English Language Arts: *Insight Snapshot*
Assesslet Background Information

Lennections
Learning Connections

🎯 Purpose of Lennections ELA Assesslets

1. **Support Standards-Based Instruction**
   Assesslets are designed to reflect the rigor and format of Georgia state assessments and align with Georgia's K-12 English Language Arts (ELA) Standards. They help educators evaluate how well students are mastering those standards.

2. **Provide Formative Assessment Data**
   The primary function of Assesslets is formative—they provide timely, actionable feedback that helps teachers adjust instruction, identify learning gaps, and target specific student needs before EOY/EOC high-stakes testing.

3. **Mimic State Testing Format**
   Assesslets prepare students for end-of-year assessments by exposing them to similar item types (including TEI items and extended response items), formatting, online testing tools, rigor and test-taking experiences.

4. **Promote Critical Thinking and Literacy Skills**
   Tasks within the ELA Assesslets require students to pull information from multiple sources, analyze texts, provide evidence-based responses, and explain their reasoning—skills that are essential for academic success.

5. **Offer Instructional Insights**
   With detailed rationales, scoring rubrics, hand-scored feedback, and instructional reports, teachers and schools gain deeper insight into student understanding, and can make informed decisions for reteaching and enrichment. The Response Analysis Report provides all the information you need in one place, allowing teachers to provide students with targeted instruction based on the most reliable data available.

🛠️ ELA Assesslets Development Process

Lennections' ELA Assesslets are designed with rigorous academic integrity, research-based practices, and state-specific alignment to ensure they provide effective, instructionally valuable assessments. The development process follows a careful and systematic approach grounded in state standards and informed by classroom expertise.

1. *Use of Georgia State Resources to Guide Item Design*

The development process begins with the integration of official GaDOE resources, such as:

- Assessment Guides
- Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs)
- Scoring Samples
- Item and Test Specifications

These foundational documents are used to shape the format, content, and expectations of each item, ensuring that every Assesslet mirrors the rigor, structure, and cognitive demands of the actual Georgia EOY/EOC state assessments.

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2. ***Expert-Led Item Development Team***

Assesslet items are crafted by a skilled team of highly qualified subject matter experts, including:

- Experienced classroom educators, many of whom are current or former Georgia teachers
- Curriculum specialists with expertise in instructional design and standards alignment
- Professional assessment developers trained in psychometrics and item construction

These team members bring a comprehensive understanding of grade-level standards, instructional pedagogy, and evidence-based assessment practices.

Prior to contributing, all developers must complete formal Item Development Training and demonstrate their readiness by passing a series of performance-based qualification tasks. These tasks are designed to verify each contributor's ability to create high-quality, standards-aligned items that meet the rigorous demands of formative and summative assessment.

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3. ***Multi-Stage Review and Validation Process***

Once drafted, items undergo a rigorous multi-round review, including:

- **Alignment Check:** Ensures the item aligns with grade-level standards and reflects the appropriate rigor and cognitive complexity for that grade.

- **Content and Accuracy Review:** Validates the content's correctness, ensures the answer key is logical, and checks for the appropriate level of thinking required.

- **Compliance with Item Specifications:** Ensures that the item's format, structure, and consistency match the intended design and specifications.

- **Universal Design Principles:** Applies accessibility best practices to support all learners, ensuring fairness and inclusivity.

Each item is reviewed for clarity, fairness, and effectiveness before proceeding to a final editorial review, which ensures polished language and formatting.

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4. *Post-Use Statistical Item Analysis*

After Assesslets are administered in schools, the development team performs data-informed reviews on items that were widely used:

- **Statistical Measures Analyzed**:
  - Answer choice or score point distributions
  - Percent correct (p-values)
  - Item discrimination (e.g., biserial correlations)
- **Flagged Item Review**: Any item that exhibits unexpected patterns or performance is re-evaluated, discussed by the content team, and revised if necessary.

This post-use evaluation ensures that Assesslets remain reliable, fair, and instructionally meaningful year after year.

The ELA Assesslets development process reflects Lennections' commitment to valid, standards-aligned, high-quality assessment. Through the use of state-aligned resources, a qualified educator-driven team, multi-layered review, and ongoing data analysis, each Assesslet is crafted to support teachers and empower students with an authentic, informative testing experience.

📘 Blueprints

Assesslet blueprints provide a clear overview of the **concepts and skills** measured on each assessment. For every item, the blueprint identifies the **standards assessed**, **item type**, and the **Depth of Knowledge (DOK)** level.

Blueprints for all **English Language Arts Assesslets** are available at the following password protected website:

🔗 **Link:** **ELA Assesslet Blueprints**

🔒 **Password:** GA4Success *(Case sensitive, no blank spaces)*

Note: GaDOE provides Georgia Milestones Blueprints that can be accessed in the Educator Resources Document.

🧱 ELA Assessiet Item Types & Scoring Overview

ITEM TYPE	POINTS POSSIBLE	PARTIAL CREDIT	NOTES
Selected Response (SR)	1 Point	❌ No Partial Credit	Traditional multiple choice with one correct answer.
Multi-Select	2 Points	✅ Yes	Multiple choice with more than one correct answer.
Hot Text (One Part)	1 Point	❌ No Partial Credit	Students highlight/select correct textual details.
Multi-Part	2 Points	✅ Yes	Two connected parts that must both be answered.
EBSR (Evidence-Based SR)	2 Points	✅ Yes (if Part A is correct)	Part A asks a question; Part B asks for supporting evidence from the text.
Dual-Part Hot Text	2 Points	✅ Yes	Two separate questions requiring text selections in each part.
ELA Inline Drop-Down	2 Points	✅ Yes	Choose answers from drop-down menus.
Drag and Drop	2 Points	❌ No Partial Credit	Move answer choices into correct locations.
ELA Placement Ordering	2 Points	❌ No Partial Credit	Reorder items into a specific sequence.
ELA Matching Tables	2 Points	❌ No Partial Credit	Match items in rows to options in columns.

📝 Extended Response Items: Hand Scored Using 3-Trait, 8 Point Rubric

Extended Response items are scored by trained hand scorers using the Georgia Department of Education's 3-Trait, 8 Point Rubric, which evaluates student writing holistically across three core dimensions:

TRAIT	MAX POINTS	FOCUS
Trait 1: Purpose and Organization	3 Points	Assesses the writer's ability to build a **coherent, purposeful response** with a clear, effective organizational structure. This includes using **appropriate transitions**, a **focused purpose**, and a **strong concluding statement** tailored to the audience.
Trait 2: Evidence and Elaboration	3 Points	Evaluates how well the writer uses **relevant evidence** and **elaboration techniques** to support their opinion or central idea. Students are expected to **integrate facts and details from sources**, apply reasoning, and connect ideas in their **own words**.
Trait 3: Language Usage and Conventions	2 Points	Measures the writer's control over **grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling**. Writing should reflect **grade-appropriate language skills** and demonstrate clarity and accuracy in communication.

✅ Scoring Notes

- Extended responses are reviewed by trained raters who follow state-defined scoring procedures.
- Scores are combined from each trait for a total of up to 8 points.
  Rubric-based scoring ensures consistency and instructional value aligned with GaDOE expectations.
- Overall percentage scores are NOT equivalent to letter grades.