



STAAR Update

October 26, 2011



<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/>

STAAR Frequently Asked Questions

- **What are the most significant differences between the STAAR assessments and the TAKS assessments?**
 - **The rigor of items has been increased**
 - **Assessing skills at a greater depth and level of cognitive complexity.**
 - **Link student achievement postsecondary readiness**
 - **The total number of test items has increased for most grades, subjects and courses.**
 - **A four hour time limit has been established for STAAR assessments, opposed to untimed.**



STAAR Frequently Asked Questions

- **What are the most significant differences between the STAAR assessments and the TAKS assessments?**
 - STAAR Assessments in math and reading will be linked from grade to grade as well as to postsecondary –readiness standards for the Algebra II and English III
 - Readiness Standards – TEKS essential for success in the current grade or course but also in preparing the students for the next grade or course – to measure progress from campus to campus
 - STAAR EOC will cover only the content from a particular course versus multiple courses
 - Two days for STAAR Writing in grades 4 and 7 and EOCs for English I, II and III
 - Reading assessments will be focused on critical analysis versus literal understanding
 - EOCs for English I , II and III will score reading and writing separately and retakes will only be required for the portion failed
 - Increase in STAAR Math and Science open-ended (griddable) items
 - STAAR Grade 3 will have a separate answer document



STAAR Frequently Asked Questions

- **Which students will be required to take the STAAR EOC assessments?**

Students first enrolled in grade 9 or below in the 2011–2012 school year will be required to take the STAAR EOC assessments for courses in which they're enrolled as part of their graduation requirements and will no longer take TAKS. Students enrolled in grade 10 or above in the 2011–2012 school year or who are repeating grade 9 in the 2011–2012 school year will graduate under TAKS requirements and do not have the option of taking STAAR assessments. These students will only take STAAR EOC assessments if their campus has been assigned to participate in the mandatory testing activities



STAAR Frequently Asked Questions

- **Will the dyslexia bundled accommodations continue to be offered to eligible students taking the STAAR reading assessments?**

Two of the three bundled accommodations will be available for students with dyslexia and other reading disabilities on the STAAR reading assessments in grades 3 through high school—the oral reading of item stems/answer options only and extended testing time, if needed. These accommodations do not need to be offered as a bundle; the needs of the student should be considered when determining which accommodations to use. A proper-nouns list like the one used in the TAKS assessments will no longer be provided.



STAAR Frequently Asked Questions

- **Are breaks allowed during STAAR assessments?**

Breaks are allowed during STAAR assessments; however the following breaks must be included in the four-hour time limit.

- Breaks for water or snacks
- Bathroom breaks
- Breaks for physical activity (e.g., standing up and stretching)
- Routine medical breaks (e.g., to take medicine)

Breaks for lunch are not included in the four-hour time limit; however it is recommended that lunch be scheduled outside of the testing time.



STAAR Analysis – 3rd Grade Math

Luther waited 50 minutes in line to buy tickets to a play. While waiting, Luther played his video game for 12 minutes and read a book for 25 minutes. The rest of the time, Luther talked to his best friend Chuck. How much time did Luther spend talking to Chuck?

A 38 minutes

B 25 minutes

C 37 minutes

D 13 minutes



STAAR Analysis – 4th Grade Math

During one basketball game, Sarah's team scored 11 baskets worth 2 points each and 3 baskets worth 1 point each. Daniel's team scored 8 baskets worth 2 points each and 10 baskets worth 1 point each. What was the final score?

A Sarah's team: 25 points Daniel's team: 16 points

B Sarah's team: 25 points Daniel's team: 26 points

C Sarah's team: 22 points Daniel's team: 16 points

D Sarah's team: 22 points Daniel's team: 26 points



STAAR Analysis – 5th Grade Math

Reba is planning a dinner for 24 people. She wants to make 3 tacos for each person. Taco shells are sold in packages of 12. Which of the following equations can be used to find p , *the number of packages of taco shells needed for the dinner?*

A $(24 \times 3) \div 12 = p$

B $(24 \div 3) \times 12 = p$

C $(24 \times 3) \times 12 = p$

D $(24 \div 3) + 12 = p$



STAAR Analysis – 6th Grade Math

At the last school pep rally, 3 out of every 7 students wore school colors. Based on this information, if 350 students attend the next pep rally, how many of these students will wear school colors?

A 150

B 50

C 200

D Not here



STAAR Analysis – 7th Grade Math

A 24,000-gallon pool is being filled at a rate of 40 gallons per minute. At this rate, how many $\frac{3}{4}$ minutes will it take to fill this pool full?

A 450 min

B 560 min

C 600 min

D 150 min



STAAR Analysis – 8th Grade Math

Last week a certain brand of bottled water cost \$1.25 for a 16-ounce bottle. This week the water is on sale for \$1.00 for a 16-ounce bottle. What is the percent decrease in the price of this bottled water?

A 16%

B 13%

C 20%

D 25%



Our future deserves the best.

