

English Language Arts
 High-Level Grades 3-8 Blueprint
 Spring 2020 NM-MSSA Units & Suggested Times



NEW MEXICO'S MEASURES OF
 Student Success and Achievement

Group A		Grade 3	Grades 4-8
	Literary Analysis Task	2 passages	2 passages
	Short Passage Set	N/A	1 passage
	Recommended Time	75 minutes	90 minutes

Group B		Grade 3	Grades 4-8
	Research Simulation Task	2 passages	3 passages
	Recommended Time	75 minutes	90 minutes

Group C		Grade 3	Grades 4-8
	Narrative Writing Task	1 passage	1 passage
	Short Passage Set	1 passage	N/A
	Long(1) or Paired(2) Passage Set	N/A	1 or 2 passages
Recommended Time	75 minutes	90 minutes	

Students in grades 3-8 will be assigned either Group A or Group C for Unit 1. All students will take Group B for Unit 2.

Unit 1	Unit 2
Group A or Group C	Group B

Guidance for NM-MSSA

- The term ‘**task**’ always includes items based on reading passages and a written constructed response based on the student being given a prompt.
- The term ‘**set**’ refers to items based on a reading passage but does not include a written constructed response.
- Spring 2020 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.
- Test structure and blueprint is identical to the Spring 2019 Transition Assessment.
- Test items remain **aligned** to New Mexico Common Core State Standards.
- New, custom-developed **field test** items will be embedded at each grade level.
- **Evidence statements** should be used as a resource to plan instruction and plan classroom formative assessment.

Ensuring Comparability of Results Over Time

*The *Spring 2020 New Mexico's Measures of Student Success and Achievement (NM-MSSA)* is fully aligned to state adopted New Mexico Common Core State Standards (NMCCSS).

- This assessment includes linking items that have undergone educator reviews for content, bias and sensitivity, and field testing.
- Linking items are items that have been utilized on prior operational forms or were field tested on the spring 2019 forms to allow for comparability, rather than starting from a new baseline.
- This results in parents, educators, and public officials being able to compare spring 2019 and prior scores to spring 2020 scores.

Grade 3 Item Point Value by Group

Task/Item Set	Evidence Statements	Max Points from EBSR/TECR Items	Max Points from PCRs
Group A			
Literary Analysis Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	3
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	9
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Group B			
Research Simulation Task	Reading: Informational Text	8	3
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	9
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Group C			
Narrative Writing Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	0
	Reading: Vocabulary	0	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	9
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Short Passage Set	Reading: Literary Text	4	N/A
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	N/A

Grade Band	Minimum/Maximum Passage Length for Literary and Informational Text/Literary Nonfiction
3-5	200 - 800 words

EBSR: Evidenced-based Selected Response. This is a Part B item in multiple choice or multiple select format that follows a traditional Part A multiple choice item. It asks what statement from the passage gives evidence for the correct answer to Part A

TECR: Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response. These are items like drag and drop, sequencing the order of events in the plot, etc.

PCR: Prose Constructed Response. This is the major category for the new item type that requires prose-constructed responses. They are Literature Analysis Task, Narrative Task, and Research Simulation Task.

Grades 4-5 Item Point Value by Group

Task/Item Set	Evidence Statements	Max Points from EBSR/TECR Items	Max Points from PCRs
Group A			
Literary Analysis Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	4
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	12
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Short Passage Set	Reading: Literary Text	6	N/A
	Reading: Vocabulary	2	N/A
Group B			
Research Simulation Task	Reading: Informational Text	12	4
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	12
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Group C			
Narrative Writing Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	0
	Reading: Vocabulary	0	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	9
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Long or Paired Passage Set	Reading: Literary Text	8	N/A
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	N/A

Grade Band	Minimum/Maximum Passage Length for Literary and Informational Text/Literary Nonfiction
3-5	200 - 800 words

EBSR: Evidenced-based Selected Response. This is a Part B item in multiple choice or multiple select format that follows a traditional Part A multiple choice item. It asks what statement from the passage gives evidence for the correct answer to Part A

TECR: Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response. These are items like drag and drop, sequencing the order of events in the plot, etc.

PCR: Prose Constructed Response. This is the major category for the new item type that requires prose-constructed responses. They are Literature Analysis Task, Narrative Task, and Research Simulation Task.

Grades 6-8 Item Point Value by Group

Task/Item Set	Evidence Statements	Max Points from EBSR/TECR Items	Max Points from PCRs
Group A			
Literary Analysis Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	4
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	12
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Short Passage Set	Reading: Literary Text	6	N/A
	Reading: Vocabulary	2	N/A
Group B			
Research Simulation Task	Reading: Informational Text	12	4
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	12
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Group C			
Narrative Writing Task	Reading: Literary Text	8	0
	Reading: Vocabulary	0	0
	Writing: Written Expression	0	12
	Writing: Knowledge of Language and Conventions	0	3
Long or Paired Passage Set	Reading: Literary Text	8	N/A
	Reading: Vocabulary	4	N/A

Grade Band	Minimum/Maximum Passage Length for Literary and Informational Text/Literary Nonfiction
6-8	400 – 1,000 words

EBSR: Evidenced-based Selected Response. This is a Part B item in multiple choice or multiple select format that follows a traditional Part A multiple choice item. It asks what statement from the passage gives evidence for the correct answer to Part A

TECR: Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response. These are items like drag and drop, sequencing the order of events in the plot, etc.

PCR: Prose Constructed Response. This is the major category for the new item type that requires prose-constructed responses. They are Literature Analysis Task, Narrative Task, and Research Simulation Task.