

Spring 2016 Directions for Completing Grade 3 FSA ELA Reading Paper-Based Items

Test administrators or other school staff will use this handout, along with the accompanying script (available in the FSA Portal), to administer **required** paper-based test item practice sessions to students prior to testing. Students may also access this handout on the FSA Portal to practice on their own.

The purpose of this handout is to orient test administrators and students to the possible types of test items that **may** appear on the Grade 3 Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) Reading assessment. Please note that many actual ELA Reading items and some of the sample items that appear on this handout are used in conjunction with a reading passage. Students will use this handout to practice responding to the items types, not working the sample items, as the sample passages are not provided.

1) For **multiple-choice items**, choose the best answer from the answer options, and fill in one circle for the correct answer. This item type may have three or more answer options. Fill in the circle by making a solid mark that completely fills the circle.

Example:

What is the relationship between paragraphs 2 and 3 in the passage?

- Ⓐ comparison
- Ⓑ introduction
- Ⓒ cause and effect
- Ⓓ question and answer

2) For **multiselect items**, select the specified number of correct answers (i.e., more than one) from the answer options, and fill in the circles for more than one correct answer. The item will make clear how many circles you should fill, so be sure to read the item carefully. This item type may have four or more answer options.

Example A:

With which two sentences would the author agree?

- Ⓐ Learning is exciting no matter how you do it.
- Ⓑ All students should go to school on the Internet.
- Ⓒ Thousands of students in the same class are too many.
- Ⓓ Online classrooms are a good alternative to regular ones.
- Ⓔ Students in the same class should live close to each other.

Example B:

Fill in the circle **before** the two sentences that show how online classrooms and regular classrooms are alike.

Ⓐ Today, students who live far away from their teacher have classes on the Internet. Ⓑ In some online classrooms, a classroom full of kids can use a special computer program at the same time as the teacher. Ⓒ The students can live in one country, and the teacher can be located in a different country. Ⓓ Still, it's just like a classroom at your school. Ⓔ The teacher can teach the kids. Ⓕ The kids can ask questions. Ⓖ Everyone can see and hear everything that's being said as it happens.

3) For **open response items**, read the question carefully, and write your answer in the space provided. This item type can be answered in one to two complete sentences. Any writing outside the box will not be scored.

Example:

What is one way fire ants use their claws and jaws during a flood? Use information from Passage 1 to support your answer.

Write in the space provided below.

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- 4) For **multi-part items**, enter your responses to two or more related questions. The parts of the item may be either **multiple-choice** (one correct answer) or **multiselect** (more than one correct answer), so be sure to read the item carefully to know how many correct answers to choose.

Example:

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in Passage 1, with which statement would the author agree?

- Ⓐ Rafts are too small to fit all of the ants from a colony.
- Ⓑ Smaller colonies may not live through a flood.
- Ⓒ The ants may not survive the journey without food.
- Ⓓ Building a raft is a clever way for the ants to survive.

Part B

Which piece of evidence from Passage 1 supports your answer in Part A?

- Ⓐ "What a tangle of ants! But it's just what the ants need to save their colony from drowning." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ "Once the raft is in place, one by one and two by two, more ants march out of the nest and onto the ant raft." (paragraph 4)
- Ⓒ "They carry ant eggs, ant babies, and, of course, the queen. (Some ants may even pack a bit of food for the trip.)" (paragraph 4)
- Ⓓ "An average-sized nest is made up of 100,000 fire ants." (paragraph 5)

- 5) For **editing tasks**, choose the correct word or phrase to fill in each blank in a passage. For each blank, fill in the circle **before** the correct word or phrase. If you write your answer in the blank but do not fill in the circle, your answer will not be scored.

Example:

Tomorrow was the spelling bee. Sam was nervous, so he asked his mom to help him practice. If he worked hard, he knew he could learn all of the _____ [Ⓐ word's Ⓑ words' Ⓒ wordes Ⓓ words].