

# A Guide to NJSLA

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## New Jersey Student Learning Assessment



**Superintendent:** Dr. Brian Repici  
**Assistant Superintendent:** Mrs. Julie Scully  
**Director of Curriculum:** Mr. Matthew Szuchy  
**Supervisor of Assessment & Research:** Mrs. Mary Baratta



**District Supervisor of Mathematics:** Mrs. Lynne Sireci  
**District Supervisor of Language Arts:** Mrs. Marcie Geyer  
**Principal, Triton High School:** Mrs. Melissa Sheppard  
**Principal, Highland High School:** Ms. Lisa Owen  
**Principal, Timber Creek High School:** Dr. Luis Amberths  
**Mathematics Instructional Coach:** Mrs. Lori Hunt  
**Language Arts Literacy Coach:** Ms. Tara Wood





# NJSLA Overview

Mathematics & English Language Arts  
(ELA)

The NJSLA is administered in multiple sections called units.

There are **2** units for Mathematics  
&  
**2** units for ELA.

**NJSLA Testing Days are 1/2 days on  
May 19, 20, & 21**

*NJSLA is aligned with the*

# New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS)

- ❖ K-12 standards
  - **Mathematics** (Mathematical Practices)
  - **English Language Arts** (ELA)
  - **Literacy** (History, Science, & Technical Subjects)
- ★ Focuses on college & career readiness



# NJ Department of Education

## State Assessment Requirements for Graduation

### Class of 2020, 2021 & 2022



These options are only available if a student takes all NJSLA assessments associated with the high-school courses for which they were eligible and receive valid scores.

Three Pathways Available:	English Language Arts (ELA)	Mathematics
<b>1</b> Taking and passing a NJSLA :	NJSLA ELA Grade 9 $\geq 750$ (Level 4) <b>or</b> NJSLA ELA Grade 10 $\geq 750$ (Level 4) <b>or</b> NJSLA ELA Grade 11 $\geq 725$ (Level 3)	NJSLA Algebra 1 $\geq 750$ (Level 4) <b>or</b> NJSLA Geometry $\geq 725$ (Level 3) <b>or</b> NJSLA Algebra 2 $\geq 725$ (Level 3)
<b>2</b> Taking and passing <b>one</b> of these alternative assessments:	SAT Reading Test ACT Reading Accuplacer WritePlacer Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL PSAT 10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading ASVAB-AFQT Composite	SAT Math Section SAT Math Test ACT Math Accuplacer PSAT 10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math ASVAB-AFQT Composite
<b>3</b> Portfolio appeals:	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio appeal	



NJ Department of Education

# **State Assessment Requirements for Graduation** **Class of 2023?**

**English Language Arts (ELA)**

**Mathematics**

**“The NJDOE is to provide fair notice to students and educators and will continue to collaborate with stakeholders to transition to the next generation or statewide assessments.”**

# Mathematics

# New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics

- ◆ Numbers & Quantity
- ◆ Algebra
- ◆ Functions
- ◆ Geometry
- ◆ Statistics & Probability
- ◆ Modeling



## Mathematical Practices

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.



# *NJSLA-M* in Mathematics

Connecting the Standards for Mathematical Practices to  
the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in  
Mathematics.

Algebra 1  
Geometry  
Algebra 2

## **BASED ON PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS:**

- SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING MAJOR CONTENT WITH CONNECTIONS TO PRACTICES
- SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING CONTENT WITH CONNECTIONS TO PRACTICES
- MATHEMATICAL REASONING BY CONSTRUCTING MATHEMATICAL ARGUMENTS AND CRITIQUES
- MODELING REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS

# Types of Questions



## NJSLA-M PROBLEMS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Variety of Answer Formats – multiple selection options, not just multiple choice
- 2) Short & Extended Response Items – where students have to explain their reasoning and critique the reasoning of others
- 3) Modeling – where students create an equation to represent real-world situations, solve and justify.
- 4) Performance Based Tasks & Technology – enhanced items such as graphing, click & drag answers and support conjectures.

