



Preliminary STAAR Grade 4 Reading Language Arts Blueprint Effective as of School Year 2022–23*

		Number of Standards		Number of Questions	Number of Points
Reporting Categories	Reporting Category 1: Reading	Readiness	13	24–26	26–28
		Supporting	18		
	Reporting Category 2: Writing	Readiness	12	15–17	24–26
		Supporting	12		
Item Types by Point	1-point questions (multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items)			38	38
	2-point questions (non-multiple-choice items)			2	4
	Extended constructed response item			1	10
	Total			41	52

Every passage and question on STAAR is created for Texas students with the review and approval of Texas educators.

STAAR passages and questions go through a [rigorous development and review process](#) to ensure they accurately measure student knowledge.

Step 1: Passages and questions are written to align with the TEKS, which describe what students should know and be able to do in each grade and subject.



Step 2: Groups of Texas educators review and approve passages and questions for the grade and subject they teach to ensure passages and questions are grade-level appropriate, align with the TEKS, and are unbiased and accessible to all students.



Step 3: Questions are tested out by Texas students but do not count towards their scores to confirm that the questions are unbiased and accurate. These are called “field-test questions”.



Step 4: Passages and questions that pass all previous steps can be selected for an official STAAR test to provide educators and families with information to support teaching and learning.

[2021–22 STAAR Reading Resources, Grades 3–8](#)

[2021–22 STAAR Resources for all Assessments](#)

[STAAR Redesign Resources](#)

Preliminary STAAR Grade 4 Reading Language Arts Test Design

	Base Test <i>These items contribute to the student's score.</i>		Field Test <i>These items do not contribute to the student's score.</i>												
<i>Passages</i>	The reading section of the base test includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two single reading passages and • A paired reading passage (two passages read together) 	The writing section of the base test includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two revising passages, • Two editing passages, and • One extended constructed response (composition) 	The field-test section includes ONLY ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single reading passage • A paired reading passage • A single revising passage • Two short editing passages 												
<i>Number of Items</i>	24 to 26 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items	15 to 17 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items, including the extended constructed response, which is a written response to a single or paired reading passage	6 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items												
<i>Reading Load</i>	Approximately 3,040 words maximum [†]		Approximately 750 words maximum [†]												
<i>Readiness and Supporting Standards</i>	All TEKS, whether identified as readiness or supporting, are required to be taught in their entirety for a grade level or course. Readiness standards are essential for success in the current grade and important for preparedness for the next grade or course. They address broad and deep ideas and require in-depth instruction. These standards make up approximately 60–70% of the total points on the base test. Supporting standards play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not one that is central. They may address more narrowly defined ideas or concepts or may be emphasized in grades below or above the current level or course. Supporting standards make up approximately 30–40% of the total points on the base test.														
<i>Eligible Genres</i>	Passages may be from any of the following genres: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>Literary</u></td><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>Non-literary</u></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fiction</td><td style="text-align: center;">Drama</td><td style="text-align: center;">Informational[§]</td><td style="text-align: center;">Argumentative[§]</td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Poetry</td><td style="text-align: center;">Literary Nonfiction</td><td style="text-align: center;">Correspondence[§]</td><td style="text-align: center;">Persuasive[§]</td></tr> </table>			<u>Literary</u>		<u>Non-literary</u>		Fiction	Drama	Informational [§]	Argumentative [§]	Poetry	Literary Nonfiction	Correspondence [§]	Persuasive [§]
<u>Literary</u>		<u>Non-literary</u>													
Fiction	Drama	Informational [§]	Argumentative [§]												
Poetry	Literary Nonfiction	Correspondence [§]	Persuasive [§]												
<i>Passage Considerations</i>	Passages are developed, and then reviewed and approved by Texas educators taking the following into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passages represent polished, high-quality writing and are considered exemplary samples of the eligible genres. • Passages include reliable and accurate information. • Passages are unbiased against or toward any group or culture. • Passages are as engaging as possible for students. • Passages are appropriate for the intended grade level, including readability indicators. • Passages contain enough content to assess multiple student expectations. 														

[†] Although the length of individual passages may vary, the maximum reading load of the test is constant.

[§] 100% of the non-literary passages for these genres will cover topics from subject area TEKS up to and including grade 4. The majority of topics for these cross-curricular passages will come from social studies and science. The rest will come from fine arts, health, physical education, technology applications, and mathematics (personal financial literacy only).