



## Secondary English-Language Arts

# Assessment Handbook

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January 2013

edTPA stems from a twenty-five-year history of developing performance-based assessments of teaching quality and effectiveness. The Teacher Performance Assessment Consortium (Stanford and AACTE) acknowledges the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium, and the Performance Assessment for California Teachers for their pioneering work using discipline-specific portfolio assessments to evaluate teaching quality. This version of the handbook has been developed with thoughtful input from over six hundred teachers and teacher educators representing various national design teams, national subject matter organizations (AAHPERD, ACEI, ACTFL, AMLE, CEC, IRA, NAEYC, NAGC, NCSS, NCTE, NCTM, NSTA), and content validation reviewers. All contributions are recognized and appreciated.

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This document was authored by the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity (SCALE) with editorial and design assistance from Pearson.

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# Introduction to edTPA

## Secondary English-Language Arts

### Purpose

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edTPA is a nationally available performance assessment of readiness to teach for novices. The assessment is designed with a focus on student learning and principles from research and theory. Successful teachers

- develop knowledge of subject matter content standards and subject-specific pedagogy
- develop and apply knowledge of varied students' needs
- consider research and theory about how students learn
- reflect on and analyze evidence of the effects of instruction on student learning

As a performance-based assessment, edTPA is designed to engage candidates in demonstrating their understanding of teaching and student learning in authentic ways.

### Summary of Tasks

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In this assessment, you will develop and teach **3–5 consecutive English-Language Arts lessons** (or, if teaching within a large time block, **3–5 hours of connected instruction**) referred to as a learning segment. Consistent with the Common Core State Standards for English-Language Arts,<sup>1</sup> a learning segment prepared for this assessment should provide opportunities for students to comprehend, construct meaning from, and interpret complex text, and to create a written product, interpreting or responding to complex features of a text that are just beyond your students' current skill levels.

You will complete three tasks for edTPA:

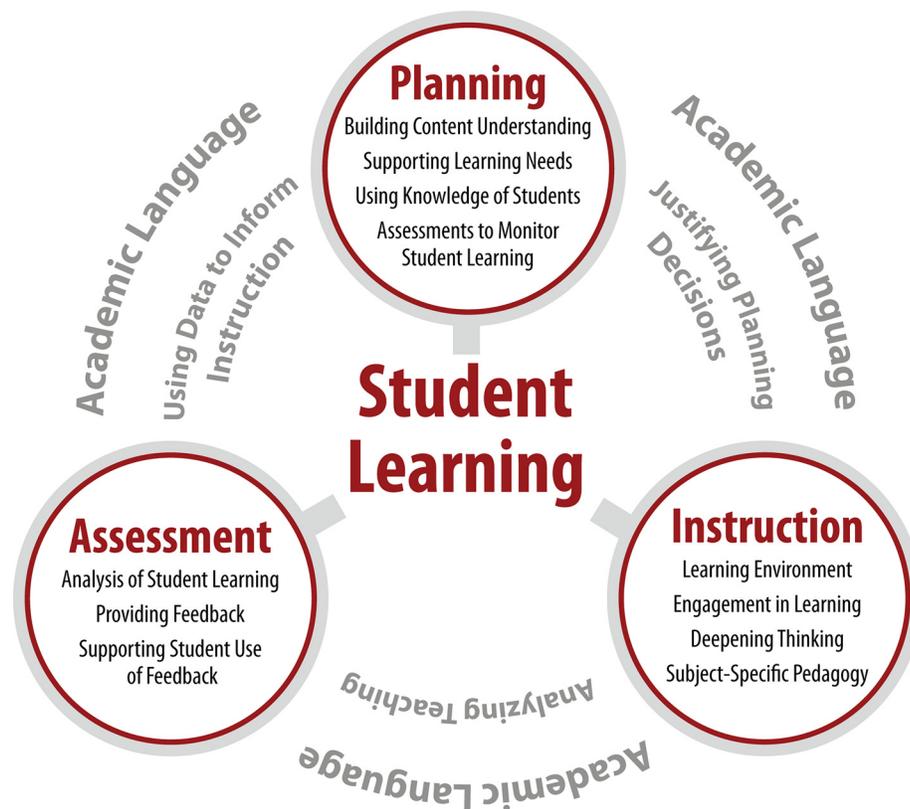
1. Planning for Instruction and Assessment
2. Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning
3. Assessing Student Learning

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<sup>1</sup> The Common Core State Standards for English-Language Arts (June 2010) can be found at <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards/english-language-arts-standards/>. Note that Minnesota and Virginia have not adopted the Common Core State Standards for English-Language Arts.

## The Cycle of Effective Teaching and edTPA Tasks

The three edTPA tasks represent a cycle of effective teaching. The planning task documents your intended teaching, the instruction task documents your enacted teaching, and the assessment task documents the impact of your teaching on student learning.



These tasks and the evidence you provide for each are framed by your understandings of your students and their learning. As you develop, document, and teach your lessons, you will reflect upon the cyclical relationship among planning, instruction, and assessment with a focus on your students' learning needs.

### Evidence of Teaching Practice: Artifacts and Commentaries

To complete the assessment, you will submit artifacts and commentaries as evidence of how you planned and implemented instruction to deepen student learning in English-Language Arts.

- **Artifacts** represent authentic work completed by you and your students. These include lesson plans, copies of instructional and assessment materials, video clips of your teaching, and student work samples.
- **Commentaries** are your opportunity to describe your artifacts, explain the rationale behind their choice, and analyze what you have learned about your teaching practice and your students' learning. Note that although your writing ability will not be scored directly, commentaries must be clearly written and well focused.

When preparing your artifacts and commentaries, refer to the rubrics frequently to guide your thinking, planning, and writing. Refer to the [Secondary English-Language Arts Evidence Chart](#) for information about how your evidence should be formatted for electronic submission.

## Evaluation Criteria

The evidence you submit will be judged on five components of teaching practice:

1. Planning
2. Instruction
3. Assessment
4. Analyzing Teaching
5. Academic Language

You will provide evidence for the planning, instruction, and assessment components within the corresponding tasks. You will provide evidence for the analyzing teaching component across all three tasks. You will provide evidence for the academic language component in planning, as well as in the instruction AND/OR assessment task.

The rubrics used to score your performance are included in this handbook and follow the directions for each task. The descriptors in the five-level rubrics address a wide range of performance representing the knowledge and skills of a novice not ready to teach (Level 1) to the advanced practices of a highly accomplished beginner (Level 5).

## Structure of the Handbook

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The instructions on the following pages will guide you in putting together the artifacts and commentaries required within the three tasks of edTPA. Within each task, instructions are organized into four sections:

1. **What to Think About**
2. **What Do I Need to Do?**
3. **What Do I Need to Write?**
4. **How Will the Evidence of My Teaching Practice Be Assessed?**

Additional requirements and resources are available to you in this handbook:<sup>2</sup>

- **[Professional Responsibilities](#)**: guidelines for the development of your evidence
- **[Context for Learning Information](#)**: prompts used to collect information about your school/classroom context
- **[Evidence Chart](#)**: requirements for electronic evidence submission, including supported file types, number of files, response length, and other important evidence specifications
- **[Glossary](#)**: definitions of key terms; roll your cursor over each glossary term marked with a dotted underline or refer to the [Secondary English-Language Arts Glossary](#).

Review all instructions carefully before beginning to teach the learning segment to ensure that you are well prepared for all tasks. If you are submitting artifacts and commentaries to Pearson for official scoring, refer to the Pearson website, [www.edTPA.com](http://www.edTPA.com), for complete and current information before beginning your work.

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<sup>2</sup> Your preparation program will have additional resources, including the *Making Good Choices* document, that provide guidance as you develop your evidence.

