DISCONTINUE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE TEXT STRUCTURE INDICATOR AT GRADES 3, 4, AND 5

A decision was made to discontinue the assessment of the text structure indicator for grades 3, 4, and 5 on the Kansas State Reading Assessment starting in 2010.

The Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation will now be staffed so that equating can be done each year. That allows the Kansas State Department of Education to respond more fully to feedback from the field regarding changes that may need to be made to the assessments. We have collected and analyzed your feedback regarding text structure items and have now determined that text structure items in grades 3, 4, and 5 should be removed. That change will be made for the 2009-2010 assessment. The text structure indicator will continue to be an assessed indicator for grades 6, 7, 8 and High School.

It is important that instruction of the text structure indicator occur at grades 3, 4, and 5 to support the assessment of this indicator at grades 6, 7, 8 and High School. The essential element of this indicator is that students will be able to identify and understand these relationships, not use specific terms to label these relationships.

At grades 3, 4, and 5 this indicator is written as follows- Identifies text structure (e.g., sequence, problem/solution, comparison/contrast, description, cause-effect.) (S1.B4.I6)
At grades 6, 7, and 8 this indicator is written as follows- ▲Analyzes how text structure (e.g., sequence, problem/solution, comparison/contrast, description, cause-effect) helps support comprehension of text. (S.1.B4.I6)

At High School this indicator is written as follows- Analyzes and evaluates how authors use text structure (e.g., sequence, problem/solution, comparison/contrast, description, cause-effect) to help achieve their purposes.) (S1.B4.I6)

Thank you for your input on the issue.