



California Assessment of
Student Performance and Progress



California Alternate Assessments Blueprint *for* English Language Arts

Table of Contents

Grade Three	4
Reading: Literary	4
Reading: Informational.....	5
Reading: Vocabulary	5
Reading: Foundation	6
Writing	6
Grade Four	7
Reading: Literary	7
Reading: Informational.....	7
Reading: Vocabulary	9
Reading: Foundation	10
Writing.....	11
Grade Five	12
Reading: Literary	12
Reading: Informational.....	13
Reading: Vocabulary	13
Writing	14
Grade Six	15
Reading: Literary	15
Reading: Informational.....	15
Reading: Vocabulary	17
Writing	18
Grade Seven	20
Reading: Literary	20
Reading: Informational.....	20
Reading: Vocabulary	21
Writing	21
Grade Eight	23
Reading: Literary	23
Reading: Informational.....	23
Reading: Vocabulary	24
Writing	25
Grade Eleven	27
Reading: Literary	27
Reading: Informational.....	28
Reading: Vocabulary	29
Writing	30

Acronyms and Initialisms Used in the *California Alternate Assessments Blueprint*

CAA	California Alternate Assessment
ETS	Educational Testing Service
NCSC	National Center and State Collaborative

Grade Three

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	30%	30%	3.RL.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.	3.RL.h1 Answer questions related to the relationship between characters , setting, events, or conflicts (e.g., characters and events, characters and conflicts, setting and conflicts).	Identify a character, setting, event, or conflict.
				3.RL.i2 Answer questions (literal and inferential) and refer to text to support your answer.	Recall information in a text (e.g., repeated story lines).
			3.RL.2 Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in text. 3.SL.2 Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.	3.RL.k2 Determine the central message, lesson, moral, and key details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.	Identify the topic of a text or information presented in diverse media.

Grade Three

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Informational	25%	25%	3.RI.5 Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.	3.RI.h1 Identify the purpose of a variety of text features. 3.RI.5	Identify the text feature (e.g., charts, illustrations, maps, titles).
			3.RI.7 Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).	3.RI.h4 Use illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs, diagrams, timelines) in informational texts to answer questions.	Identify an illustration in text.
			3.RI.2 Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea. 3.SL.2 Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.	3.RI.i2 Determine the main idea of text read, read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.	Identify the topic of a text or information presented in diverse media.
			3.RI.2 Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.	3.RI.k5 Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.	Identify the topic of a text.
Reading: Vocabulary	9%	9%	3.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies. 3.L.4a Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.	3.RWL.i2 Use sentence context as a clue to the meaning of a new word, phrase, or multiple meaning word.	Recall the meaning of frequently used nouns.

Grade Three

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Foundation	6%	6%	<p>3.RF.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.</p> <p>3.RF.4b Read on-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings.</p>	3.RWL.h2 Identify grade level words with accuracy.	Identify frequently used nouns.
Writing	30%	30%	<p>Research to Build and Present Knowledge (informative/explanatory)</p> <p>W.3.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.</p>	3.WI.I4 Sort evidence (e.g., graphic organizer) collected from print and/or digital sources into provided categories.	Identify information from print and digital sources on given topics (e.g., pictures of animals).
			<p>Text Types and Purposes (informative/explanatory)</p> <p>W.3.2 Write informative/ explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.</p> <p>W.3.2a Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.</p>	3.WI.p1 Include text features (e.g., numbers, labels, diagrams, charts, graphics) to enhance clarity and meaning.	Identify different types of text features found in informational text.
			<p>Production and Distribution of Writing (narrative)</p> <p>W.3.4 With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.</p>	3.WL.o1 With guidance and support from adults, produce a clear, coherent, permanent product that is appropriate to the specific task, purpose (e.g., to entertain), or audience.	Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).

Grade Four

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentages	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	30%	30%	4.RL.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.	4.RL.i1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly.	Recall a detail in a text.
			4.RL.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.	4.RL.k2 Determine the theme of a story, drama, or poem; refer to text to support answer.	Determine the topic of story or poem.
			4.RL.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a characters thoughts, words, or actions).	4.RL.l1 Describe character traits (e.g., actions, deeds, dialogue, description, motivation, interactions); use details from text to support description.	Identify a character in text.
Reading: Informational	25%	25%	4.RI.7 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.	4.RI.h4 Use information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) to answer questions.	Identify basic text features (e.g., charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, maps).

