

English Language Arts (ELA) Assessment Claims

What follows is an outline of a set of assessment claims and reporting categories based on the critical literacy skills and priorities specified in the standards. The assessment claims call for students to demonstrate their deep understanding of the text under review and perform several tasks to ensure the assessment measures the extent to which students are “on track” for college and career readiness.

Within the assessment, there are three types of claims, and each claim has its own reporting category that uses an appropriate reporting metric:

Master Claim — The Master Claim is the overall performance goal for the ELA Summative Assessment — students must demonstrate that they are “on track” or college and career ready.

Major Claims — Major Claims are designed to elicit sufficient evidence to yield scale scores for making longitudinal comparisons.

Subclaims (SC) — Subclaims are designed to elicit additional data in support of the Major Claims while providing data that helps educators to focus instruction on key priorities.

ELA Assessment Claims Structure

<p>ELA for Grades 3–9</p> <p>“On Track” Master Claim/Reporting Category:</p> <p>Students are “on track” to college and career readiness in ELA.</p>				
<p>Major Claim: Reading Complex Text</p> <p>Students read and comprehend a range of sufficiently complex texts independently.</p>			<p>Major Claim: Writing</p> <p>Students write effectively when using and/or analyzing sources.</p>	
<p>SC: Vocabulary Interpretation and Use (RL/RI.X.4 and L.X.4–6)</p> <p>Students use context to determine the meaning of words and phrases.</p>	<p>SC: Reading Literature (RL.X.1–10)</p> <p>Students demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from readings of grade-level, complex literary text.</p>	<p>SC: Reading Informational Text (RI.X.1–10)</p> <p>Students demonstrate comprehension and draw evidence from readings of grade-level, complex informational texts.</p>	<p>SC: Written Expression (W.X.1–10)</p> <p>Students produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>SC: Knowledge of Language and Conventions (L.X.1–3)</p> <p>Students demonstrate knowledge of conventions and other important elements of language.</p>
<p>Research</p> <p>(Data taken from Research Simulation Task)</p> <p>Students build and present knowledge through integration, comparison, and synthesis of ideas.</p>				

Point Distribution by Claims for the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments for ELA

Grade 3				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		30	31
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5, 7, 9	11	12
	Reading Informational Text	RI 1–3, 5, 7–9	11	11
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI 4, L 4–6	8	8
	Major Claim: Writing		24	24
	Written Expression	W 1–8, 10	18	18
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–8, 10	6	6
Total			54	55

Grade 4				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		44	40
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5–7, 9	18	16
	Reading Informational Text	RI 1–3, 5–9	16	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI 4, L 4–6	10	8
	Major Claim: Writing		30	27
	Written Expression	W 1–10	24	21
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–10	6	6
Total			74	67

Grade 5				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		44	40
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5–7, 9	18	16
	Reading Informational Text	RI 1–3, 5–9	16	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI 4, L 4–6	10	8
	Major Claim: Writing		30	27
	Written Expression	W 1–10	24	21
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–10	6	6
Total			74	67

Grade 6				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		44	40
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5–7, 9	18	16
	Reading Informational Text	RI (RST, RH) 1–3, 5–9	16	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI (RST, RH) 4, L 4–6	10	8
	Major Claim: Writing		30	30
	Written Expression	W 1–10	24	24
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–10	6	6
Total			74	70

Grade 7				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		44	40
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5–7, 9	18	16
	Reading Informational Text	RI (RST, RH) 1–3, 5–9	16	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI (RST, RH) 4, L 4–6	10	8
	Major Claim: Writing		30	30
	Written Expression	W 1–10	24	24
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–10	6	6
Total			74	70

Grade 8				
		Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint 1	Points Blueprint 2
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text		44	40
	Reading Literature	RL 1–3, 5–7, 9	18	16
	Reading Informational Text	RI (RST, RH) 1–3, 5–9	16	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	RL 4, RI (RST, RH) 4, L 4–6	10	8
	Major Claim: Writing		30	30
	Written Expression	W 1–10	24	24
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	W 1–10	6	6
Total			74	70

Grade 9		
	Standards/Evidence Statements	Points Blueprint
Claims	Major Claim: Reading Complex Text	40
	Reading Literature	16
	Reading Informational Text	16
	Vocabulary Interpretation and Use	8
	Major Claim: Writing	30
	Written Expression	24
	Knowledge of Language and Conventions	6
Total		70