## edTPA Tasks Overview

What to Do	What to Submit	Evaluation Rubrics
<b>Task 1 Planning: Planning for Instruction and Assessment</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Select <b>one</b> class as a focus for this assessment.</li> <li>▶ Provide relevant context information.</li> <li>▶ Identify a learning segment to plan, teach, and analyze. Select a learning segment of <b>3–5 lessons</b> (or, if teaching English-Language Arts within a large time block, about <b>3–5 hours of connected instruction</b>).</li> <li>▶ Identify a <b>central focus</b>. The central focus should support students to comprehend, construct meaning from, and interpret complex text, to create a written product, interpreting or responding to a text.</li> <li>▶ Write and submit a lesson plan for each lesson in the learning segment.</li> <li>▶ Select and submit key instructional materials needed to understand what you and the students will be doing.</li> <li>▶ Choose <b>one language function</b>. Identify a <b>learning task</b> where students use that language function. Identify the language that students will be expected to use to engage in the learning task and your instructional supports.</li> <li>▶ Submit copies or directions for all planned assessments from the learning segment.</li> <li>▶ Respond to <b>commentary</b> prompts prior to teaching the learning segment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Part A: Context for Learning Information</li> <li>▣ Part B: Lesson Plans for Learning Segment</li> <li>▣ Part C: Instructional Materials</li> <li>▣ Part D: Assessments</li> <li>▣ Part E: Planning Commentary</li> </ul>	<p><b>Planning Rubrics</b></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 1: Planning for English-Language Arts Understandings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 2: Planning to Support Varied Student Learning Needs</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 3: Using Knowledge of Students to Inform Teaching and Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 4: Identifying and Supporting Language Demands</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 5: Planning Assessments to Monitor and Support Student Learning</a></p>

What to Do	What to Submit	Evaluation Rubrics
<b>Task 2 Instruction: Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Obtain required permissions for videorecording from parents/guardians of your students and other adults appearing in the video.</li> <li>▶ Identify lessons to videorecord. You should be interacting with students to prepare them to read a complex text and participate in a discussion to construct meaning from and interpret the text.</li> <li>▶ Videorecord your teaching and <b>select 2 video clips (no more than 10 minutes each in total running time)</b>.</li> <li>▶ Analyze your teaching and your students' learning in the video clips by responding to commentary prompts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Part A: Video Clips</li> <li>▣ Part B: Instruction Commentary</li> </ul>	<p><b>Instruction Rubrics</b></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 6: Learning Environment</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 7: Engaging Students in Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 8: Deepening Student Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 9: Subject-Specific Pedagogy</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 10: Analyzing Teaching Effectiveness</a></p>
<b>Task 3 Assessment: Assessing Student Learning</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Select <b>one</b> assessment from the learning segment that you will use to evaluate your students' developing knowledge and skills. Submit the assessment used to evaluate student performance.</li> <li>▶ Define and submit the <u>evaluation criteria</u> you will use to analyze student learning.</li> <li>▶ Collect and analyze student work to identify <b>quantitative and qualitative</b> patterns of learning within and across learners in the class.</li> <li>▶ Select <b>3 work samples</b> to illustrate your analysis that represent the patterns of learning. At least one of the students must be a student with specific learning needs.</li> <li>▶ Summarize the learning of the whole class, and refer to work samples from three focus students to illustrate patterns in student understanding across the class.</li> <li>▶ Submit feedback on the assessment for the three students in written, audio, or video form.</li> <li>▶ Analyze evidence of students' language use from (1) the video clips from the instruction task, <b>AND/OR</b> (2) the student work samples from the assessment task.</li> <li>▶ Analyze your assessment of student learning and plan for next steps by responding to commentary prompts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Part A: Student Work Samples</li> <li>▣ Part B: Evidence of Feedback</li> <li>▣ Part C: Assessment Commentary</li> <li>▣ Part D: Evaluation Criteria</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assessment Rubrics</b></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 11: Analysis of Student Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 12: Providing Feedback to Guide Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 13: Student Use of Feedback</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 14: Analyzing Students' Language Use and English-Language Arts Learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rubric 15: Using Assessment to Inform Instruction</a></p>

# Task 1: Planning for Instruction and Assessment

## What to Think About

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In Task 1: Planning for Instruction and Assessment, you will describe your plans for the learning segment and explain how your instruction is appropriate for the students and the content you are teaching:

- What do your students know, what can they do, and what are they learning to do?
- What do you want your students to learn? What are the important understandings and core concepts you want students to develop within the learning segment?
- What instructional strategies, learning tasks, and assessments will you design to support student learning and language use?
- How is the teaching you propose informed by your knowledge of students?

Task 1 prepares you to demonstrate and analyze the effectiveness of your teaching of the planned learning segment.

## What Do I Need to Do?

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- ❑ **Select a class.** If you teach more than one class, select one focus class for this assessment.
- ❑ **Provide context information.** The [Context for Learning Information](#) is provided at the end of this handbook (**no more than 3 pages, including prompts**).
- ❑ **Identify a learning segment to plan, teach, and analyze.** Review the curriculum with your cooperating teacher and select a learning segment of **3–5 lessons** (or, if teaching English-Language Arts within a large time block, about **3–5 hours of connected instruction**).
- ❑ **Identify a central focus.** Identify the central focus along with the content standards and objectives you will address in the learning segment. The central focus should support students to develop the abilities to comprehend, construct meaning from, and interpret complex text and to create a written product interpreting or responding to complex features of a text that are just beyond your students' current skill levels.
- ❑ **Analyze language demands.** Select a key language function, a learning task, and additional language demands.
- ❑ **Write a lesson plan** for each lesson in the learning segment. Your lesson plans should be detailed enough that a substitute or other teacher could understand them well enough to use them. If your teacher preparation program requires you to use a specific lesson plan format for this assessment, be sure to include the information described below.

- Your lesson plans should include the following information:
  - State-adopted student academic content standards and/or Common Core State Standards that are the target of student learning (Please list the **number and text** of the standard. If only a portion of a standard is being addressed, then only list the relevant part[s].)
  - Learning objectives associated with the content standards
  - Informal and formal assessments used to monitor student learning, including type(s) of assessment and what is being assessed
  - Instructional strategies and learning tasks (including what you and the students will be doing) that support diverse student needs
  - Instructional resources and materials used to engage students in learning
- **Respond to prompts** listed in the Planning Commentary section below **prior to teaching the learning segment.**
- **Submit your original lesson plans.** If you make changes while teaching the learning segment, you will have opportunities to reflect on changes in the Instruction and Assessment Commentaries.
- **Select and submit key instructional materials** needed to understand what you and the students will be doing (**no more than 5 pages per lesson plan**). The instructional materials might include such items as class handouts, assignments, slides, and interactive whiteboard images.
- **Submit copies of all written assessments.** (Do not submit student work samples, but the blank instruments as given to students.)

See [Task 1: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications](#) for instructions on electronic evidence submission. The evidence chart identifies supported file types, number of files, response length, and other important evidence specifications.

## What Do I Need to Write?

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In Task 1: Planning for Instruction and Assessment, you will write

- lesson plans
- a description of your context for learning
- commentary explaining your plans

### Planning Commentary

Respond to the prompts below (**no more than 9 single-spaced pages, including prompts**).

#### 1. Central Focus

- a. Describe the central focus and purpose for the content you will teach in this learning segment.

- b. Provide the title, author (or, if a film, the director), and a short description (about a paragraph in length) of salient features of the text(s) that a reviewer of your evidence, who is unfamiliar with the text(s), needs to know in order to understand your instruction. If there is more than one text, indicate the lesson(s) where each text will be the focus.

Consider including the following in your description: genre, text structure, theme, plot, imagery, or linguistic features, depending on the central focus of your learning segment.