High School  
Test Format

2 Units

90 Minutes

Each

# Tools Provided

TI-84  
Calculator



&

Reference  
Sheet

## Mathematics Reference Sheet High School

### High School Assessment Reference Sheet

#### High School Mathematics Assessment Reference Sheet

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters	1 kilometer = 0.62 mile	1 cup = 8 fluid ounces
1 meter = 39.37 inches	1 pound = 16 ounces	1 pint = 2 cups
1 mile = 5280 feet	1 pound = 0.454 kilograms	1 quart = 2 pints
1 mile = 1760 yards	1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds	1 gallon = 4 quarts
1 mile = 1.609 kilometers	1 ton = 2000 pounds	1 gallon = 3.785 liters
		1 liter = 0.264 gallons
		1 liter = 1000 cubic centimeters

Triangle	$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$
Parallelogram	$A = bh$
Circle	$A = \pi r^2$
Circle	$C = \pi d$ or $C = 2\pi r$
General Prisms	$V = Bh$
Cylinder	$V = \pi r^2 h$
Sphere	$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$
Cone	$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$
Pyramid	$V = \frac{1}{3}Bh$

Quadratic Formula	$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$
Arithmetic Sequence	$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$
Geometric Sequence	$a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$
Geometric Series	$S_n = \frac{a_1 - a_1 r^n}{1-r}$ where $r \neq 1$
Radians	1 radian = $\frac{180}{\pi}$ degrees
Degrees	1 degree = $\frac{\pi}{180}$ radians

# Scoring

Scoring rubric in Mathematics is the following:

**Level 5:** Exceeded Expectations

**Level 4:** Met Expectations

**Level 3:** Approached Expectations

**Level 2:** Partially Met Expectations

**Level 1:** Did Not Yet Meet Expectations

## Performance Level Descriptors – Algebra I

	Algebra I: Sub-Claim A The student solves problems involving the Major Content for the grade/course with con Mathematical Practice.			
	Level 5: Exceeds Expectations	Level 4: Meets Expectations	Level 3: Approaches Expectations	Level 2: Partially Meets Expectations
<b>Expressions</b> A-SSE.1-1 A-SSE.1-2 A-SSE.2-1 A-SSE.2-4 A.APR.1-1	Writes and <b>analyzes</b> equivalent numerical and polynomial expressions in one variable, using addition, subtraction, multiplication and factoring, <b>including multi-step problems</b> .  Interprets parts of <b>complicated</b> exponential and quadratic expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context	Writes equivalent numerical and polynomial expressions in one variable, using addition, subtraction, multiplication and factoring.  Interprets parts of <b>exponential and quadratic</b> expressions that <b>represent a quantity in terms of its context</b> .	Writes equivalent numerical and polynomial expressions in one variable, using addition, subtraction and multiplication.  Identifies components of exponential and <b>quadratic</b> expressions.	Writes equivalent numerical and polynomial expressions in one variable, using addition, subtraction and multiplication.  Identifies components of exponential expressions.
<b>Interpreting Functions</b> F-IF.1 F-IF.2 F-IF.A.Int.1 F-IF.4-1 F-IF.5-1 F-IF.5-2 F.Int.1-1 S.ID.Int.1	Determines if a given relation is a function.  Evaluates with, uses and <b>interprets</b> with function notation within a context.  Given a context, writes and <b>analyzes</b> a linear or <b>quadratic</b> function.  For linear and quadratic functions that model contextual relationships, <b>determines and interprets</b> key	Determines if a given relation is a function.  Evaluates with and uses function notation <b>within a context</b> .  Given a context, writes a linear function.  For linear and quadratic functions that model contextual	Determines if a given relation is a function.  Evaluates with and uses function notation.  Given a context, writes a linear function.  For linear and <b>quadratic</b> functions that model	Determines if a given relation is a function.  Evaluates with and uses function notation.  Given a context, writes a linear function.  Given the graph of linear functions that model



# *Preparation*



Formative  
&  
Summative  
Assessments

NJSLA  
Resource  
Problems

&

Integrating  
Digital  
Textbook Series  
for Algebra 1,  
Geometry &  
Algebra 2

Cumulative  
District  
Math  
Benchmarks

Updated  
Curriculum  
aligned to NJSLs  
and PLD's

Practice  
NJSLA-M  
assessments  
online

# **English Language Arts**



# ELA

## 9th - 10th - 11th

- Narrative Task
- Literary Analysis Task
- Research Simulation Task (RST)

### \*All 3 Tasks

- ❖ Are based on **complex texts**
- ❖ Include **sequenced questions** that require **deeper engagement** with the texts.