Grade Four

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentages	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			4.RI.2 Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.	4.RI.i3 Determine the main idea of an informational text.	Identify the topic of a text.
			4.RI.7 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.	4.RI.i1 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.	Locate information within a simplified chart, map or graph.

Grade Four

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentages	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Vocabulary	9%	9%	<p>4.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.</p> <p>4.L.4a Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.</p>	<p>4.RWL.i2 Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of unknown words, multiple meaning words, or words showing shades of meaning.</p>	<p>Understand that words can have more than one meaning.</p>
			<p>4.L.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., wildlife, conversation, and endangered when discussing animal preservation).</p>	<p>4.RWL.j1 Use general academic and domain specific words and phrases accurately.</p>	<p>Identify general academic words (e.g., EDL 2 or 3- map, character, equal, book, name, paper, etc).</p>

Grade Four

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentages	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Foundation	6%	6%	<p>4.RF.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.</p> <p>4.RF.3a Use combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context.</p>	4.RWL.h2 Identify grade level words with accuracy and on successive attempts.	Identify frequently used words (e.g., EDL 2 or 3).

Grade Four

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentages	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Writing	30%	30%	Text Types and Purposes (informative/explanatory) W.4.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. W.4.2a Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; including formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	4.WI.p1 Include formatting (e.g., headings, bulleted information), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to promote understanding.	Identify the purpose of using different formats, illustrations, or multimedia (e.g., bullets are used for listing items).
			Text Types and Purposes (informative/explanatory) W.4.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. W.4.2e Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.	4.WI.q1 Provide a concluding statement or section to support the information presented.	Identify a concluding sentence that signals a close of a paragraph (e.g., In conclusion..., As a result..., Finally...).
			Production and Distribution of Writing (narrative) W.4.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	4.WL.o1 Produce a clear coherent permanent that is appropriate to the specific task, purpose (e.g. to entertain), or audience.	Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).

Grade Five

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	30%	30%	5.RL.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text	5.RL.b1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly.	Recall details in a text.
			5.RL.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.	5.RL.c2 Summarize a text from beginning to end in a few sentences.	Identify what happens in the beginning of a story.
			5RL.3 Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).	5.RL.d1 Compare characters, settings, events within a story; provide or identify specific details in the text to support the comparison.	Identify characters, setting and events in a story.

Grade Five

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Informational	30%	30%	5.RI.2 Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.	5.RI.c4 Determine the main idea, and identify key details to support the main idea.	Identify the topic of text.
			5.RI.5 Compare and contrast the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts.	5.RI.d5 Compare and contrast the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts.	EU 1: Identify a similarity between two pieces of information from a text. EU 2: Identify a difference between two pieces of information from a text.
			5.RI.8 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point(s).	5.RI.e2 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.	Identify main/key ideas/points in a text.
Reading: Vocabulary	10%	10%	5.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 5 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies. 5.L.4a Use context (e.g., cause/effect relationships and comparisons in text) as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.	5.RWL.a2 Use context to determine the meaning of unknown or multiple meaning words or phrases.	Identify multiple meaning words (e.g., EDL 3 or 4).

Grade Five

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Writing	30%	30%	Text Types and Purposes(informative/explanatory)W.5.2 Write informative/ explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. W.5.2a Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. W.5.2b Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.	5.WI.b3 Organize ideas, concepts, and information (using definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect).	Identify relationship of set of items in various categories (definition, classification, compare/contrast, cause/effect).
			5.WI.d1 Support a topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.	Identify facts and details related to a specified topic.	
			Production and Distribution of Writing (narrative) W.5.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	5.WL.h1 Produce a clear coherent permanent product that is appropriate to the specific task, purpose (e.g. to entertain), or audience.	Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).

Grade Six

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	20%	20%	6.RL.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	6.RL.b2 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly.	Recall details in a text.
				6.RL.b3 Use specific details from the text (words, interactions, thoughts, motivations) to support inferences or conclusions about characters including how they change during the course of the story.	Identify characters in a story.
			6.RL.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.	6.RL.c3 Summarize a text from beginning to end in a few sentences without including personal opinions.	Identify what happens in the beginning and ending of a story.
Reading: Informational	40%	40%	6.RI.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.	6.RI.b4 Summarize information gained from a variety of sources including media or texts.	Identify a topic from a single source.