- c. Given the central focus, describe how the standards and learning objectives within your learning segment address students' abilities to
- comprehend, construct meaning from, and interpret complex text
  - create a written product interpreting or responding to complex features of a text
- d. Explain how your plans build on each other to help students **make connections** between textual references, constructions of meaning, interpretations, and responses to a text to deepen their learning of English-Language Arts.

## 2. Knowledge of Students to Inform Teaching

For each of the prompts below (2a–b), describe what you know about **your** students with respect to the central focus of the learning segment.

Consider the variety of learners in your class who may require different strategies/support (e.g., students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students).

- a. Prior academic learning and prerequisite skills related to the central focus—What do students know, what can they do, and what are they learning to do?
- b. Personal/cultural/community assets related to the central focus—What do you know about your students' everyday experiences, cultural backgrounds and practices, and interests?

## 3. Supporting Students' English-Language Arts Learning

Respond to prompts 3a–c below. As needed, refer to the instructional materials and lesson plans you have included to support your explanations. **Use principles from research and/or theory to support your explanations, where appropriate.**

- a. Explain how your understanding of your students' prior academic learning and personal/cultural/community assets (from prompts 2a–b above) guided your choice or adaptation of learning tasks and materials.
- b. Describe and justify why your instructional strategies and planned supports are appropriate for **the whole class and students with similar or specific learning needs.**

Consider students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students.

- c. Describe common student errors or misunderstandings within your content focus and how you will address them.

#### 4. Supporting English-Language Arts Development Through Language

- a. **Language Demand: Language function.** Identify **one** language function essential for students within your central focus. Listed below are some sample language functions. You may choose one of these or another more appropriate for your learning segment.

Analyze	Argue	Describe	Evaluate
Explain	Interpret	Justify	Synthesize

- b. Identify a key learning task from your plans that provides students with opportunities to practice using the language function identified above. In which lesson does the learning task occur? (Give lesson/day number.)
- c. **Additional Language Demands.** Given the language function and task identified above, describe the following associated language demands (written or oral) students need to understand and/or use.
- Vocabulary
  - **Plus** at least one of the following:
    - Syntax
    - Discourse

Consider the range of students' understandings of the language function and other demands—what do students already know, what are they struggling with, and/or what is new to them?

- d. **Language Supports.** Refer to your lesson plans and instructional materials as needed in your response to the prompt.
- Describe the instructional supports (during and/or prior to the learning task) that help students understand and successfully use the language function and additional language identified in prompts 4a–c.

#### 5. Monitoring Student Learning

Refer to the assessments you will submit as part of the materials for Task 1.

- a. Describe how your planned formal and informal assessments will provide direct evidence of students' abilities to comprehend, construct meaning from, interpret, and/or respond to a complex text throughout the learning segment.
- b. Explain how the design or adaptation of your planned assessments allows students with specific needs to demonstrate their learning.

Consider all students, including students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students.

## How Will the Evidence of My Teaching Practice Be Assessed?

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When preparing your artifacts and commentaries, refer to the rubrics frequently to guide your thinking, planning, and writing. For Task 1: Planning for Instruction and Assessment, your evidence will be assessed with rubrics 1–5, which appear in the following pages.

## Planning Rubrics

### Rubric 1: Planning for English-Language Arts Understandings

How do the candidate's plans build students' abilities to comprehend, construct meaning from, interpret, and/or respond to complex text?

Level 1 <sup>3</sup>	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Candidate's plans <b>focus solely on</b> literal comprehension of text with <b>little or no connection</b> to constructions of meaning, interpretation, or responses to the text.</p>	<p>Plans for instruction <b>support student learning of facts</b> and procedures with <b>vague connections to interpretative skills OR</b> responses to the text.</p>	<p>Plans for instruction <b>build on each other</b> to support learning of meanings of complex text with <b>clear</b> connections to interpretive skills or responses to the text, supported by textual references.</p>	<p>Plans for instruction build on each other to support learning of meanings of complex text with clear <b>and consistent</b> connections to interpretive skills or responses to the text, supported by textual references.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate explains how s/he will use learning tasks and materials to <b>lead students to make</b> clear and consistent <b>connections</b>.</p>
<p>There are <b>significant content inaccuracies</b> that will lead to student misunderstandings.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Standards, objectives, and learning tasks and materials are <b>not aligned with each other</b>.</p>				

<sup>3</sup> Text representing key differences between adjacent score levels is shown in bold. Evidence that does not meet Level 1 criteria is scored at Level 1.

## Planning Rubrics continued

### Rubric 2: Planning to Support Varied Student Learning Needs

How does the candidate use knowledge of his/her students to target support for students to comprehend, construct meaning from, interpret, and respond to complex text?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>There is little or no evidence of planned supports.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Candidate does NOT attend to requirements in IEPs and 504 plans.</p>	<p>Planned supports are loosely tied to learning objectives or the central focus of the learning segment.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Candidate attends to requirements in IEPs and 504 plans.</p>	<p>Planned supports are tied to learning objectives and the central focus with attention to the characteristics of the class as a whole.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Candidate attends to requirements in IEPs and 504 plans.</p>	<p>Planned supports are tied to learning objectives and the central focus. Supports address the needs of specific individuals or groups with similar needs.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Candidate attends to requirements in IEPs and 504 plans.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b></p> <p>Supports include specific strategies to identify and respond to common errors and misunderstandings.</p>

## Planning Rubrics continued

### Rubric 3: Using Knowledge of Students to Inform Teaching and Learning

How does the candidate use knowledge of his/her students to justify instructional plans?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Candidate's justification of learning tasks is either <b>missing</b> <b>OR represents a deficit view</b> of students and their backgrounds.</p>	<p>Candidate justifies learning tasks with <b>limited attention</b> to students' prior academic learning <b>OR</b> personal/cultural/community assets.</p>	<p>Candidate justifies <b>why</b> learning tasks (or their adaptations) <b>are appropriate using</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>examples of students' prior academic learning</b></li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>examples of personal/cultural/ community assets</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Candidate makes superficial connections to research and/or theory.</b></p>	<p>Candidate justifies why learning tasks (or their adaptations) are appropriate using</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examples of students' prior academic learning</li> <li>• examples of personal/cultural/ community assets</li> </ul> <p>Candidate makes <b>connections to</b> research and/or theory.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate's justification is supported by <b>principles from research and/or theory.</b></p>

## Planning Rubrics continued

### Rubric 4: Identifying and Supporting Language Demands

How does the candidate identify and support language demands associated with a key English-Language Arts learning task?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Language demands<sup>4</sup> identified by the candidate are <b>not consistent with the selected language function<sup>5</sup> or task.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Language supports are <b>missing or are NOT aligned</b> with the language demand(s) for the learning task.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>identifies vocabulary as the major language demand</b> associated with the language function. <b>Attention to additional language demands is superficial.</b></p> <p>Language supports <b>primarily address definitions of vocabulary.</b></p>	<p>Candidate identifies <b>vocabulary and additional language demand(s)</b> associated with the language function.</p> <p><b>Plans include general support for use of vocabulary as well as additional language demand(s).</b></p>	<p>Candidate identifies vocabulary and additional language demand(s) associated with the language function.</p> <p>Plans include <b>targeted support</b> for use of vocabulary as well as additional language demand(s).</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Instructional supports are <b>designed to meet the needs of students with different levels of language learning.</b></p>

<sup>4</sup> Language demands include: language function, vocabulary, syntax and grammar, and discourse (organizational structures, text structure, etc.).

<sup>5</sup> Language function refers to the learning outcome (verb) selected in prompt 4a (e.g., analyze, interpret...).

