

This High-Level Blueprint describes the structure and content of the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) English Language Arts/Literacy assessment for grades 4-8 and 10.

### ABOUT THE TEST

The MCAP ELA/L assessment focuses on the skills outlined in the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards. Students engage with informational and literary passages and demonstrate comprehension and knowledge through interaction with items aligned to specific, grade-level standards. The assessment consists of four sections; three sections are operational, and one section contains field test items. The content in each section may vary, with field test content being presented in any of the four sections.

Section	Task	Standards	Number of Items
1	Informational Single Passage <b>AND</b> Literary Single Passage	RI.1 – RI.9 RL.1 – RL.9 L.4 – L.5	6-8 items per passage
2	Literary Performance Task: Paired Literary Passages (linked by theme or topic)	RL.1 – RL.9 L.4 – L.5 W.1 – W.3	6-9 items and 1 CR
3	Informational Performance Task: Paired Informational Passages (linked by topic)	RI.1 – RI.9 L.4 – L.5 W.1 – W.3	6-9 items and 1 CR
4	Informational Single Passage <b>AND</b> Literary Single Passage <b>OR</b>	RI.1 – RI.9 RL.1 – RL.9 L.4 – L.5	6-8 items per passage
	Literary Performance Task: Paired Literary Passages (linked by theme or topic) <b>OR</b>	RL.1 – RL.9 L.4 – L.5 W.1 – W.3	7-9 items and 1 CR
	Informational Performance Task: Paired Informational Passages (linked by topic)	RI.1 – RI.9 L.4 – L.5 W.1 – W.3	7 – 9 items and 1 CR

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS PER CLAIM:</b>	<b>READING</b>	<b>44</b>
	<b>WRITING</b>	<b>22</b>

**ACRONYM AND ABBREVIATION KEY**

ELA/L = English Language Arts and Literacy

RI = Reading Informational Text Standards

RL = Reading Literature Standards

W = Writing Standards

L = Language Standards

CR = Constructed Response