# NJSLA ELA texts

- ❖ Narrative & Informational texts
- ❖ Emphasis on:
  - Text complexity
  - Content rich non-fiction
  - Textual evidence





# *the* Narrative Task




\*requires  
close  
readings of  
complex  
texts

Multiple  
Choice  
questions that  
require the use  
of textual  
evidence

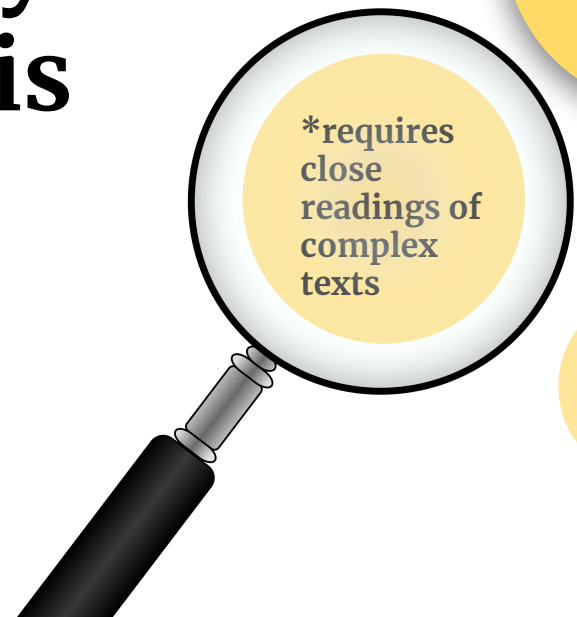
&

A Writing Assignment  
that requires students to:

- ❖ Write a story
  - ❖ Detail a scientific process
  - ❖ Write a historical account of important figures,  
**OR**
  - ❖ Describe an account of events, scenes, or objects.
- 



# *the* Literary Analysis Task



\*requires  
close  
readings of  
complex  
texts

Multiple  
Choice  
questions that  
require the use  
of textual  
evidence

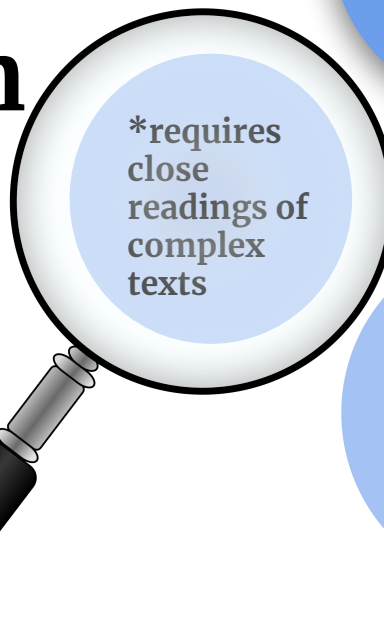
&

A Writing  
Assignment that  
requires the  
synthesis of  
ideas from  
two texts.





# *the* Research Simulation Task




\*requires  
close  
readings of  
complex  
texts

Multiple  
Choice  
questions that  
require the use  
of textual  
evidence

Examples  
of texts:  
  
*informational  
articles, charts,  
videos, audio  
recordings,  
photographs, etc.*

**&**

**A Writing  
Assignment that  
requires the  
synthesis of  
information  
from all  
three texts.**



## Types of Questions

# Evidence-Based Selected Response (EBSR)

Read the article "The Signers of the Declaration: Historical Background." Then answer the questions.

The Signers of the Declaration: Historical Background  
from the National Park Service

**1** AT PHILADELPHIA in the summer of 1776, the Delegates to the Continental Congress courageously signed a document declaring the Independence of the Thirteen American Colonies from Great Britain. Not only did the Declaration of Independence create a Nation, but it also pronounced timeless democratic principles. Enshrined today in the National Archives Building at Washington, D.C., it memorializes the founding of the United States and symbolizes the eternal freedom and dignity of Man.



### Part A

What does the use of the word **extralegally** in paragraph 5 indicate about colonial activities in the period before the American Revolution?

- ☐ A. Colonists first attempted to voice their complaints through legitimate political means.
- ☐ B. Colonists wanted to gain European support for their independence from England.
- ☐ C. Colonists were able to gain unanimous support for their demands to the English monarchy.
- ☐ D. Colonists acted in ways to hide their actions from the British.

### Part B

Which statement is evidence of the behavior identified in Part A?

- ☐ A. Settlers were disgruntled with limitations on the frontier. (paragraph 4)
- ☐ B. The Massachusetts lower house secretly invited all 13 colonies to attend a convention. (paragraph 6)
- ☐ C. Colonists disagreed on the validity of English taxes and laws. (paragraph 7)
- ☐ D. Violators of the embargo were punished and ridiculed. (paragraph 8)



## Types of Questions

# Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response (TECR)

Today you will read and analyze a short story and a passage from another short story. As you analyze these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about each text and its relationship to the other so that you can craft a written response.