**Planning Rubrics continued**

**Rubric 5: Planning Assessments to Monitor and Support Student Learning**

How are the informal and formal assessments selected or designed to monitor students' progress toward the standards/objectives?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>The assessments <b>only provide evidence</b> of students' literal comprehension of text.</p> <p><b>Assessment adaptations required by IEP or 504 plans are NOT made.</b></p>	<p>The assessments <b>provide limited evidence to monitor students'</b> abilities to construct meaning from, interpret, and/or respond to complex text <b>during the learning segment.</b></p> <p><b>Assessment adaptations required by IEP or 504 plans are made.</b></p>	<p>The assessments provide <b>specific evidence</b> to monitor students' abilities to construct meaning from, interpret, and/or respond to a complex text during the learning segment.</p> <p>Assessment adaptations required by IEP or 504 plans are made.</p>	<p>The assessments provide <b>multiple forms of evidence</b> to monitor students' abilities to construct meaning from, interpret, and/or respond to complex text throughout the learning segment.</p> <p>Assessment adaptations required by IEP or 504 plans are made.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> The assessments are <b>strategically designed to allow individuals or groups with specific needs to demonstrate their learning.</b></p>
<p>Assessments are <b>not aligned</b> with the central focus and standards/objectives for the learning segment.</p>				

# Task 2: Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning

## What to Think About

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In Task 2: Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning, you will demonstrate how you support and engage students in learning:

- What kind of learning environment do you want to develop in order to establish respect and rapport, and to support students' engagement in learning?
- What kinds of learning tasks actively engage students in the central focus of the learning segment?
- How will you elicit and build on student responses in ways to develop and deepen content understanding?
- In what ways will you connect new content to your students' prior academic learning and personal, cultural, or community assets during your instruction?
- How will you use evidence from your instruction to examine and change your teaching practices to more effectively meet a variety of student learning needs?

## What Do I Need to Do?

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- **Obtain required permissions for videorecording.** Before you record your video, ensure that you have the appropriate permission from the parents/guardians of your students and from adults who appear in the video. Adjust the camera angle to exclude individuals for whom you do not have permission to film.
- **Examine your lesson plans for the learning segment** and identify challenging learning tasks in which you and students are actively engaged. Clips should provide a sample of how you interact with students to support their learning.
- **Identify lessons to videorecord.**
  - Provide **2 video clips (each no more than 10 minutes in length)** that demonstrate how you interact with students in a positive learning environment to develop their ability to construct meaning from and respond to a complex text.
    - The first clip should demonstrate how you engage students in comprehending and constructing meaning from a complex feature of a text, for example, historical context, figurative language, dense informational text, visual imagery in a film.
    - The second clip should show interactions between you and at least three students during a discussion of the text to support and/or monitor their abilities to interpret the text.
  - **(Optional) Provide evidence of students' language use.** You may provide evidence of language use with your video clips from Task 2 **AND/OR** through the student work samples analyzed in Task 3.

- ▣ **Videorecord your classroom teaching.** Tips for videorecording your class are available from your teacher preparation program.
- ▣ **Select the 2 video clips to submit** and verify that each meets the following requirements:
  - A video clip must be continuous and unedited, with no interruption in events.
  - Check the video and sound quality to ensure that you and your students can be **seen** and **heard** on the video clips you submit.
  - Do not include the name of the state, school, or district in your video. Use first names only for all individuals appearing in the video.
- ▣ **Respond to prompts** listed in the Instruction Commentary section below **after viewing the video clips**.
- ▣ **Determine if additional information is needed to understand what you and the students are doing in the video clips.** For example, if there are graphics, texts, or images that are not clearly visible in the video, or comments that are not clearly heard, insert digital copies or transcriptions at the end of the Instruction Commentary (**no more than 2 pages**).

See [Task 2: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications](#) for instructions on electronic evidence submission. The evidence chart identifies supported file types, number of files, response length, and other important evidence specifications.

## What Do I Need to Write?

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### Instruction Commentary

Write the Instruction Commentary (**no more than 6 single-spaced pages, including prompts**) by providing your response to each of the prompts below.

1. Which lesson or lessons are shown in the clips? Identify the lesson(s) by lesson plan number.
2. **Promoting a Positive Learning Environment**  
Identify scenes in the video clip(s) where you provided a positive learning environment.
  - How did you demonstrate mutual respect for, rapport with, and responsiveness to students with varied needs and backgrounds, and challenge students to engage in learning?
3. **Engaging Students in Learning**  
Refer to examples from the clip(s) in your explanations.
  - a. Explain how your instruction engaged students in constructing meaning from and interpreting complex text.
  - b. Describe how your instruction linked students' prior academic learning and personal, cultural, and community assets with new learning.

#### 4. Deepening Student Learning during Instruction

Refer to examples from the clip(s) in your explanations.

- a. Explain how you elicited student responses to promote thinking and develop students' abilities to construct meaning from and interpret complex text.
- b. Explain how you supported students in using textual (or, if a film, visual or dialogue) references to check or justify their constructions of meaning and interpretations of complex text.

#### 5. Analyzing Teaching

Refer to examples from the clip(s) in your explanations.

- a. How did your instruction support learning for the whole class and students who need greater support or challenge?

Consider the variety of learners in your class who may require different strategies/support (e.g., students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students).

- b. What changes would you make to your instruction to better support student learning of the central focus (e.g., missed opportunities)?
- c. Why do you think these changes would improve student learning? Support your explanation with evidence of student learning and principles from theory and/or research as appropriate.

## How Will the Evidence of My Teaching Practice Be Assessed?

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When preparing your artifacts and commentaries, refer to the rubrics frequently to guide your thinking, planning, and writing. For Task 2: Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning, your evidence will be assessed using rubrics 6–10, which appear in the following pages.

## Instruction Rubrics

### Rubric 6: Learning Environment

How does the candidate demonstrate a positive learning environment that supports students' engagement in learning?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>The clips reveal <b>evidence of disrespectful interactions</b> between teacher and students or between students.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Candidate <b>allows disruptive behavior to interfere with student learning.</b></p>	<p>The candidate <b>demonstrates respect for students.</b></p> <p>Candidate <b>provides a learning environment that serves primarily to control student behavior, and minimally supports the learning goals.</b></p>	<p>The candidate demonstrates <b>rapport with and</b> respect for students.</p> <p>Candidate provides a <b>positive, low-risk social</b> environment that <b>reveals mutual respect among students.</b></p>	<p>The candidate demonstrates rapport with and respect for students.</p> <p>Candidate provides a <b>challenging</b> learning environment that <b>promotes</b> mutual respect among students.</p>	<p>The candidate demonstrates rapport with and respect for students.</p> <p>Candidate provides a challenging learning environment that <b>provides opportunities to express varied perspectives</b> and promotes mutual respect among students.</p>

## Instruction Rubrics continued

### Rubric 7: Engaging Students in Learning

How does the candidate actively engage students in developing students' abilities to construct meaning from and interpret complex text?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
In the clip(s), <b>students are participating in tasks that are vaguely or superficially related to the central focus.</b>	In the clip(s), students are <b>participating</b> in learning tasks or activities primarily <b>focused solely on literal comprehension of text with little attention to developing interpretive skills.</b>	In the clip(s), <b>students are engaged</b> in learning tasks <b>that address</b> their abilities to construct meaning from and interpret a complex text.	In the clip(s), students are engaged in learning tasks that <b>develop their abilities to construct meaning from and interpret a complex text.</b>	In the clip(s), students are engaged in learning tasks that <b>deepen and extend</b> their development of deep understandings of strategies to construct meaning from and interpret a complex text.
There is <b>little or no evidence that the candidate links students' prior academic learning or personal, cultural, or community assets with new learning.</b>	Candidate makes <b>vague or superficial links</b> between prior academic learning and new learning.	Candidate <b>links</b> prior academic learning to new learning.	Candidate links <b>both</b> prior academic learning <b>and personal, cultural, or community assets</b> to new learning.	Candidate <b>prompts students to link</b> prior academic learning and personal, cultural, or community assets to new learning.

