

## English Language Arts (ELA) Quantitative Text Complexity Guidelines

Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Grade	ATOS	Flesch-Kincaid	The Lexile Framework®	Total Word Counts per Passage/Paired
2 – 3	2.75 – 5.14	1.98 – 5.34	420 – 820	300 – 800
4 – 5	4.97 – 7.03	4.51 – 7.75	740 – 1010	450 – 800
6 – 8	7.00 – 9.98	6.51 – 10.34	925 – 1185	650 – 1000
9 – 10	9.67 – 12.01	8.32 – 12.12	1050 – 1335	800 – 1500
11 <sup>th</sup> – CCR	11.20 – 14.10	10.34 – 14.2	1185 – 1385	800 – If 1500

Students will see a variety of text complexities on the assessment. Quantitative text complexity measures are determined using a computer-based program that measures certain criteria of a text to determine how difficult a text will be for a student to decode and comprehend. The computer-based programs measure word length, sentence length, and word frequency. Each quantitative tool, such as ATOS and The Lexile Framework, have a specific scale used to determine the complexity of the text. These quantitative scores, along with input from educators through the use of qualitative rubrics and considerations of the reader and task, will determine which texts are used on the assessment. The table indicates the range of quantitative complexity a text should fall within in order to be considered for the English Language Arts (ELA) assessments.

## English Language Arts (ELA)

### ELA Literary and Informational Passage Distribution and Passage Selections

#### Distribution of Literary and Informational Passages by Genre

Grade	Literary	Informational
4	50%	50%
8	45%	55%
12	30%	70%

Source: National Assessment Governing Board. (2008). *Reading framework for the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

#### Passage Distribution for MAAP Grades 3-5, 6-8, and End-of-Course

Grade 3-5 Passage Selections	
Selection	Number of Passages
Literature	2
Informational	2
Embedded Field Test	1

Grade 6-8 Passage Selections	
Selection	Number of Passages
Literature	2
Informational	3
Embedded Field Test	1

EOC Passage Selections	
Selection	Number of Passages
Literature	2
Informational	4
Embedded Field Test	1