



2015-16 ELS Benchmark Assessment Manual

Assessments

2nd - 8th ELA, English II

2nd - 8th Math, Algebra

Contents

Overview	page 3
Administrator Instructions	page 4
Teacher Instructions - ELA	page 5
Student direction-offline	page 5
Student directions-online	page 6
Teacher Instructions - Math	page 7
Student direction-offline	page 7
Student directions-online	page 8
Teacher instructions -Performance Tasks	page 9
Appendix	
ELA Assessment Content	page 10
Math Assessment Content	page 11

OVERVIEW

Introduction

The ELS Benchmarks are assessments that provide a snapshot of student performance in relation to the MAP (Questar) assessments. Student results on our evaluations provide teachers with the data they need to prepare students for state testing.

Details

Each ELS benchmark is based on the MAP (Questar) blueprint reported by MDE. Students may take either an online or offline assessment. The offline evaluation replaces technology enhanced items with multiple choice items. The number and types of items will be proportional to the MAP (Questar) blueprint. Our assessments, however, are shorter in length to reduce the amount of testing and protect teaching time. See 'Assessment Comparison' at the end of this document to view a comparison of the ELS Benchmarks and MAP (Questar) assessments.

Testing Dates and Sessions

The suggested testing window for test administration is between February 29 and March 18, 2016. Districts may also choose to give the assessment one week before or after the suggested testing window. **The math assessment can be administered in one test session of approximately 60 minutes; the ELA assessment can be administered in two test sessions of approximately 60 minutes each or one test session of approximately two hours.** The time limit should be determined and enforced by each school.

Data

Data will include item and objective analysis reports for the school, teacher and student level. Each item also has detailed information for the school and teacher. Each report provides a comparison to an overall ELS average and a cohort average for similar groups of students.

Assessment Parts

- **Online or Offline Assessment (auto-scored)**
This part of the assessment is stand-alone and only includes auto-scored items. This will enable teachers to obtain immediate results.
- **Offline Performance Task (teacher-scored)**
This **optional** part of the assessment is also stand-alone and can be done **only offline**. A rubric is available to assist teachers in scoring this assessment. This score will **not** be included with the auto-scored assessment. These items are being provided as an option for teachers who wish to give students practice with these types of questions.

ADMINISTRATOR INSTRUCTIONS

A district-level contact person will be sent information concerning benchmark testing. It is the responsibility of this contact person to distribute testing information to those who need it. Information will include:

- 2015-2016 Benchmark Assessment Manual
- A link to online and offline PDF versions of the tests and answer keys
- A zipped file of Performance Tasks for both Math & ELA

Benchmark tests can be viewed in EZ Assessment by going to the 15-16 Spring Benchmark folder under *View Test List*. The tests are only viewable to district-level users.

Online Testing

For a complete guide for administering an online test, please visit:

http://support.k12els.com/els_cat/ez_assessment/ and click *Administer Test (Online)*. This guide will show you how to do the following:

- Before online testing can begin, an administrator will need to assign a test to each group of students who will be testing.
- When each test is assigned and open for testing, a unique access code will be created which students will use to enter the assigned test.
- Students will go to <https://www.ezatest.com/testing>, enter the access code, and choose their name or student number to open the test.
- After answering a question, the student will click *Submit Answer* to save an answer and move on to another question.
- When finished testing, the student will click *I'm Done*. (It's important to click *I'm Done* at the end of each testing session. This logs the student out, but will allow the student to log back in should they need to continue the test at another time.)
- When all students in an assigned group have finished testing, the test is ready to close, score, and publish.

Offline Testing

For a complete guide for administering an offline test, please visit:

http://support.k12els.com/els_cat/ez_assessment/ and click *Administer Test (Offline)*.

While PDF versions of offline tests are provided, it is the responsibility of the district to print copies for all offline assessments.

- Offline testing requires an Apperson Benchmark 3000 scanner and scan forms for scoring. Contact ELS if you need to purchase these products or set up your scanner.
- Scan forms need to be preplugged before students begin testing.
- Students will complete tests by marking their answers on the scan form.
- Forms can then be scanned and uploaded into EZ Assessment to view results.

Contact ELS Customer Support if you need assistance with testing:

support@k12els.com or 877-233-7833

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS - ELA

Suggestions for Teachers Administering Assessments

- The ELA Benchmark Assessment is built with integration in mind. As a result, students will read multiple texts and answer a variety of question types over a broad range of Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards.
- For the ELA assessment it is suggested that students should be allowed approximately two, 60 minute sessions to complete the test, however, districts may choose to give the test in one two hour session.*
- If choosing to administer the performance task item, it is suggested that additional time be provided for students to complete this item. Performance task items must be completed offline **and must be scored by teachers**. Rubrics have been made available to the districts for assistance with teacher scoring. Performance Tasks will not be included in benchmark scoring. See teacher instructions for Performance Tasks on page 9 .