## Instruction Rubrics continued

### Rubric 8: Deepening Student Learning

How does the candidate elicit student responses to promote thinking and develop their abilities to construct meaning from and interpret complex text?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>The candidate does most of the talking, and students provide few responses.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Candidate responses include <b>significant content inaccuracies</b> that will lead to student misunderstandings.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>primarily asks surface-level questions</b> and evaluates student responses as <b>correct or incorrect</b>.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>elicits student responses related to constructing meaning</b> from and interpreting complex text.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>elicits and builds on students' responses to develop</b> constructions of meaning and interpretations of complex text.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>facilitates interactions among students so they can evaluate their own abilities to apply</b> strategies for constructing meaning and interpreting complex text.</p>

## Instruction Rubrics continued

### Rubric 9: Subject-Specific Pedagogy

How does the candidate use textual references to help students understand how to construct meaning from and interpret a complex text?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>The candidate stays focused on literal comprehension of the text <b>with little or no</b> attention to <b>strategies to construct meaning or to interpret complex text.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Materials used in the clips include <b>significant content inaccuracies</b> that will lead to student misunderstandings.</p>	<p>Candidate makes <b>vague or superficial use of textual references</b> to help students construct meaning from and interpret complex text.</p>	<p>Candidate uses <b>textual references in ways that help students understand</b> strategies to construct meaning from and interpret complex text.</p>	<p>Candidate uses textual references <b>in ways that deepen student understanding</b> of strategies to construct meaning from and interpret complex text.</p>	<p>Candidate <b>and students use</b> strategically chosen textual references in ways that <b>deepen student understanding</b> of strategies to construct meaning from and interpret complex text.</p>

## Instruction Rubrics continued

### Rubric 10: Analyzing Teaching Effectiveness

How does the candidate use evidence to evaluate and change teaching practice to meet students' varied learning needs?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Candidate suggests changes <b>unrelated to evidence of student learning.</b>	Candidate proposes changes that are focused primarily on <b>improving directions for learning tasks or task/behavior management.</b>	Candidate proposes changes that address <b>students' collective learning needs related to the central focus.</b>  Candidate makes <b>superficial connections to research and/or theory.</b>	Candidate proposes changes that address <b>individual and collective learning needs</b> related to the central focus.  Candidate makes <b>connections</b> to research and/or theory.	<b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate justifies changes using principles of research and/or theory.

# Task 3: Assessing Student Learning

## What to Think About

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In Task 3: Assessing Student Learning, you will analyze student learning and their language use:

- How will you gather evidence and make sense of what students have learned?
- How will you provide meaningful feedback to your students?
- How will you use evidence of what students know and are able to do to plan next steps in instruction?
- How will you identify evidence and explain students' use of language that demonstrates the development of content understanding?

## What Do I Need to Do?

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- **Determine which assessment from your learning segment you will use** to evaluate your students' developing knowledge and skills. It should be an assessment to be completed by the entire class featured in the learning segment. The assessment should reflect the work of individuals, not groups, but may be individual work from a group task. The assessment should provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their ability to
  - comprehend and make meaning from complex text
  - interpret and/or respond to complex text
- **Define and submit the evaluation criteria** you will use to analyze student learning related to the English-Language Arts understandings described above.
- **Collect and analyze student work** to identify quantitative and qualitative patterns of learning within and across learners in the class.
- **Select 3 work samples to illustrate your analysis that** represent the patterns of learning (i.e., what individuals or groups generally understood and what a number of students were still struggling to understand). These students will be your focus students for this task. At least one of the students must have specific learning needs, for example, a student with an IEP (Individualized Education Program), an English language learner, a struggling reader, an underperforming student or a student with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or a gifted student needing greater support or challenge.
- **Document the feedback** you gave to each of the **3 focus students** either on the work sample itself, as an audio clip, or as a video clip.
- **Respond to prompts** listed in the Assessment Commentary section below **after analyzing student work from the selected assessment.**
- **Include and submit the chosen assessment, including the directions/prompts for the assessment.** Attach it (**no more than 2 pages**) to the end of the Assessment Commentary.

- Provide evidence of students' understanding and use of the targeted academic language function. You may choose evidence from video clips submitted in Task 2 **AND/OR** student work samples submitted in Task 3.

See [Task 3: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications](#) for instructions on electronic evidence submission. The evidence chart identifies supported file types, number of files, response length, and other important evidence specifications.

## What Do I Need to Write?

---

### Assessment Commentary

Write the Assessment Commentary (**no more than 8 single-spaced pages, including prompts**) by providing your response to each of the prompts below.

#### 1. Analyzing Student Learning

- a. Identify the specific standards/objectives from the lesson plans measured by the assessment chosen for analysis.
- b. Provide the evaluation criteria you are using to analyze the student learning.
- c. Provide a graphic (table or chart) or narrative summary of student learning for your whole class. Be sure to summarize student learning for all evaluation criteria described above.
- d. Use evidence found in the **3 student work samples and the whole class summary** to analyze the patterns of learning for the whole class and differences for groups or individual learners relative to
  - comprehending and making meaning from complex text
  - interpreting and/or responding to complex text

Consider what students understand and do well, and where they continue to struggle (e.g., common errors, confusions, need for greater challenge).

#### 2. Feedback to Guide Further Learning

Refer to specific evidence of submitted feedback to support your explanations.

- a. In what form did you submit your evidence of feedback for the 3 focus students?
  - Written directly on work samples or in a separate document;
  - In audio files; or
  - In video clip(s) from the instruction task (provide a time-stamp reference) or in a separate video clip?
- b. Explain how feedback provided to the 3 focus students addresses their individual strengths and needs relative to the standards/objectives measured.
- c. How will you support students to apply the feedback to guide improvement, either within the learning segment or at a later time?

### 3. Evidence of Language Understanding and Use

You may provide evidence of language use with your video clips from Task 2 **AND/OR** through the student work samples analyzed in Task 3.

Refer to examples from the clip(s) (with time stamps) and/or student work samples as evidence.

- Explain the extent to which your students were able to use language (selected function, vocabulary, and additional identified demands) to develop content understandings.

### 4. Using Assessment to Inform Instruction

- a. Based on your analysis of student learning presented in prompts 1c–d, describe next steps for instruction
  - for the whole class
  - for the three focus students and other individuals/groups with specific needs

Consider the variety of learners in your class who may require different strategies/support (e.g., students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students).

- b. Explain how these next steps follow from your analysis of student learning. Support your explanation with principles from research and/or theory.

## How Will the Evidence of My Teaching Practice Be Assessed?

When preparing your artifacts and commentaries, refer to the rubrics frequently to guide your thinking, planning, and writing. For Task 3: Assessing Student Learning, your evidence will be assessed using rubrics 11–15, which appear in the following pages.

