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**2019 MCAS Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) Test Information**

Beginning in spring 2019, students in grade 10 will begin taking the Next Generation MCAS test in English Language Arts (ELA). This document describes the test design, question types, and other information related to the ELA test.

**Standards Alignment**

The 2019 MCAS Grade 10 ELA tests will be aligned to the [2017 Massachusetts ELA Curriculum Framework](http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/). More information about standards alignment can be found [here](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/tdd/ela.html?section=other).

**Number of Sessions**

The grade 10 test will consist of two sessions administered over two days.

**Question Types**

The following table contains information about the question types on the test.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question Type** | **Total Points** |
| Multiple Choice  *Students select one correct answer from among several answer options.* | 1 |
| Multiple Select  *Students select more than one correct answer from among several answer options. These items include two part questions.* | 2 |
| Technology Enhanced *Students taking the computer-based test answer questions using technology such as drag-and-drop and hot spot.* | 2 |
| Text-Based Essays *Students write an essay in response to text(s) they have read.* | 8 |

**Test Design**

The test includes both common and matrix questions. Common questions count toward a student's score, while matrix questions consist of both field-test and equating questions and do not count toward a student's score.

**Common Questions**

Students will read four passage sets and answer the associated questions; each passage set will include a single passage or a passage pairing or tripling. Students will also be asked to write an essay for three of the four passage sets. One passage set will not contain an essay.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of 1- Point Questions** | **Number of 2-point Questions** | **Number of Essays** | **Total Points on Test** |
| 21-27 | 4-7 | 3 | 59 |

| **Reporting Category** | **Percentage**  **(+/- 5%)** | **Total Number of Points** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Reading** | **50%** | **32** |
| **Language** | **20%** | **12** |
| **Writing** | **30%** | **15** |
| **Totals** | **100%** | **59** |

**Matrix Questions**

Students will read two additional passage sets, respond to twelve questions (one or two-point), and write one essay.

**Essays**

Item-level directions will indicate the amount of space provided for each essay.

The amount of space provided for each essay on the grade 10 computer-based test is 5,000 characters, the equivalent of two hand-written pages.

Students will type their responses into response boxes that provide similar amounts of space to the PBT. As a student types his or her response, a scroll bar will appear and the student can continue typing. The student can scroll up or down to see the typed response.

For more information on how to use response boxes, please see the [Student Tutorial](http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/student/). In addition, the Exhibits tab, found on the [practice tests](http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/student/), will be available for students during test administration.