

**STAAR Grade 8 Reading Language Arts Blueprint  
Effective as of School Year 2022–23**

Reporting Category	Number of Standards	Number of Questions	Number of Points
1: Reading	Readiness: 13	26-28	28-30
	Supporting: 17		
2: Writing	Readiness: 9	17-19	26-28
	Supporting: 6		
Item Types by Point	1-point questions (multiple-choice and non-multiple choice)	42	42
	2-point questions (non-multiple choice)	2	4
	Extended Constructed Response	1	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>56</b>

All TEKS, whether identified as readiness or supporting, are required to be taught in their entirety for a grade level or course.

**Readiness standards** are essential for success in the current grade and important for preparedness for the next grade or course. They address broad and deep ideas and require in-depth instruction. These standards make up approximately 55-75% of the total points on the ba



## STAAR Grade 8 Reading Language Arts Test Design

STAAR Test	Passages	Number of Items	Reading Load
<b>Base Test</b> <i>These items contribute to the student's score.</i>	The <b>reading</b> section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x Two single reading passages and</li> <li>x A paired reading passage (two passages read together)</li> </ul> The <b>writing</b> section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x Two revising passages,</li> <li>x Two editing passages, and</li> <li>x One extended constructed response (composition)</li> </ul>	The <b>reading</b> section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x 26 to 28 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items</li> </ul> The <b>writing</b> section of the base test includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x 17 to 19 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items, including the extended constructed response, which is a written response to a single or paired reading passage</li> </ul>	Approximately 3,800 words maximum <sup>B</sup>
<b>Field Test</b> <i>These items do not contribute to the student's score.</i>	The <b>field-test</b> section includes ONLY ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x A single reading passage</li> <li>x A paired reading passage</li> <li>x A single revising passage</li> <li>x Two short editing passages</li> </ul>	The <b>field-test</b> section includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x 6 multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items</li> </ul>	Approximately 950 words maximum <sup>B</sup>

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

<sup>§</sup>100% of the non-literary passages for these genres will cover topics from subject area TEKS up to and including grade 8. The majority of topics for these cross-curricular passages will come from 0 TdC 020 1 36.483as estudlesaud ( f)109 (ec)-1421 (l)-15.8 (n)-9 (ec)-14e.( fr)918.8 ( 3-6.2 (h)-25 (e)-11.9 ( )12-9 (r)-16.3 (es)-22.6 (t)-6.w5 (e)7 (a)-6.8 (.8 (l)-15.8 (l)-3.8 ( c)-2.5 (o)-19.1 (m)-12 (e)-