## Assessment Rubrics

### Rubric 11: Analysis of Student Learning

#### How does the candidate analyze evidence of student learning?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>The analysis is superficial or <b>not supported</b> by either student <b>work samples or the summary of student learning</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>The evaluation criteria, learning objectives, and/or analysis are not aligned with each other.</p>	<p>The analysis <b>focuses on what students did right OR wrong using evidence</b> from the summary or work samples.</p>	<p>The analysis focuses on what students did right <b>AND</b> wrong and <b>is supported with evidence</b> from the summary and work samples.</p> <p><b>Analysis includes some differences in whole class learning.</b></p>	<p>Analysis uses <b>specific examples</b> from work samples <b>to demonstrate patterns of student learning</b> consistent with the summary.</p> <p><b>Patterns are described for whole class.</b></p>	<p>Analysis uses specific evidence from work samples to demonstrate the connections between <b>quantitative and qualitative</b> patterns of student learning for <b>individuals or groups</b>.</p>

## Assessment Rubrics continued

### Rubric 12: Providing Feedback to Guide Learning

What type of feedback does the candidate provide to the focus students?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Feedback is <b>unrelated to the learning objectives OR is inconsistent with the analysis of the student's learning.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Feedback <b>contains significant content inaccuracies.</b></p>	<p>Feedback <b>addresses only errors OR strengths generally related to the learning objectives.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Feedback is <b>inconsistently provided to focus students.</b></p>	<p>Feedback is <b>accurate and primarily focuses on either errors OR strengths related to specific learning objectives, with some attention to the other.</b></p> <p>Feedback is <b>provided consistently for the focus students.</b></p>	<p>Feedback is accurate and <b>addresses both strengths AND needs</b> related to specific learning objectives.</p> <p>Feedback is provided consistently for the focus students.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate describes how <b>s/he will guide focus</b> students to use feedback <b>to evaluate their own strengths and needs.</b></p>

## Assessment Rubrics continued

### Rubric 13: Student Use of Feedback

How does the candidate provide opportunities for focus students to use the feedback to guide their further learning?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p><b>Opportunities for applying feedback are not described.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Candidate provides <b>limited or no feedback to inform student learning.</b></p>	<p>Candidate <b>provides vague explanation for how focus students will use feedback to complete current or future assignments.</b></p>	<p>Candidate <b>describes</b> how focus students will use <b>feedback</b> on their strengths and weaknesses <b>to revise their current work, as needed.</b></p>	<p>Candidate describes <b>how s/he will support focus students to use feedback</b> on their strengths and weaknesses to deepen understandings and skills related to their current work.</p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate <b>guides</b> focus students to <b>generalize feedback beyond the current work sample.</b></p>

**Assessment Rubrics continued**

**Rubric 14: Analyzing Students' Language Use and English-Language Arts Learning**

**How does the candidate analyze students' use of language to develop content understanding?**

<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
<p>Candidate identifies <b>language use that is superficially related or unrelated to the language demands (function,<sup>6</sup> vocabulary, and additional demands).</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Candidate <b>does not address students' repeated misuse of vocabulary.</b></p>	<p>Candidate <b>provides evidence that students use vocabulary associated with the language function.</b></p>	<p>Candidate explains and provides evidence of students' use of the language function as well as <b>vocabulary or additional language demand(s).</b><sup>7</sup></p>	<p>Candidate explains and provides evidence of students' use of the language function, vocabulary, <b>and</b> additional language demand(s) <b>in ways that develop content understandings.</b></p>	<p><b>Level 4 plus:</b> Candidate <b>explains and provides evidence of language use and content learning for students with varied needs.</b></p>

<sup>6</sup> The selected language function is the verb identified in the Planning Commentary Prompt 4a (analyze, explain, interpret, etc.).

<sup>7</sup> These are the additional language demands identified in the Planning Commentary Prompt 4c (vocabulary, plus either syntax or discourse).

## Assessment Rubrics continued

### Rubric 15: Using Assessment to Inform Instruction

How does the candidate use the analysis of what students know and are able to do to plan next steps in instruction?

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Next steps <b>do not follow</b> from the analysis.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Next steps are <b>not relevant to the standards and learning objectives</b> assessed.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Next steps are <b>not described in sufficient detail</b> to understand them.</p>	<p>Next steps <b>focus on repeating instruction, pacing, or classroom management issues.</b></p>	<p>Next steps <b>propose general support that improves student learning related to standards and learning objectives assessed.</b></p>	<p>Next steps <b>provide targeted support to individuals or groups to improve their learning relative to standards and learning objectives</b> assessed.</p> <p>Next steps are <b>connected with research and/or theory.</b></p>	<p>Next steps provide targeted support to individuals <b>AND</b> groups to improve their learning relative to standards and learning objectives assessed</p> <p>Next steps are <b>justified with principles from research and/or theory.</b></p>

# Professional Responsibilities

Refer to the following table for an overview of your professional responsibilities in developing evidence for edTPA. If you are submitting artifacts and commentaries to Pearson for official scoring, refer to the Pearson website, [www.edTPA.com](http://www.edTPA.com), for complete and current information before beginning your work. Whether or not you are submitting to Pearson, you should fulfill the professional responsibilities described below.

Responsibility	Description
<b>Protect confidentiality</b>	To protect confidentiality, please remove your name and use pseudonyms or general references (e.g., “the district”) for your state, school, district, and cooperating teacher. Mask or remove all names on any typed or written materials (e.g., commentaries, lesson plans, student work samples) that could identify individuals or institutions. During video recording, use students’ first names only.
<b>Acquire permissions</b>	<p>Before you record your classroom instruction, ensure that you have the appropriate permission from the parents/guardians of your students and from adults who appear in the video recording.</p> <p>Your program will provide you with procedures and necessary forms to obtain these permissions, according to agreements with the school or district in which you are student teaching or completing your internship.</p> <p>If your program does not provide the necessary forms, you may refer to the sample forms found on the Pearson website.</p> <p>The release forms are not to be submitted with your materials, but you follow your campus policy for retaining them.</p>
<b>Cite sources</b>	Provide citations for the source of all materials that you did not create (e.g., published texts, websites, and material from other educators). List all citations by lesson number at the end of the Planning Commentary.
<b>Align instruction with state standards</b>	As part of the assessment, you will document the alignment of your lesson plans with state-adopted academic content standards or Common Core State Standards that are the target of student learning. Refer to the education agency website for your state to obtain copies of relevant standards for this assessment.
<b>Follow the guidelines for candidate support at <a href="http://www.edTPA.com">www.edTPA.com</a></b>	<p>Follow the guidelines for candidate support found at <a href="http://www.edTPA.com">www.edTPA.com</a> as you develop your evidence for edTPA. Although you may seek and receive appropriate support from your university supervisors, cooperating/master teachers, university instructors, or peers during this process, the ultimate responsibility for completing this assessment lies with you. <b>Therefore, when you submit your completed work, you must be able to confirm your adherence with certain statements, such as the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ I have primary responsibility for teaching the students/class during the learning segment profiled in this assessment.</li> <li>■ I have not previously taught this learning segment to the student/class.</li> <li>■ The video clip(s) submitted show me teaching the students/class profiled in the evidence submitted.</li> <li>■ The student work included in the documentation is that of my students, completed during the learning segment documented in this assessment.</li> <li>■ I am sole author of the commentaries and other written responses to prompts and other requests for information in this assessment.</li> <li>■ Appropriate citations have been made for all materials in the assessment whose sources are from published text, the Internet, or other educators.</li> </ul>

# Secondary English-Language Arts

## Context for Learning Information

Use the Context for Learning Information to supply information about your school/classroom context.

### About the School Where You Are Teaching

1. In what type of school do you teach?

Middle school:

High school:

Other (please describe):

Urban:

Suburban:

Rural:

2. List any special features of your school or classroom setting (e.g., charter, co-teaching, themed magnet, classroom aide, bilingual, team taught with a special education teacher) that will affect your teaching in this learning segment.
3. Describe any district, school, or cooperating teacher requirements or expectations that might affect your planning or delivery of instruction, such as required curricula, pacing plan, use of specific instructional strategies, or standardized tests.

### About the Class Featured in This Assessment

1. How much time is devoted each day to English-Language Arts instruction in your classroom?
2. Is there any ability grouping or tracking in English-Language Arts? If so, please describe how it affects your class.
3. Identify any textbook or instructional program you primarily use for English-Language Arts instruction. If a textbook, please provide the title, publisher, and date of publication.
4. List other resources (e.g., electronic white board, online resources) you use for English-Language Arts instruction in this class.

