

Balanced Assessment Plan - ELA - Alternative 5th Grade Writing Assessment

The ELA Leads are trained in the administration and expectations for the 5th Grade Alternative Writing Assessment between February and April. They are expected to provide turnaround training to teachers at each school site.

Training materials, handouts, expectations, and procedures may be found in the ELA Lead shared folder that will be updated in February.

The contents of this folder include:

- A master scoring spreadsheet indicating scoring areas (Composing/Written Expression and Usage/Mechanics).
- A folder for each school where writing samples are uploaded and housed during the scoring process.
- For norming and training:
 - A one-sheet explanation of expectations and guidelines for this assessment.
 - A PowerPoint explaining expectations and procedures for the 5th Grade Alternative Writing Assessment (updated each year to align with VDOE expectations), that may be used for turnaround training at each school site
 - Writing samples and exemplars that may be scored for practice, by proficiency level to match the VDOE rubric
 - The VDOE rubric
 - Directions for scoring procedures and expectations
 - A tip sheet for ELA leads and those guiding scoring at each school site
 - A copy of the writing prompt to be presented to students
 - A rubric scoring sheet used to guide the scoring of each student's writing piece

Teacher responsibilities:

- Participate in norming training, which includes:
 - A review of professional expectations and procedures regarding the administration of the assessment.
 - A norming/scoring exercise provided by a school site designee (commonly each school's ELA lead).
 - Time to practice scoring sample papers, and to reach calibration and agreement within scoring teams, as possible.
 - Time to review the writing prompt, as it aligns with the pacing of the APS ELA 5th grade writing curriculum, prior to administration of the assessment.

- Administer the prompt and collect and secure student writing samples within the assessment window. (The student writing samples should be uploaded to each school's specific folder by the end of April 23).

To Note:

- Each paper is assessed by two scorers, using procedures established by the VDOE.
- Teachers are encouraged to cross-score, and not score the work of their own students.
- Teams of scorers include 4th and 5th grade teachers, as well as specialists/interventionists that work with 5th grade students.
- ELA leads or a school level designee records all scores in each school's spreadsheet. The final scores are verified by the ELA office.