Student Directions for ELA - Offline

Please read the following directions to the students at the beginning of the test session:

- Today we will begin taking the ELA Benchmark assessment. You will have 60 minutes (or two hours if assessing in just one day)* to complete this part of the test.
- Some questions are **two-part** items. Please look for **Part A** and **Part B**.
- To answer the questions, you will first be asked to read the passages. Read each passage and the questions carefully. Choose the best answer for each question marking answers on your answer sheet.
- You may look back at the passage or passages as often as you need to.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to the question if time permits.
- *(If you are testing in two sessions, tell students that they will stop at the question indicated in the chart below.)*

Grade Level	Day 1	Day 2
2 nd Grade	Questions 1-18	Questions 19-35
3 rd Grade	Questions 1-18	Questions 19-35
4 th Grade	Questions 1-17	Questions 18-35
5 th Grade	Questions 1-17	Questions 18-35
6 th Grade	Questions 1-17	Questions 18-40
7 th Grade	Questions 1-17	Questions 18-40
8 th Grade	Questions 1-25	Questions 25-40
English II	Questions 1-23	Questions 24-42

*Time determined by district

Student Directions for ELA - Online

Please read the following directions to students at the beginning of the test session:

- Today we will begin taking the ELA Benchmark assessment. You will have 60 minutes (or two hours if assessing in just one day)* to complete this part of the test.
- To answer the questions, you will first be asked to read the passages. Read each passage and the questions carefully. Choose the best answer for each question.
- You may look back at the passage or passages as often as you need to.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to the question if time permits.
- When finished answering each question, click *Submit Answer* and your answer will be saved. You may return to make changes even if the answer has already been submitted.
- *(If you are testing in two sessions, tell students that they will stop at the question indicated in the chart below.)*

Grade Level	Day 1	Day 2
2 nd Grade	Questions 1-16	Questions 17-31
3 rd Grade	Questions 1-16	Questions 17-31
4 th Grade	Questions 1-15	Questions 16-31
5 th Grade	Questions 1-15	Questions 16-31
6 th Grade	Questions 1-15	Questions 16-35
7 th Grade	Questions 1-15	Questions 16-35
8 th Grade	Questions 1-21	Questions 22-35
English II	Questions 1-21	Questions 22-35

- To log on, go to <https://www.ezatest.com/testing>, enter the access code, choose your name (or *student number*) from the drop-down list, and click *Login*.
- When finished testing, click *I'm Done*. You will be able to log back on at another time if you need to complete the test later.

*Time determined by district

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS - MATH

Suggestions for Administering Assessments

- The Math Benchmark Assessment is built with integration in mind. As a result students will answer a variety of question types over a broad range of Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards.
- It is suggested that students should be allowed approximately 60 minutes to take this test.
- If choosing to administer the performance task item, it is suggested that additional time be provided for students to complete the item. Performance task items must be completed offline **and scored by teachers**. Rubrics have been made available to the districts for assistance with teacher scoring. Performance Tasks will not be included in benchmark scoring. See teacher instructions for Performance Tasks on page 9 .

Calculator Items

ELS follows MAP (Questar) calculator guidelines:

- Grades 3-5: No calculators are allowed.
- Grades 5-7: Four-function with square root and percentage functions
- Grade 8: Scientific calculators
- High School: Graphing calculators

If testing online, a calculator tool is available. However, students must provide their own graphing calculator for the Algebra I test.

Student Directions for Math - **Offline**

Please read the following directions to the students at the beginning of the test session:

- Today we will begin taking the Math Benchmark assessment. You will have (60 minutes)* to complete this part of the test.
- You may use your calculator as needed for the entire test. (See guidelines above.)
- There will be several types of items. Do your best to answer every question.

*Time determined by district

Student Directions for Math - Online

Please read the following directions to the students at the beginning of the test session:

- Today we will begin taking the Math Benchmark assessment. You will have (60 minutes)* to complete this part of the test.
- You may use your calculator or the online calculator tool as needed for the entire test. (See guidelines above.)
- There will be several types of items. Do your best to answer every question.
- When finished answering each question, click *Submit Answer* and your answer will be saved.
- To log on, go to <https://www.ezatest.com/testing>, enter the access code, choose your name (*or student number*) from the drop-down list, and click *Login*.
- When finished testing, click *I'm Done*. You will be able to log back on at another time if you need to complete the test later.