## About the Students in the Class Featured in This Assessment

1. Grade level(s), \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of
  - students in the class \_\_\_\_\_
  - males \_\_\_\_\_ females \_\_\_\_\_
3. Complete the chart below to summarize required or needed supports, accommodations or modifications for your students that will affect your instruction in this learning segment. As needed, consult with your cooperating teacher to complete the chart. The first two rows have been completed in italics as examples. Use as many rows as you need.

Consider the variety of learners in your class who may require different strategies/supports or accommodations/modifications to instruction or assessment.

- English language learners
- Gifted students needing greater support or challenge
- Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or 504 plans
- Struggling readers
- Underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge

Learning Needs Category	Number of Students	Supports, Accommodations, Modifications, and/or Pertinent IEP Goals
<i>Example: Visual processing</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Close monitoring, use audio text.</i>
<i>Example: Struggling readers</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Provide oral explanations for directions, extended time, and sentence frames to support written responses</i>

# Secondary English-Language Arts Evidence Chart

Your evidence must be submitted to the electronic portfolio management system used by your teacher preparation program. Your submission must conform to the artifact and commentary specifications for each task. This section provides instructions for all evidence types as well as a description of supported file types for evidence submission, number of files, response lengths, and other information regarding format specifications.

## Task 1: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications

What to Submit	Supported File Types	Number of Files		Response Length	Additional Information
		Min	Max		
Part A: Context for Learning Information	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	<b>No more than 3 pages</b> , including prompts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Arial 11-point type.</li> <li>Single space with 1" margins on all sides.</li> </ul>
Part B: Lesson Plans for Learning Segment	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit 3–5 lesson plans in 1 file.</li> <li>Within the file, label each lesson plan (Lesson 1, Lesson 2, etc.).</li> </ul>
Part C: Instructional Materials	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	<b>No more than 5 pages of KEY</b> instructional materials per lesson plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit materials in 1 file.</li> <li>Within the file, label materials by corresponding lesson (Lesson 1 Instructional Materials, Lesson 2 Instructional Materials, etc.).</li> <li>Order materials as they are used in the learning segment.</li> </ul>
Part D: Assessments	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit assessments in 1 file.</li> <li>Within the file, label assessments by corresponding lesson (Lesson 1 Assessments, Lesson 2 Assessments, etc.).</li> <li>Order assessments as they are used in the learning segment.</li> </ul>
Part E: Planning Commentary	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	<b>No more than 9 pages</b> , including prompts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Arial 11-point type.</li> <li>Single space with 1" margins on all sides.</li> <li>Respond to prompts before teaching the learning segment.</li> </ul>

## Task 2: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications

What to Submit	Supported File Types	Number of Files		Response Length	Additional Information
		Min	Max		
Part A: Video Clips	flv, asf, qt, mov, mpg, mpeg, avi, wmv, mp4, m4v	2	2	Running time <b>no more than 10 minutes each</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Before you record your video, obtain permission from the parents/guardians of your students and from adults who appear on the video.</li> <li>■ Refer to <a href="#">Task 2, What Do I Need to Do?</a> for video clip content and requirements.</li> <li>■ When naming each clip file, include the number of the lesson shown in the video clip.</li> </ul>
Part B: Instruction Commentary	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	<p><b>No more than 6 pages</b> of commentary, including prompts</p> <p>If needed, <b>no more than 2 pages</b> of supporting documentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Use Arial 11-point type.</li> <li>■ Single space with 1" margins on all sides.</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Insert documentation at the end of the commentary file if               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ graphics, texts, or images that you or the students are using are not clearly visible in the video</li> <li>■ portions of the video are inaudible</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ If submitting documentation, include the video clip number, lesson number, and explanatory text (e.g., "Clip 1, lesson 2, text from a whiteboard that is not visible in the video," "Clip 2, lesson 4, transcription of a student response that is inaudible").</li> </ul>

## Task 3: Artifacts and Commentary Specifications

What to Submit	Supported File Types	Number of Files		Response Length	Additional Information
		Min	Max		
Part A: Student Work Samples	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	3	3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use correction fluid, tape, or a felt-tip marker to <b>mask or remove students' names, your name, and the name of the school before copying/scanning any work samples.</b></li> <li>On each work sample, indicate the student number (Student 1 Work Sample, Student 2 Work Sample, or Student 3 Work Sample) and refer to them accordingly in the Assessment Commentary.</li> <li>When naming each work sample file, include the student number.</li> <li>If your students' writing is illegible, write a transcription directly on the work sample.</li> </ul>
Part B: Evidence of Feedback	<p><b>For written feedback not written on the work samples:</b> .doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf</p> <p><b>For audio feedback:</b> flv, asf, wmv, qt, mov, mpg, avi, mp3, wav, mp4, wma</p> <p><b>For video feedback:</b> flv, asf, qt, mov, mpg, mpeg, avi, wmv, mp4, m4v</p>	0	3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document the location of your evidence of feedback in the Assessment Commentary.</li> <li>If feedback is not written on the student work samples or recorded on the video clip(s), submit only <b>1</b> file for each student—a document, video file, <b>OR</b> audio file—and indicate the student number (Student 1 Feedback, Student 2 Feedback, or Student 3 Feedback) in the corresponding feedback.</li> <li>When naming each feedback file, include the student number.</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Do not submit an additional file for Part B if your feedback is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>written on the student work samples</li> <li>shown in the video clip(s)</li> </ul>
Part C: Assessment Commentary	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	<p><b>No more than 8 pages</b> of commentary, including prompts</p> <p>Plus <b>no more than 2 pages</b> of an analyzed assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Arial 11-point type.</li> <li>Single space with 1" margins on all sides.</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Insert a copy of the analyzed assessment, including directions/prompts, at the end of the commentary file.</p>
Part D: Evaluation Criteria	.doc; .docx; .odt; .pdf	1	1	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicate the lesson number on the corresponding evaluation criteria (Lesson 1 Evaluation Criteria, Lesson 2 Evaluation Criteria, etc.).</li> </ul>

# Secondary English-Language Arts

## Glossary

Source citations for glossary entries are provided as footnotes in this section.

**academic language:** Oral and written language used for academic purposes. Academic language is the means by which students develop and express content understandings. Academic language represents the language of the discipline that students need to learn and use to participate and engage in meaningful ways in the content area. There are **language demands** that teachers need to consider as they plan to support student learning of content. These **language demands** include **vocabulary, language functions, syntax, and discourse.**

- **discourse:** Discourse includes the structures of written and oral language, as well as how members of the discipline talk, write, and participate in knowledge construction. Discipline-specific discourse has distinctive features or ways of structuring oral or written language (text structures) that provide useful ways for the content to be communicated.<sup>8</sup> In English-Language Arts, language structures include words, grammar and mechanics, text structures, writing processes, and genres. If the language function is to persuade, then appropriate language structures include claims, supporting evidence, and counterarguments.
- **language demands:**<sup>9</sup> Specific ways that academic language (vocabulary, functions, discourse, syntax) is used by students to participate in learning tasks through reading, writing, listening, and/or speaking to demonstrate their disciplinary understanding.
- **language functions:** The content and language focus of the learning task represented by the active verbs within the learning outcomes. Common language functions in English-Language Arts include **reading/listening** for main ideas and details; **analyzing and interpreting** characters and plots; **writing** narrative, informational, or poetic text; **using presentation skills** to present a play, a speech, or do a dramatic reading; **evaluating and interpreting** an author's purpose, message, and use of language choice, setting, mood, tone, and other literary strategies; **comparing ideas** within and between texts; and **making sense of unfamiliar vocabulary** through pictures, word parts, and contextual clues.
- **language supports:** Strategies that are used to build students' academic language within a learning task. Strategies involve both modeling the appropriate language for the students to use in a learning task as well as opportunities for guided practice and

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<sup>8</sup> Quinn, H., Lee, O., & Valdés, G. (2012). Language demands and opportunities in relation to next generation science standards for ELLs. Retrieved from <http://ell.stanford.edu/publication/3-language-demands-and-opportunities-relation-next-generation-science-standards-ells>

<sup>9</sup> O'Hara, S., Pritchard, R., & Zwiers, J. (2012). Identifying academic language demands in support of the common core standards. *ASCD Express*, 7(17). Retrieved from <http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol7/717-ohara.aspx>

independent practice. Strategies include think pair share, choral response, word walls, modeling, graphic organizers, and so on.