Read the story "Departure," about a young man leaving home, by United States writer Sherwood Anderson (1876–1941). Then answer the questions.

### Departure

by Sherwood Anderson

- 1 Young George Willard got out of bed at four in the morning. It was April and the young tree leaves were just coming out of their buds. The trees along the residence streets in Winesburg are maple and the seeds are winged. When the wind blows they whirl crazily about, filling the air and making a carpet underfoot.
- 2 George came downstairs into the hotel office carrying a brown leather bag. His trunk was packed for departure. Since two o'clock he had been awake thinking of the journey he was about to take and wondering what he would find at the end of his journey. The boy who slept in the hotel office lay on a cot by the door. His mouth was open and he snored lustily. George crept past the cot and went out into the silent deserted main street. The east was pink with the dawn and long streaks of light climbed into the sky where a few stars still

Summarize the story by selecting **four** major elements from the list. Drag the statements to the chart and drop them in the correct order.

Townpeople gather to say good-bye to a young man.

A young man counts his money on the train.

A train transports a young man from his hometown.

A young man remembers moments from his past.

A young man revisits important places in his town before leaving.

A train conductor is pleasant to a young man while thinking about a fishing trip.

First

Second

Third

Fourth



## Types of Questions

# Prose Constructed Response (PCR)

Today you will read and analyze passages from two short stories. As you read these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about each text individually and about the relationship between the texts so you can write an analytical essay.

from "Red Cranes"

from "The Firefly Hunt"

Read the passage from "Red Cranes," a short story written by United States writer Jacey Choy. Then answer the questions.

from "Red Cranes"

by Jacey Choy



- 1 Jiro removed his hat and the cloth band tied around his forehead. Bending over, he untied his shoes, then set them in the shoe rack next to the door. He opened the door and shuffled over to the sink to wash his hands. Shaded by the aged cherry trees, the small house remained cool. Jiro wiped his hands on a towel and sat at the low table.
- 2 "Father," said Mie as she sat beside him, "how is the work going today? Do you think the plants will be ready to harvest in time? Do you have enough men to help you?"
- 3 Jiro turned to Mie and smiled. "Yes, yes, Mie, I think we will have a good crop this time. Kinshi and the others have been working hard

You have read two passages, one from Jacey Choy's "Red Cranes" and one from Jun'ichirō Tanizaki's "The Firefly Hunt." Though Mie and Sachiko, the main characters in the passages, have certain similarities, the authors develop their characters in very different ways.

Write an essay in which you analyze the different approaches the authors take to develop these characters. In your essay, be sure to discuss how each author makes use of such elements as

- the main characters' interactions with other characters,
- the presentation of the main characters' thoughts, and
- the strong feelings each character experiences at the end of each passage.

Use specific evidence from both passages to support your analysis.

**B** *I* U     



*English,  
History,  
Science, &  
Technical  
Subjects*

# Literacy Across the Curriculum

- ❖ Complex, varied texts
- ❖ Paired texts
- ❖ Identification of textual evidence
- ❖ Use of textual evidence in writing and speaking
- ❖ Annotation for active & close reading
- ❖ Writing Workshop
- ❖ Literary & text analysis
- ❖ Socratic Seminar
- ❖ Vocabulary-in-context learning

# **Title 1 Services**

*Highland & Triton*

## **Math Tutoring**

Math Lab Room in LMC, Daily



## **Math Empower Hour**

Math Lab Room in LMC, Thursdays after school

## **Science Empower Hour**

F200, Wednesdays after school

## **Literacy Lab**

Monday-Friday, Common Time

## **Lit Cafe**

Tuesday & Thursday, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday, 2:00pm-3:30pm

# Why NJSLA?

## Practice

- How ready is your child to take the exams required to achieve his/her long term goals?
- How can your child sharpen the skills employers and colleges are looking for?

## Progress

- How did your child's performance this year compare to his/her performance last year? Has he/she improved?
- How did your child perform compared to other students statewide? Nationwide?

## Programs

- How well are we preparing your child?
- How can we make learning more relevant and meaningful?

## Placement

- Is your child enrolled in the courses that best suit his/her ability level?





# Thanks for coming!

- ❖ Be sure to sign in & grab a handout if you haven't.
- ❖ Check out <https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/practice-tests/> for more information and practice tests.