

**ISTEP+: Grade 10 English/Language Arts  
Blueprint Beginning Spring 2016**

*There are eight strands for English/Language Arts divided into four categories. Speaking and Listening is assessed in the classroom.*

Strands Assessed	Description	Percent Range*
<b>Reading:</b> Literature and Vocabulary	Questions are based on a range of grade-level literature and may include analyzing the use and development of literary elements and two or more themes or central ideas; analyzing the development, interaction, and impact of dynamic characters; analyzing and evaluating structures of literary texts and the effects those structures create; analyzing how works of literary or cultural significance draw on and transform earlier texts; supporting analysis of texts with explicit and inferential textual support; determining and clarifying the meanings of words and understanding their relationships; analyzing nuances in words with similar meanings; and determining and analyzing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases and their impact on meaning and tone in literature.	30-40%
<b>Reading:</b> Nonfiction, Vocabulary and Media Literacy	Questions are based on a range of grade-level nonfiction and may include analyzing how two or more central ideas are developed over the course of a text and interact while building on one another, analyzing how the author unfolds a series of ideas or events, providing analysis of claims and ideas and how they are refined by the text, determining author's perspective or purpose and analyzing an author's rhetoric, delineating and evaluating argument and claims, analyzing seminal U.S. and world documents of historical and literary significance, supporting analysis of texts with explicit and inferential textual support, analyzing how media include or exclude information from visual messages to achieve a desired result, determining and clarifying the meanings of words and understanding their relationships, analyzing nuances in words with similar meanings, and determining and analyzing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases and their impact on meaning and tone in nonfiction texts.	30-40%
<b>Writing:</b> Genres, Writing Process, Research Process	Questions may include argument, informative, or narrative writing in response to literature and nonfiction texts; rewriting; editing to produce and strengthen writing that is clear and coherent; locating information in authoritative sources; and assessing the usefulness of sources.	10-20%
<b>Writing:</b> Conventions of Standard English	Questions may include using/and or identifying grade-level appropriate Standard English conventions (e.g., usage of parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling).	10-20%

\* This range represents the approximate emphasis for each reporting category on the assessment.