

Fact Sheet for Writing/Escritura TCAP – Grades 3-10

Construction Information:

Grade 3:

- 39 items; Total test score points = 56
- 35 multiple choice, 4 constructed response
 - Multiple choice score points = 35 or 62% of total
 - Constructed response score points = 21 or 38% of total

Of the constructed response items for Grade 3:

- All are in response to a writing prompt
- No plan is included
- 4 are paragraph or short constructed response written products

Grades 4 - 10:

- 46 items; Total test score points = 69
- 40 multiple choice, 6 constructed response
 - Multiple choice score points = 40 or 58% of total
 - Constructed response score points = 29 or 42% of total

Of the constructed response items for Grades 4 - 10:

- All are in response to a writing prompt
- 1 plan is included
- 1 is an extended constructed response item allowing the use of the complete writing process
- 4 are paragraph or short constructed response written items

Additional Information:

- Tests are designed to be given in three 60-minute sessions. However, Grade 3 only has two sessions.
- Each session has a similar composition of item types.

Weighting of Standards by Grade Level for Writing TCAP

	Grade 3	Grades 4-10
Standard	%ScrPts	%ScrPts
2	43	53
3	57	47

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Test Scoring

- Multiple choice items are machine scored.
- Constructed response items are scored by readers hired and trained by the test contractor under specific guidelines from CDE personnel and Colorado teachers.
- Each constructed response item is scored using a writing rubric provide on the CDE website.
- Performance category cut scores are set using the Bookmarking Process.

Associated materials available on the CDE website (www.cde.state.co.us)

- Assessment Frameworks
- TCAP Item Maps (Available after Spring 2012 administration)
- TCAP Performance Level Scale Ranges
- Math Proficiency Levels
- TCAP Technical Report (Available Fall 2012)
- Released Items
- Writing Scoring Rubrics
- Writing Checklists
- Data Interpretation Guidelines
- Guides to Test Interpretation
- Test results at school, district and state levels
- Student work from released Constructed Response Items (Anchor Papers)

Sub-Content Areas Reported Out on the Student Performance Report for Writing

Paragraph Writing: Student writes a short written product in response to a prompt. There is a small amount of space provided for planning, however, no score is awarded for any plan. To complete this task, it is not expected that the student would write a draft, revise, edit and re-write into a final written product.

Extended Writing: Student writes an extended written product in response to a prompt. It is expected that the student would use the entire writing process, including the completion of some sort of plan, a written draft, revision, and edit before the completion of the final written product in the test booklet. One point is awarded for evidence of a planning stage in this writing process. *NOTE: Extended Writing is not reported in Grade 3.*

Grammar and Usage: Student uses knowledge of English language rules including grammar, syntax and sentence structure to demonstrate proper English usage in both written prompts and multiple choice formats. *NOTE: Grammar and Usage is not reported in Grade 3.*

Mechanics: Student uses knowledge of punctuation, spelling, and procedures for creating a variety of sentence structures to demonstrate proper English usage in both written prompts and multiple choice formats.

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Sub-Content Area #	Grade 3	Grade 3 Escritura	Grade 4	Grade 4 Escritura	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
Sub-Content Area										
5	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing	Paragraph Writing
6			Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing	Extended Writing
7	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage	Grammar & Usage
8	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics	Mechanics