Grade Six

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			6.RI.2 Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.	6.RI.c2 Provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.	Identify the main idea of a text.
			6.RI.3 Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).	6.RI.g4 Determine how key individuals, events, or ideas are elaborated or expanded on in a text.	Identify a description of an event or individual in a text.
			6.RI.8 Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.	6.RI.g6 Evaluate the claim or argument; determine if it is supported by evidence.	Identify a fact from the text.

Grade Six

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Vocabulary	10%	10%	<p>6.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.</p> <p>6.L.4a Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.</p>	<p>6.RWL.a1 Use context to determine the meaning of unknown or multiple meaning words or phrases.</p>	<p>Identify multiple meaning words (e.g., EDL 4 or 5).</p>
			<p>6.L.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p>	<p>6.RWL.c1 Use general academic and domain specific words and phrases accurately.</p>	<p>Identify general academic words (e.g., EDL 4 or 5).</p>

Grade Six

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Writing	30%	30%	Text Types and Purposes (narrative) W.6.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. W.6.3a Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.	6.WL.c1 Organize ideas and event so that they unfold naturally.	Identify the order of events given a short passage/text (e.g., sequence a set of events from an adapted chapter).
			Text Types and Purposes (narrative) W.6.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. W.6.3c Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.	6.WL.c3 Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.	Match transition words, phrases, and clauses within a text.

Grade Six

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			Production and Distribution of Writing (informative/explanatory) W.6.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	6.WI.h2 Produce a clear coherent permanent product that is appropriate to the specific task (e.g., topic), purpose (e.g., to inform), and audience (e.g., reader).	Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).

Grade Seven

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	20%	20%	7.RL.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	7.RL.i2 Use two or more pieces of textual evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of text.	Make an inference from a literary text.
			7.RL.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.	7.RL.j1 Analyze the development of the theme or central idea over the course of the text.	Identify the theme or central idea of the text.
Reading: Informational	40%	40%	7.RI.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	7.RI.j1 Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of text.	Identify a conclusion from an informational text.
			7.RI.3 Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).	7.RI.j5 Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).	Identify the relationship between people, events, or ideas in a text.
			7.RI.8 Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.	7.RI.k4 Evaluate the claim or argument to determine if they are supported by evidence.	Identify a claim from the text.
			7.RI.9 Analyze how two or more authors writing about the same topic shape their presentations of key information by emphasizing different evidence	7.RI.l1 Compare/contrast how two or more authors write about the same topic.	EU 1: Identify two texts on the same topic.

Grade Seven

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			or advancing different interpretations of facts.		EU2: Compare/contrast two statements related to a single detail within topic.
Reading: Vocabulary	10%	10%	<p>7.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 7 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.</p> <p>7.L.4a Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.</p>	7.RWL.g1 Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a grade appropriate word or phrase.	Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word (e.g., EDL grade 5 or 6).
Writing	30%	30%	<p>Text Types and Purposes (narrative)</p> <p>W.7.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <p>W.7.3e Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.</p>	7.WL.o1 Select or provide a concluding statement or paragraph that follows from the narrated experiences or events.	Provide a conclusion (concluding sentence, paragraph or extended ending) that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

Grade Seven

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			<p>Text Types and Purposes (narrative) W.7.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. W.7.3d Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.</p>	<p>7.WL.I1 Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.</p>	<p>Identify a visual image to match provided text.</p>
			<p>Production and Distribution of Writing (informative/explanatory) W.7.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>7.WI.jo1 Produce a clear coherent permanent product (e.g. select/generate responses to form paragraph/essay) that is appropriate to the specific task (e.g., topic), purpose (e.g., to inform), or audience (reader).</p>	<p>Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).</p>

Grade Eight

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	20%	20%	8.RL.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	8.RL.i2 Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of text.	Make an inference from a literary text
			8.RL.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.	8.RL.j2 Analyze the development of the theme or central idea over the course of the text including its relationship to the characters, setting and plot.	Identify the theme or central idea of the text.
Reading: Informational	40%	40%	8.RI.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	8.RI.j1 Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of text.	Make an inference from an informational text.
			8.RI.5 Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	8.RI.k2 Determine how the information in each section contribute to the whole or to the development of ideas.	Identify supporting key details/key information within a paragraph.
			8.RI.8 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.	8.RI.k4 Identify an argument or claim that the author makes.	Identify a fact from the text.

