

TSIA2 ELAR Content Strands

Reading Focused Content (CRC 15 questions) (DT 24 questions)

Literary Text Analysis (1 4-item question on CRC) (3 4-item questions on DT)

- explicit information (identify ideas explicitly stated and clearly indicated in literary text)
- inferences (draw reasonable inferences from literary text)
- author's craft (analyze an author's word choice rhetorically, analyze text structure, purpose, and audience, and analyze point of view and perspective in literary text)
- vocabulary (meaning of words and phrases in context in literary text)

Informational Text Analysis (11 questions on CRC) (12 questions on DT)

- main ideas and supporting details – identify and comprehend in informational text)
- inferences from single-passage (draw reasonable inferences from informational text)
- author's craft (analyze word choice rhetorically, analyze text structure, purpose, and audience, and analyze point of view and perspective in informational text)
- vocabulary (interpreting words and phrases in context in information text)
- On Diagnostic Test only – apply decoding skills
- synthesis from paired argumentative passages (draw reasonable connections between two related argumentative texts, including determining rhetorical relationships, analyzing commonalities, and analyzing claims and counterclaims)

Writing Focused Content (CRC 15 questions) (DT 24 questions)

Essay Revision and Editing (1 4-item question on CRC) (3 4-item questions on DT)

- development (revise as necessary to improve the development of text)
- organization (revise as necessary to improve the organization of text)
- effective language use (revise as necessary to improve the rhetorical use of language)
- Standard English conventions (edit text as necessary to ensure conformity to the conventions of standard written English grammar, usage, and punctuation)

Sentence Revision, Editing, and Completion (11 questions on CRC) (12 questions on DT)

- conventions of grammar (edit and complete sentences)
- conventions of usage (edit and complete sentences)
- conventions of punctuation (edit and complete sentences)
- Conventions of spelling and capitalization (on Diagnostic Test only)
- Purpose and organization (on Diagnostic Test only)
- Sentence combining (on Diagnostic Test only)

Source

TSIA2 English Language Arts and Reading Specifications V1.4

<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/training-materials/tsia2-elar-test-specifications-v1-4/>



Test Taking Strategies

- **Key Factors on Reading**

- It does not measure whether you can read. Instead, it measures whether you can *understand* certain things about what you read.
- There will be 100-400 word passages where one or more questions will be associated with it.
- You cannot return to previous questions once you submit your answer.

- Test Day Strategies on Reading

- Preview the item stems (question or incomplete statement) associated with a passage before reading the passage. That way you can look for that info as you read the passage.
- Read the passage (you don't have to memorize anything) and summarize it in your own words.
- Answer the items (make sure you are answering the question being asked, and pay attention to thought-reversers: NOT, BUT, EXCEPT)

- **Key Factors on Writing**

- There are three types of multiple-choice questions
- Based on a short passage looking for test organization, transitions, and use of evidence.
- Based on a single sentence with an underlined word or phrase looking for agreement (subject/verb, pronouns/nouns, verb tense), punctuation, and sentence structure.
- Based on a single sentence that has been partially rewritten and you must choose the most grammatically correct choice looking for transitions, correct modifiers, sentence structure and agreement.
- You cannot return to previous questions once you submit your answer.

- Test Strategies on Writing

- Read any items with underlined parts, looking for errors .
- Work backwards from the answer choices (compare answer choices with the original, or plug in each answer choice, or reread the relevant portion of the passage)
- Don't look for spelling or capitalization errors; those aren't tested.

- **Key Factors on Essay**

- It uses Persuasive style
 - P1 – Choose a side and 3 reasons why
 - P2 – Take first reason and give examples and details
 - P3 – Take second reason and give examples and details
 - P4 – Take third reason and give examples and details
 - P5 – Restate the side you chose and the 3 reasons why
- While the word count can be between 350-600 words, more passing scores are given to students who are closer to the max words.
- Judged on if you can make your ideas clear and use proper English and grammar.