*Time determined by district

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS – PERFORMANCE TASKS

About Performance Tasks

- Performance Tasks are stand-alone assessments that are given only **offline**.
- These Tasks can be given as a practice assessment, or used in class as an assignment preparing students for these types of assessments.
- Performance Tasks are optional and scores are not included along with the Math and ELA assessments. These tasks are teacher-scored.
- Performance Tasks are available for both Math and ELA for each grade level.

MATH

Student Directions for Math Performance Tasks

- This assessment will consist of several tasks which may require you to answer questions, explain your answer, or complete other tasks.
- Read each part and carefully follow the directions.
- Answer your questions on the assessment page. Use your own paper if more room is needed

Scoring the Math Performance Task

- Teachers will use the provided rubric to score Performance Tasks.

ELA

Student Directions for ELA Performance Tasks

- In this Performance Task, you will first read one or two given passages.
- Then you will write an essay based on a question or set of questions.
- Be sure to look at how your essay will be scored before beginning your writing.

Scoring the ELA Performance Tasks

- The MAP will use this document to score essays:
https://districtaccess.mde.k12.ms.us/studentassessment/Public%20Access/Statewide_Assessment_Programs/MAP-Mississippi%20Assessment%20Program/ELA-Rubric-Guide/ELA%20Rubric%20Guide%2013OCT15.pdf. Teachers may wish to refer to this document when scoring ELA Performance Tasks.
- The last three pages of the MAP document will be provided to assist teachers with scoring the Performance Tasks.

APPENDIX

ELA Assessment Comparison

	PARCC	MAP (Questar)	ELS
Testing Sessions	3 sessions (PBA) 2 Sessions (EOY)	Yet to be specified	2 Sessions - Approximately 60 minutes each OR 1 two hour session
Standards	Common Core State Standards	Mississippi College and Career Readiness	Mississippi College and Career Readiness
Passages	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 4 <u>Grades 6-10:</u> 5	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 5 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 6 <u>Grade 10:</u> 7	<u>Grades 2-3:</u> 5 <u>Grades 4, 7:</u> 6 <u>Grades 5-6:</u> 5 <u>Grades 8, 10:</u> 5
Passage Lexiles	<u>Grade 3:</u> 420L-820L <u>Grades 4-5:</u> 740L-1010L <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 925L-1185L <u>Grades 9-10:</u> 1050L-1335L	Same	same
Passage Lengths	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 200-800 words <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 400-1000 words <u>Grade 10:</u> 500-1500 words	<u>Grade 3:</u> 300-800 words <u>Grades 4-5:</u> 450-800 words <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 650-1000 words <u>Grade 10:</u> 800-1500 words	Low to mid-range (For purposes of limiting the assessment to two sessions)
Total Items	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 26 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 26 <u>Grade 10:</u> 26	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 40 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 50 <u>Grade 10:</u> 50	<u>Grades 2-5:</u> offline-35 online-31 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> offline-40 online-35 <u>Grade 10:</u> offline-42 online-38
Performance Tasks	16-18 items	1 essay	1 essay**
Item Types	Multiple choice, choice multiple, inline choice, drag and drop, hot spot, equation editor, text entry	Multiple choice, choice multiple, choice multiple dynamic, select text, graphing, drag and drop, matching, two part	Multiple choice, choice multiple, choice multiple dynamic, graphing, drag and drop, two part

* Essay will be a separate (optional), teacher-scored paper/pencil assessment

APPENDIX

Math Assessment Comparison

	PARCC	MAP (Questar)	ELS
Testing Sessions	3 sessions (PBA) 2 Sessions (EOY)	Yet to be specified	1 session Approximately 60 minutes
Standards	Common Core State Standards	Mississippi College and Career Readiness	Mississippi College and Career Readiness
Total Items	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 36-39 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 33-34 <u>Algebra:</u> 35	<u>Grades 3-5:</u> 46-48 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> 58 <u>Algebra:</u> 49	<u>Grades 2-5:</u> offline-45 online-48-49 <u>Grades 6-8:</u> offline-50 online-52-54 <u>Algebra:</u> offline-50 online-51
Performance Tasks	16-18 items	1	1
Item Types	Multiple choice, choice multiple, inline choice, drag and drop, hot spot, equation editor, text entry	Multiple choice, choice multiple, select text, graphing, drag and drop, matching, two part	Multiple choice, choice multiple, select text, graphing, drag and drop, two part