practice tests
- A diagnostic test to build a personalized study plan
- Detailed answer explanations for every answer
- Dozens of practice questions
- In-depth content review for Reading, Math, and Writing topics
- Concise section summaries for quick review
- Kaplan's proven test-taking strategies

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #454,641 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#120 in Books > Education & Teaching > Test Preparation > College & High School > High School Entrance](#) [#136 in Books > Education & Teaching > Higher & Continuing Education > Test Preparation > Professional > Teaching](#) [#789 in Books > Education & Teaching > Higher & Continuing Education > Test Preparation > Professional > Professional](#)

## Customer Reviews

I would not recommend the Kaplan CBEST book for anyone who wants to get a realistic feel for what the actual test will be like. The practice tests in this book are FAR more difficult than the actual Cbest test and therefore do not qualify as good preparation. The reading and math sections of this book take far more time than you will need on the real thing and could lead you to go in with a bad strategy. The reading tests in this book are particularly bad. The text passages are long with confusing answer choices. The differences between wrong and right answers were hairsplittingly minimal. For me this part was actual counterproductive to the point that I wish I hadn't had the book. For good and accurate books on the CBEST try "Cracking the CBEST" by the Princeton

review or Barron's "CBEST". Good Luck!

Badly written passages. Highly ambiguous questions. Would not recommend. For example, one question asks you to identify an author's attitude and then lists "sympathetic" and "empathetic" as possible answer choices. The answer is given as "empathetic," but these words are so similar that a case could really be made for either answer. Another question asks you to determine whether the sentence "New cancer treatments, new knowledge about indicators of heart health, and new methods for dental treatment are being announced seemingly weekly" is an example of parallelism or repetition. Both are present in this sentence. The questions continue in this manner. The explanations for the answers are also inadequate and unconvincing. The reading passages themselves are riddled with so many grammar mistakes that they're hard to read, let alone analyze. Incorrect use of "not only . . . but also." (shudder) This book's only redeeming feature is the Resources section in the back, which contains a helpful list of word roots and vocab words. Aside from that, this book is terrible.

I first tried the practice test on the CBEST website then bought this book at Barnes to continue studying. BAD CHOICE. This book is AWFUL. Another reviewer said that the questions were harder in this book than on the actual test... I would say that the questions in this book are just plain WTF. There were a lot of questions with answer choices that made no sense. The explanations were of no use- a lot of them simply stated that the answer they gave was the best choice and that the other choices weren't as good as their 'correct' answer choice. I started thinking I was crazy while grinding through the first practice test because the questions were so weird. Since I hadn't had that feeling while trying out the actual CBEST practice test, I went back to Barnes and exchanged the Kaplan for the Princeton Review book- MUCH better. The questions make sense, the answer choices make sense and the explanations actually EXPLAIN! The Princeton Review book even includes the full question next to each answer explanation so you don't have to flip back and forth. The Kaplan just had 2-3 line non-explanations. I want to find something positive about the Kaplan book, but the only thing I can think of is the original reason why I bought the Kaplan over the Princeton Review- the Kaplan was printed on nice bright white paper, while the Princeton Review one is on the cheaper off-white, recycled paper... Don't judge a book by its... paper. Go with the Princeton Review book.

I don't leave many reviews, but had to for this horrible book. I am just reiterating what others have said here but I want to add to the number so others won't make the same mistake. DO NOT

DEPEND ON THIS BOOK in particular for the math section. I over-studied thanks to this book and did not bother with some simple things I should have refreshed myself on. Unless your test is far, far harder than mine, you do not need all the difficult algebraic equations or the geometry crap in this book. There was 1, I repeat 1 simple geometry problem where they gave you two sides and the total perimeter and asked you for the other side. Everything else was really basic math skills and chart reading. Use the practice math test on the CBEST website to gauge what you need to know. My test was just like that one in terms of difficulty, which is to say, not that difficult. As a matter of fact I did almost as good on the math as the written, which actually was kind of tough. Anyway, good luck and don't give yourself a headache with this book.

Most of their test prep materials do a good job of creating practice tests that are pretty similar to the actual thing. I wouldn't use this book alone to study though. I would buy a copy of all of the other test prep books from the other publishers as well. You can never just rely on studying for a test with just one book. If you do, you're either a genius or really dumb.

This book offers good study strategies and content review information to prepare for the test. However, the practice exams are way harder than the real thing. Some believe that being over-prepared is good, but for me, it rattled my nerves a bit. I FAILED the practice tests and was very nervous taking the actual test. I just got my results and found out that I passed, with high scores for the reading and writing (my strengths) and a decent math score (my weakness). This book has some errors in it, though. I also agree with another reviewer who says that some of the multiple choice responses for the reading section were too similar, with the explanations as to why one was more "correct" than the others poorly clarified.

This book was great. It went over everything that was on the CBEST. There are 3 full practice tests that are realistic if you time yourself. Some of the math was a little bit more advanced than was needed for the test, but it was a nice refresher. I didn't get through the whole book and I think I would have gotten a better score had I studied more, but I passed without a problem.

This book is so awful it has prompted my first-ever online review. I totally agree with all negative comments, especially with regard to the reading section practice tests, which are baffling. Princeton Review version is far better.

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