

Genres & Cross-curricular Content of STAAR Redesign Passages Spring 2024

2023

fiction

poetry

drama

opinion

informational

Genres folder

	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	English I	English II
Reading	A Lens to the Past drama	Parks with a Purpose opinion PUBLIC PARKS	Fashion Forward opinion RECYCLING	from Sports & Society informational SPORTS HISTORY	Why We Need Solo Sports opinion	The Great Aviation Communicator informational AVIATION HISTORY	Credit Where Credit is Due opinion CITING SOURCES	That's Not What Happened drama
Reading	Digging on Dirt informational SOIL	from <i>Surprise Kick</i> realistic fiction	from <i>Tales from Watership Down</i> fiction	The Age of Language opinion BILINGUALISM	A Different Approach to Budgeting informational FINANCIAL LITERACY	from <i>Mr. Linden's Library</i> fiction	from <i>Parnassus on Wheels</i> fiction	Antarctica: Governing the Icy Continent informational GEOGRAPHY
Reading Paired	from <i>A Forest Full of Stars</i> fiction	Riding Out West informational EL PASO/RAILROADS	A Country Connected informational RAILROADS	from The Last Wild Place realistic fiction	Art For the People, Art By the People informational TEXAS HISTORY/ ART	Cameras in the Courtroom informational JUDICIAL SYSTEM	from <i>Finding Dorothy</i> realistic fiction	from <i>What the Octopus Knows</i> informational ANIMALS
	More Than Air informational MUSIC	Going Home (Burlington Route) poem	The World is at My Fingertips poem	A Wave of a Day poem	Grandfather's Legacy literary nonfiction	Challenging the Status Quo opinion	from <i>Big Wheels Keep on Turning</i> informational FERRIS WHEEL	Narwhals are Real poem
Revising	A Favorite Author informational AUTHOR	A New Pet informational pet care	Sunspots informational SPACE	The Yellow Spotted Goanna informational ANIMALS	Author J. Frank Dobie: Preserving the Lore of Texas informational TEXAS HISTORY/ AUTHOR	The Painters of Paradise informational AMERICAN ARTIST	Sawyer's New Co-Worker realistic fiction	The Hike realistic fiction

Revising	Making a New Kind of Pizza informational How-to	Marvelous Marfa informational TEXAS	An Unexpected Adventure informational	My Treasures informational	An Unexpected Friend informational	Our Original Constitution informational US HISTORY	The Problem of Urban Heat Islands informational URBAN GARDENS	Finding Their Way realistic fiction
Editing	Life on Venus 8 sentences informational SPACE	Strawberry Cake 9 sentences Informational How-to	A Famous Protest 9 sentences informational BOSTON TEA PARTY	Kids Need Breaks from Screens 8 sentences opinion TECHNOLOGY	Twin Space Study 8 sentences informational SPACE	Core Values 8 sentences realistic fiction	Tutoring Grandma 12 sentences realistic fiction	The Panama Canal 30 sentences informational PANAMA CANAL
Editing	A Nighttime Show 10 sentences informational	Brave Bessie 10 sentences informational BESSIE COLEMAN	Extra, Extra 9 sentences realistic fiction	Nana's Surprise 9 sentences realistic fiction	A Grand Discovery 8 sentences informational TEXAS CAVERNS	A Stubborn Toe 8 sentences realistic fiction	Mayan Weaving, A Thread Through Generations informational MAYAN CULTURE	Refund for Unsatisfactory Fruit Basket 11 sentences correspondence



STAAR Grade 3 Reading Language Arts Test Design

STAAR Test	Passages	Number of Items	Reading Load
Base Test <i>These items contribute to the student's score.</i>	The reading section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two single reading passages and A paired reading passage (two passages read together) 	The reading section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 to 26 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items 	Approximately 2,740 words maximum ¹
	The writing section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two revising passages, Two editing passages, and One extended constructed response (composition) 	The writing section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 to 17 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items, including the extended constructed response, which is a written response to a single or paired reading passage 	
Field Test <i>These items do not contribute to the student's score.</i>	The field-test section includes ONLY ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A single reading passage A paired reading passage A single revising passage Two short editing passages 	The field-test section includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items 	Approximately 650 words maximum ¹

¹Although the length of individual passages may vary, the maximum reading load of the test is constant.

Eligible Genres	Passage Considerations
Passages may be from any of the following genres: Literary Fiction Drama Poetry Literary Nonfiction Non-literary Informational ¹ Argumentative ¹ Correspondence ¹ Persuasive ¹	Passages are developed, and then reviewed and approved by Texas educators taking the following into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passages represent polished, high-quality writing and are considered exemplary samples of the eligible genres. Passages include reliable and accurate information. Passages are unbiased against or toward any group or culture. Passages are as engaging as possible for students. Passages are appropriate for the intended grade level, including readability indicators. Passages contain enough content to assess multiple student expectations.

¹100% of the non-literary passages for these genres will cover topics from subject area TEKS up to and including grade 3. The majority of topics for these cross-curricular passages will come from social studies and science. The rest will come from fine arts, health, physical education, technology applications, and mathematics (personal financial literacy only).

Fine print underneath the blueprint: "The majority of the topics for these cross-curricular passages will come from social studies and science. The rest will come from fine arts, health, physical education, technology applications, and mathematics (personal financial literacy.)"