



English Language Arts

**Support Level Descriptors,
Reporting Concepts, and
Test Blueprints**

Fall 2022



**State of New Jersey
Department of Education**

Contents

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Support Level Descriptors 2

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Reporting Concepts 3

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Test Blueprints 8

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Support Level Descriptors

The support level descriptors are the same for all grades in ELA.

- This report suggests FIRSTNAME may require strong support in Grade X reading comprehension.
- This report suggests FIRSTNAME may require some support in Grade X reading comprehension.
- This report suggests FIRSTNAME may require less support in Grade X reading comprehension.

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Reporting Concepts

Grade 4 based on Previous Grade’s Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a literary passage • use details from the passage to support answers • identify the central message of the passage • describe characters and explain how their actions affect events • explain how illustrations add to the meaning of the passage
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answer questions to demonstrate understanding of an informational passage • use details from the passage to support answers • identify the main idea of the passage • describe important details • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 5 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use details and examples from a literary passage to explain the text • describe a setting using specific details from the passage • describe a character using specific details from the passage • identify a theme of the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use details and examples from an informational passage to explain the text • summarize the passage • explain events, ideas, or concepts in the passage • describe the structure of the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 6 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quote examples from a literary passage to explain the text • identify a theme of the passage • compare and contrast characters or events • explain the structure of the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quote examples from an informational passage to explain the text • describe the connections between events in the passage • explain how the author supports specific points in the passage • identify which reasons and evidence support specific points in the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 7 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cite evidence from a literary passage to support an analysis of the text • explain how the author develops the point of view in the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cite evidence from an informational passage to support an analysis of the text • explain how the author's point of view or purpose is expressed in the passage • analyze how a key idea is explained • identify the argument and specific claims in the passage • analyze the structure of the passage • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 8 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cite evidence from a literary passage to support an analysis of the text • identify a theme or central idea of the passage • analyze how elements of the passage interact • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cite evidence from an informational passage to support an analysis of the text • identify the central idea of the passage • analyze how individuals, events, or ideas interact in the passage • identify key steps in the description of a process • determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 9 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cite evidence from a literary passage to support an analysis of the text• analyze how the theme relates to the characters, setting, or plot• provide a summary of the passage• explain how particular lines of speech or events impact the text
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cite evidence from an informational passage to support an analysis of the text• identify the central idea of the passage• analyze how the passage connects events• identify the author's point of view• analyze the structure of the passage• evaluate the argument and reasoning in the passage• determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Grade 10 based on Previous Grade's Learning Standards

Reporting Concept	Description
Reading Literature	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading literary text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cite evidence from a literary passage to support an analysis of the text• analyze how characters develop and interact over the course of the passage• identify a theme or central idea of the passage and analyze its development• analyze how an author structures a passage• analyze how a particular point of view is reflected in the passage
Reading Information	<p>Demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from reading informational text.</p> <p>In this section, students were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cite evidence from an informational passage to support an analysis of the text• analyze how an author's ideas are developed in the passage• identify the author's point of view• determine the meaning of words and phrases in context

Start Strong English language arts (ELA) Test Blueprints

These tables describe how many points were allocated to each reporting concept in the 2022 Start Strong Assessments for English Language Arts (ELA). The reporting concepts for ELA include Reading Literature and Reading Information. Note that information about ELA standards alignment for specific items will be available in the Results by Question and Student Performance Item Level Reports.

Grades 4, 5, 6 and 8 based on Previous Grade’s Learning Standards

Passage Type	Number of Passages	Reporting Concept	Number of Items	Number of Points
Literary	1	Reading Literature	5	10
Informational	1	Reading Information	5	10
Total	2	N/A	10	20

Grades 7, 9 and 10 based on Previous Grade’s Learning Standards

Passage Type	Number of Passages	Reporting Concept	Number of Items	Number of Points
Literary	1	Reading Literature	4	8
Informational	1	Reading Information	6	12
Total	2	N/A	10	20