KANSAS WRITING ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET 2012–2013

General Information

- Required for the 2012-2013 school year:
  - Grades assessed: 5, 8, and 11
- Beyond 2013 writing will be tested as part of the Smarter Balanced assessment for English language arts and literacy

Standards and Supporting Materials

- Link to writing standards: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1726
- Kansas 6-TRAIT rubrics: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=165
- KSDE Training Manual for 6-TRAIT scoring: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=165
- Suggested Scoring Procedures: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=165
- Example prompts for classroom use: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=165

Assessment Format

- Four untimed testing sessions, approximately 45-60 minutes each
- Link to list of accommodations allowed: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2372

Testing Modes

Fall Testing Window:

- Paper/Pencil

Spring Testing Window:

- Paper/Pencil
- Kansas Writing Instruction and Evaluation Tool (KWIET) platform: http://www.cete.us/kap/kwiet/
- KWIET Training Videos: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=5448

Kansas Alternate Assessment (KAA) and Kansas Assessment of Modified Measures (KAMM)

- Administered to students identified as eligible by their IEP team
- Only 3% of district students may be classified as Meets Standards or higher using the KAMM and the Alternate assessments
- Only 1% of district students may be classified as Meets Standards or higher using the alternate assessment
- Link to KAA webpage: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2384
- Link to KAMM webpage: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2371

Formative and Interim Assessment

- For formative and interim assessment in the area of writing, KSDE suggests making use of the Kansas Writing Instruction and Evaluation Tool (KWIET): http://www.cete.us/kap/kwiet/

Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs)

- Percentage of students needed at Meets Standards or above:
  - 5th Grade = 67%
  - 8th Grade = 73%
  - High School = 76%

Performance Levels, Cut Scores, and Standard of Excellence

- Five performance levels and cut scores:
  - Exemplary – 4.40
  - Exceeds Standard – 3.75
  - Meets Standard – 3.00
  - Approaches Standard – 2.30
  - Academic Warning – < 2.30
- Criteria for Standard of Excellence: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2379

Scores Reported

- Student 6-TRAIT scores by individual rater
- See Section 9 of the Paper/Pencil manual or Section 10 of the KWIET manual for complete details.

Testing Window

Fall Testing:

Type	Grades	Mode	Open	Close
General	5, 8, 11	P&P	Oct. 3	May 3
KAMM	5, 8, 11	P&P	Oct. 3	May 3

Spring Testing:

Type	Grades	Mode	Open	Close
General	5, 8, 11 5, 8, 11	P&P KWIET	Jan. 16 Jan. 16	May 3 March 29*
KAMM	5, 8, 11	P&P KWIET	Jan. 16	May 3 March 29*
Alternate	5, 8, 11	portfolio	Dec. 31	April 26*

* closing of the **student testing** window; the scoring window runs until May 3

English Learners (ELs)

- All ELs must take the Kansas English Language Proficiency Assessment (KELPA)
- Link to the KELPA web page: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2450
- Recently arrived students (after Jan. 16, 2012) may take the KELPA in lieu of the KS Writing Assessment
- ELs may use translation dictionaries and other tools if accustomed to their use during instruction
- Students must compose in English
- Link to the ELs and State Assessments fact sheet: http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2364

Contact

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