

NM-MSSA ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEST BLUEPRINT



Item Types and Recommended Times	Grades 3-8	
	Session 1 Reading	Session 2 Writing & Language (W & L)
Passage Sets*	3	3
Passage-Based Items	MS-1	17
	MS-2	3
	WP	0
# of Operational Items	20	13
Total Operational Points	23	21
Time (min)	60	90

*Each passage set contains 1-3 passages/stimuli. See Test Specifications for additional details.

**In Spring 2021, an additional W&L passage set will be administered operationally. In Spring 2021, the writing prompt will not contribute to a student's score.

Depth of Knowledge Distribution - Reading

DOK	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Level 1	0–20%	0–20%	0–20%	0–20%	0–20%	0–20%
Level 2	50–70%	50–70%	50–70%	50–70%	50–70%	50–70%
Level 3	20–40%	20–40%	20–40%	20–40%	20–40%	20–40%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Depth of Knowledge Distribution - Writing & Language

DOK	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Level 1	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%
Level 2	40–60%	40–60%	40–60%	40–60%	40–60%	40–60%
Level 3	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%	15–35%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Guidance for NM-MSSA

- Spring 2021 Assessments are not timed. Shown time is **recommended**. Students without a legal plan (e.g., IEP, 504) may have time extended beyond the recommended time.
- All test items are aligned to and assess the **New Mexico Common Core State Standards**.
- New, custom-developed **field test** items will be embedded within the operational test form at each grade level.
- The **TLA New Mexico Instructional Scope** should be used as a resource to plan instruction and plan classroom formative assessment. TLA can be accessed at <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/curriculum-instruction/>

For additional details, the **Test Specifications** document can be accessed at <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/NM-MSSA-Spring-2021-Summative-Test-Specifications-ELA.pdf>

Item Type Information

- MS-1**: 1 point; machine-scored multiple choice or multi-select interactions
- MS-2**: 2 points; two-part question; machine-scored; multiple choice or multi-select parts
- WP**: 7 points; single prompt; passage-based; human-scored; two trait rubric – development of writing and conventions of writing

Practice tests for NM-MSSA can be accessed at *[link coming soon]*

Operational Test

English Language Arts			Grade 3-5		Grade 6-8	
			Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts	Ideal # of Core Pts	Ideal % of Core Pts
Reading	Text Type	Literary Text	15	65%	8	35%
		Informational Text	8	35%	15	65%
	Reading Strategy	Comprehension	12–24	52–60%	9–12	39–52%
		Analysis and Interpretation	9–11	39–47%	13–16	56–70%
	Cluster	Key Ideas and Details	9–11	7–11%	7–11	9–13%
		Craft and Structure	7–9	30–39%	6–10	26–43%
		Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	4–6	17–26%	4–6	17–26%
Total		23*	100%*	23*	100%*	
W & L	W & L Passage Sets	Writing Analysis	13–17	62–80%	13–17	62–80%
		English Language Conventions	4–8	19–38%	4–8	19–38%
	Total		21	100%	21	100%

* All items align to a text type (Literary, Informational), reading strategy (Comprehension, Analysis and Interpretation) and a cluster (Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, and Integration of Knowledge and Ideas).