- **syntax:** The set of conventions for organizing symbols, words, and phrases together into structures (e.g., sentences, graphs, tables).<sup>10</sup>
- **vocabulary:** Includes words and phrases that are used within disciplines including: (1) words and phrases with subject-specific meanings that differ from meanings used in everyday life (e.g., table); (2) general academic vocabulary used across disciplines (e.g., compare, analyze, evaluate); and (3) subject-specific words defined for use in the discipline.<sup>11</sup>

**artifacts:** Authentic work completed by you and your students, including lesson plans, copies of instructional and assessment materials, video clips of your teaching, and student work samples. Artifacts are submitted as part of your evidence.

**assessment (formal and informal):** “[R]efer[s] to all those activities undertaken by teachers and by their students . . . that provide information to be used as feedback to modify the teaching and learning activities.”<sup>12</sup> Assessments provide evidence of students’ prior knowledge, thinking, or learning in order to evaluate what students understand and how they are thinking. Informal assessments may include such things as student questions and responses during instruction and teacher observations of students as they work. Formal assessments may include such things as quizzes, homework assignments, journals, and projects.

#### **assets (knowledge of students):**

- **personal:** Refers to specific background information that students bring to the learning environment. Students may bring interests, knowledge, everyday experiences, family backgrounds, and so on, that a teacher can draw upon to support learning.
- **cultural:** Refers to the cultural backgrounds and practices that students bring to the learning environment, such as traditions, languages, world views, literature, art, and so on, that a teacher can draw upon to support learning.
- **community:** Refers to common backgrounds and experiences that students bring from the community where they live, such as resources, local landmarks, community events, practices, and so on, that a teacher can draw upon to support learning.

**central focus:** A description of the important understandings and core concepts that you want students to develop within the learning segment. The central focus should go beyond a list of facts and skills, align with content standards and learning objectives, and address the subject-specific components in the learning segment. For example, the subject-specific components for secondary English-Language Arts include construction of explicit and

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<sup>10</sup> Zwiers, J. (2008). *Building academic language: Essential practices for content classrooms*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

<sup>11</sup> Quinn, H., Lee, O., & Valdés, G. (2012). Language demands and opportunities in relation to next generation science standards for ELLs. Retrieved from <http://ell.stanford.edu/publication/3-language-demands-and-opportunities-relation-next-generation-science-standards-ells>

<sup>12</sup> Black, P., & William, D. (1998). Inside the black box: Raising standards through classroom assessment. *Phi Delta Kappan*. Retrieved from <https://www.measuredprogress.org/documents/10157/15653/InsideBlackBox.pdf>

inferred meaning from text and analysis of themes and ideas. A central focus for the learning segment might be analyzing the author's use of language to develop theme within a complex text. The learning segment would focus on conceptual understanding of figurative language and characterization, citing evidence, and appropriate reasoning.

**commentary:** Submitted as part of each task and, along with artifacts, make up your evidence. The commentaries should be written to explain the rationale behind your teaching decisions and to analyze and reflect on what you have learned about your teaching practice and your students' learning.

**complex text:** According to the Common Core State Standards,<sup>13</sup> can be measured by three dimensions: (1) The qualitative dimensions which include the meaning, purpose, structure, language conventions, and knowledge demands of the text for the reader; (2) The quantitative dimensions, such as word length or frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion of the text; and (3) The reader and task dimensions, which are variable specific to the readers, such as motivation, prior knowledge and experience, and the particular purpose and tasks to be done with the texts.

**electronic submission:** Your evidence is submitted electronically through the electronic portfolio management system used by your teacher preparation program. Your submission must conform to the specifications listed in the [Secondary English-Language Arts Evidence Chart](#).

**engaging students in learning:** Using instructional and motivational strategies that promote students' active involvement in learning tasks that increase their knowledge, skills, and abilities related to specific learning objectives. Engagement in learning contrasts with student participation in learning tasks that are not well designed and/or implemented and do not increase student learning.

**evidence:** Consists of **artifacts** that document how you planned and implemented instruction **AND commentaries** that explain your plans and what is seen in the video recording(s) or examine what you learned about your teaching practice and your students' learning. Evidence should demonstrate your ability to design lesson plans with instructional supports that deepen student learning, use knowledge of your students to inform instruction, foster a positive learning environment that promotes student learning, monitor and assess student progress toward learning objectives, and analyze your teaching effectiveness. Your evidence must be submitted electronically using the electronic portfolio management system used by your teacher preparation program.

**evaluation criteria:** Performance indicators or dimensions that are used to assess evidence of student learning. They indicate the qualities by which levels of performance can be differentiated and that anchor judgments about the learner's degree of success on an assessment. Evaluation criteria can be represented in various ways, such as a rubric, a point system for different levels of performance, or rules for awarding full versus partial

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<sup>13</sup> National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers. (2010). Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects Appendix A: Research Supporting Key Elements of the Standards and Glossary of Key Terms. Retrieved from [http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix\\_A.pdf](http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_A.pdf)

credit. Evaluation criteria may examine correctness/accuracy, cognitive complexity, sophistication or elaboration of responses, or quality of explanations.

**learning environment:** The designed physical and emotional context, established and maintained throughout the learning segment to support a positive and productive learning experience for students.

**learning objectives:** Student learning outcomes to be achieved by the end of the lesson or learning segment.

**learning segment:** A set of 3–5 lessons that build one upon another toward a central focus, with a clearly defined beginning and end.

**learning task:** Includes activities, discussions, or other modes of participation that engage students to develop, practice, and apply skills and knowledge related to a specific learning goal. Learning tasks may be scaffolded to connect prior knowledge to new knowledge and often include formative assessment. A sample English-Language Arts learning task for students working with poetry could be: Identify examples of figurative language (e.g., metaphors, similes, personification); generate alternate examples of figurative language in opposition to those presented in the text; small group discussions about how the meaning of the poem changes when alternate examples are inserted; individual analysis of a new poem in terms of how figurative language helps the reader interpret the poem.

**patterns of learning:** Includes both quantitative and qualitative consistencies for different groups of students and individuals across the whole class. Quantitative patterns indicate the number of similar correct responses or errors across or within student assessments. Qualitative patterns include descriptions of understandings and/or misunderstandings, partial understandings, and/or perceptions and interpretations that underlie the quantitative patterns.

**prior academic learning and prerequisite skills:** Includes students' content knowledge and skills as well as academic experiences developed prior to the learning segment.

**rubrics:** Subject-specific evaluation criteria used to score your performance on edTPA. These rubrics are included in the handbook following the directions for each task. The descriptors in the five-level rubrics address a wide range of performance representing the knowledge and skills of a novice not ready to teach (Level 1) to the advanced practices of a highly accomplished beginner (Level 5).

**variety of learners:** Students in your class who may require different strategies or support. These students include but are not limited to students with IEPs, English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming students or those with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or gifted students.