

New Mexico Measures of Student Success and Achievement (NM-MSSA) – English Language Arts (ELA)



Test Blueprint

Guidance for NM-MSSA ELA



- All eligible students in **grades 3-8** will take the NM-MSSA ELA.
- Spring 2022 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 [Teaching, Learning, and Assessment \(TLA\) New Mexico Instructional Scope](#) should be used as a resource to plan instruction and plan classroom formative assessment.
- For additional details and samples of item types, view the [Test Specifications document](#).

Item Type Information

- MS-1:** 1 point; machine-scored multiple choice or multi-select interactions.
- MS-2:** 2 points; two-part question; machine-scored; each part is a multiple-choice interaction.
- WP:** 7 points; single prompt; passage-based; human-scored; two multi-trait rubrics – *Production of Writing and Use of Conventions*.
- Browser-Based (online) Practice tests** for NM-MSSA can be accessed at: <https://nmpracticetest.cognia.org/student/login>.
- Additional **downloadable (paper-based) practice tests and teacher resources** are available at the [Help and Support Site](#).

Test Design

Grades 3-8		
	Session 1 Reading	Session 2 Writing and 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
Estimated Time (minutes)	60	90

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

**An additional W&L passage set will be administered operationally in spring 2022. The WP will not contribute to a student's score.

Depth of Knowledge (DOK) Distribution

DOK	Reading Grades 3-8	Writing and Language Grades 3-8
Level 1	0-20%	15-35%
Level 2	50-70%	40-60%
Level 3	20-40%	15-35%
Total	100%	100%

Operational Test

		Grades 3-5		Grades 6-8		
		Ideal # of Core Points	Ideal % of Core Points	Ideal # of Core Points	Ideal % of Core Points	
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	39-47%	7-11	30-47%
		Craft and Structure	7-9	30-39%	6-10	26-43%
W&L		Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	4-6	17-26%	4-6	17-26%
	TOTAL		23*	100%	23*	100%
	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).