

TCAP English Language Arts Grade 3 Subpart 1

Grade 3 English Language Arts Assessment Overview

This fact sheet provides information about the English Language Arts grade 3 assessment. The grade 3 ELA assessment assesses the Tennessee Academic Standards through literary and informational texts and requires students to demonstrate the ability to closely read and analyze text, answer text-dependent questions, provide a written response to two prompts, apply knowledge and understanding of foundational literacy skills, and demonstrate command of the English language. Students who are enrolled in a grade 3 ELA class must take the assessment.

The ELA TCAP assessment for grade 3 is administered in four subparts, the first of which contains two written response questions.

The ELA assessment for grade 3 is administered using a **consumable test booklet** in which students will place all answers. All answers for each possible item type will be submitted by students writing in the test booklet.

Test Administration Subpart Timing and Structure

The below testing structure for grade 3 reflects the total of both the number of operational assessment items and the number of field test assessment items.

Subpart 1	Subpart 2	Subpart 3	Subpart 4	Summary
80 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	30 minutes	180 minutes
1 informational passage set*	2 passage sets*	2 passage sets*	2 passage sets*	38 – 58 items
4-10 passage-based items	4-10 items per passage set	4-10 items per passage set	4-10 items per passage set	
1 writing prompt		4-7 editing items		
1 literary passage set*				
4-10 passage-based items				
1 writing prompt				

*A passage set may be comprised of one or more passages. The word count across all passage sets is compatible.

Written Response: Subpart 1 Structure

Grade 3 students will experience two writing prompts. One writing passage and prompt will be literary and one will be informational. Once students have independently read the passage and responded to the passage-based items, both the passage and prompt will be read aloud to students. Students will be asked to write **at least** one cohesive paragraph drawing from personal experience and evidence from the passage. The two prompts are aligned to 3.W.RBPK.8 and each prompt will specify a specific mode of writing. Constructed response items are worth eight points each and are scored using the Tennessee writing rubrics which can be found [here](#).

Written Response: Subpart 1 Timing

As detailed above, the total testing time for Subpart 1 in grade 3 ELA is 80 minutes. In that time, students are asked to read a passage and answer 4-10 passage-based items. Students are allowed 15 minutes for this task. After completing this task, the same passage is read aloud to all students along with the writing prompt. Once the passage and prompt have been read aloud, students are then allowed 25 minutes to write a response to the prompt. This timing is repeated for the second passage in Subpart 1 to comprise a total time of 80 minutes. The table below outlines the timing for each task in Subpart 1.

Passage 1	Passage 2
Students independently read the passage and answer 4-10 passage-based items. 15 minutes	Students independently read the passage and answer 4-10 passage-based items. 15 minutes
Passage and prompt are read aloud to students	Passage and prompt are read aloud to students
Students write a response to the prompt. 25 minutes	Students write a response to the prompt. 25 minutes
Total Time: 80 minutes	