Grade Eight

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
			8.RI.9 Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.	8.RI.I1 Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.	Identify a similar topic in two texts.
Reading: Vocabulary	10%	10%	8.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies. 8.L.4a Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of the word or phrase.	8.RWL.g1 Use context as a clue to the meaning of a grade-appropriate word or phrase.	Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word (e.g., EDL grade 6 or 7).
			8.L.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.	8.RWL.i1 Use general academic and domain specific words and phrases accurately.	Identify general academic words (e.g., EDL 6 or 7).

Grade Eight

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Writing	30%	30%	Production and Distribution of Writing (informative/explanatory) W.8.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	8.WI.o1 Produce a clear coherent permanent product (e.g. select/generate responses to form paragraph/essay) that is appropriate to the specific task (e.g., topic), purpose (e.g., to inform), or audience (e.g., reader).	Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).
			Research to Build and Present Knowledge (argument) W.8.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.	8.WP.j1 Gather relevant information (e.g., highlight in text, quote or paraphrase from text or discussion) from print and/or digital sources.	Identify sources of information relevant to the topic (e.g., print and/or digital).
			Text Types and Purposes (argument) W.8.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. W.8.1a Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	8.WP.k2 Create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the writer's claim.	Given a writer's claims, identify the writer's perspective on the topic (e.g., pro or con).

Grade Eleven

Note: Each test will contain from 25 to 27 operational items.

Content Category	NCSC Percentage	CAA Percentage	Common Core State Standard	Core Content Connector	Essential Understanding
Reading: Literary	15%	15%	11-12.RL.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.	1112.RL.b1 Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of the plot, purpose or theme within a text.	Identify a summary of the plot of a literary text.
			11-12.RL5 Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning.	1112.RL.d1 Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning.	Identify elements of a story's plot (e.g., exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution).

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Reading: Informational	45%	45%	11-12.RI.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.	1112.RI.b1 Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries or text.	Identify a conclusion from an informational text.
			11-12.RI.2 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.	1112.RI.b5 Determine how key details support the development of the central idea of a text.	Identify the central idea or key detail of a text.
			11-12.RI.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.	1112.RI.d1 Determine the author's point of view or purpose in a text.	Identify what an author tells about a topic.
			11-12.RI.7 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.	1112.RI.e1 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.	Locate information within a text related to a given topic.

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Reading: Vocabulary	10%	10%	<p>11-12.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 11–12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.</p> <p>11-12.L.4a Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</p>	<p>1112.RWL.b1 Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</p>	<p>Use context as a clue to determine the meaning of a word in text (e.g., EDL grade 8 or 9).</p>
			<p>11-12.RI.6 Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness, or beauty of the text.</p>	<p>1112.RWL.c3 Develop and explain ideas for why authors made specific word choices within text.</p>	<p>Identify a word or words used to describe a person, place, thing, action or event in a text (e.g., EDL grade 8 or 9).</p>

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Writing	30%	30%	<p>Text Types and Purposes (informative/explanatory)</p> <p>W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>W.11-12.2a Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p>	<p>1112.WI.b2 Create an organizational structure for writing that groups information logically (e.g., cause/effect, compare/contrast, descriptions and examples), to support paragraph focus.</p>	<p>Identify information that doesn't belong in a paragraph based on an organizational structure (e.g., examples, descriptions, cause/effect, compare/contrast).</p>

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			<p>Text Types and Purposes (informative/explanatory) W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. W.11-12.2b Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</p>	<p>1112.WI.b4 Select the facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples that are most relevant to the focus and appropriate for the audience.</p>	<p>Match details, facts, or examples to a topic.</p>
			<p>Production and Distribution of Writing (argument) W.11-12.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>1112.WP.f1 Produce a clear coherent permanent product that is appropriate to the specific task, purpose (to persuade), and audience.</p>	<p>Given a specific purpose, produce a permanent product (e.g., select text appropriate to the purpose, identify descriptive sentences, and select a concluding statement).</p>