Form E Operational Field Test

LAS Links Online®

GRADES: K–12

ENGLISH FORM E OPERATIONAL FIELD TEST

GRADE BAND: K–1, 2–3, 4–5, 6–8, 9–12

ADMINISTRATION: ONLINE

Description Operational Field Test Explanation

The LAS Links operational field test consists of existing items that have been modified based on educator feedback, items that have been field tested, and new items. An operational field test allows for valid and reliable test data while implementing overall enhancements to the test design with the intent to create a new test form.

Item Review

Advisory committees comprised of teachers and educators from across the United States including Connecticut and test development experts conducted item reviews in 2018 and 2019. The purpose was to review LAS Links Forms C and D for strengths and provide suggestions for revisions. These meetings, along with additional third-party reviews, shaped Data Recognition Corporation's (DRCs) development plan for the operational field test.

An additional item review was conducted with ten educators from Connecticut and educators from throughout the United States. Separate committees were convened for each grade band. Each participant provided feedback regarding bias, fairness, and sensitivity; alignment to the standards; and suitability for inclusion on the LAS Links test.

Educators and students can expect the following enhancements in the Form E operational field test compared to previously tested LAS Links Forms C and D:

- The LAS Links Form E operational field test is aligned to the same English language proficiency (ELP) standards as Form C and D. Although there were no major content changes, some adjustments were made to provide better alignment to current Connecticut ELP standards.
- Adjustments to the Form E operational field test incorporated the most current guidelines regarding bias, fairness, sensitivity, and accessibility for English learners. Examples of adjustments include the following changes:
  - Content and graphics were adjusted to better reflect current English learner experiences.
  - The format for items in the writing subtest was updated to allow both the stimulus paragraph and the item to appear on the same screen.
  - Graphics were enhanced to be more reflective of current learning environments.

There were no changes to the item types used in the Form E operational field test, so students can practice using the tools and features with the same Online Tools Training used in prior administrations. Online Tools Training can be accessed here using Google Chrome. During the summer of 2021, Form E will be added to the labeling of the Online Tools Training for each domain.

Updated Format for Form E Writing Item Pairs

An example of the revised format used for pairs of writing items using the same stimulus paragraph has been provided below. This example reflects the content included in a pair of items in Grades 9–12. This item demonstrates the enhanced student view that includes both the stimulus paragraph and items on the same screen.

Use Grammar and Conventions	Which word correctly completes blank 1?
Directions: Read the letter. Choose the words that correctly complete the sentences.	ⓐ but
	ⓑ for
Hello Stacie,	ⓒ so
I have heard that you are interested in working as a crew member for the school play, __(1)__ I am writing to tell you about available opportunities. You and I could help the construction crew build the set, or __(2)__ could help with the lights and sound. Let me know which opportunity sounds better to you.	ⓓ yet
	Which word correctly completes blank 2?
	ⓐ their
Amanda	ⓑ them
	ⓒ us
	ⓓ we

Update for Form E Operational Field Test Grades K-1 Writing Assessment

- In the "Start Writing" section found in the grades K-1 assessment, there will be a difference between the print and the online forms for the items that ask a student to write a number or write a letter. Online, students will be asked to type the number or type the letter. In print, they will continue to be asked to write the number/letter.
  - The "Start Writing" items that ask the student to look at a picture and write the word for that picture will have the same difference between print and online. Online, students will be asked to type the word for the picture in the box. In print, they will continue to be prompted to write the word on the line.
  - The "Start Writing" items that currently ask the students to copy a word or sentence will continue to use the word copy in both print and online.
  - In all other sections of the writing assessment (including at other grade bands), the word "write" will continue to be used for both print and online, as we refer to the cognitive process of crafting a response rather than the physical act of putting that response in the response area (in print or online).

Form E Estimated Time to Complete Administration of Each Subtest

The following table shows the estimated time to complete the administration of each subtest across grade bands of the Form E operational field test.

Subtest Area	Estimated Time
Speaking	15 minutes - all grades
Listening	35 minutes - Grades K–1, 6–8, 9–12 30 minutes - Grades 2–3, 4–5
Reading	Constructed Response items were replaced with Multiple Choice items 40 minutes - Grades K–1, 2–3, 4–5 50 minutes - Grades 6–8, 9–12
Writing	30 minutes - Grades K–1 40 minutes - Grades 2–12

For scheduling purposes, these time allocations are recommended to complete the administration of each subtest and do not include setup, logins, etc.

Read Aloud Functionality

DRC and CSDE has posted to the website the LAS Links Read Aloud Functionality: Without the Text to Speech Accommodation breakdown to show what is read aloud when no accommodations are selected.

Test Design

The LAS Links Form E operational field test is organized by grade and skill area. Core operational items are also distinguished from embedded field-test items for test item review purposes. Embedded field-test items facilitate ongoing improvement and monitoring of the tests and facilitate the development of Form F in the future.

The estimated administration time for each skill area is shown (note that all LAS Links tests are untimed). At K–1, for example, the inclusion of field-test items is balanced by the reduction in operational items; therefore, estimated testing times remain consistent with Forms C and D. Listening, Speaking, and Writing all have the same estimated administration times as the previous forms. Only Reading has an increased estimated administration time of five minutes.

All new test forms for LAS Links will retain the same scale score as Forms C and D. For the 2021-2022 LAS Links Form E OP FT Administration, reporting data and reporting date information are to be determined. Once this information has been finalized across DRC and CSDE, this document will be updated.

Skill Area	LAS Links Form E Operational Field Test Design				
	# Practice Items	# OP Items	# Embedded FT Items	Total # Items (Practice + OP + FT)	Estimated Administration Time (min.)*
Grades K–1					
Listening	2	20	3	25	35
Speaking	4	10 (8 for K)	3	17 (15 for K)	15
Reading	3	30 (26 for K)	4	37 (33 for K)	40
Writing	3	18 (14 for K)	3 (2 for K)	24 (19 for K)	30
Grades 2–3					
Listening	2	20	3	25	30
Speaking	4	12	4	20	15
Reading	3	30	5	38	40
Writing	2	17	2–3	21–22	40
Grades 4–5					
Listening	2	20	3	25	30
Speaking	4	12	4	20	15
Reading	2	30	6	38	40
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23	40
Grades 6–8					
Listening	2	23	4	29	35
Speaking	4	12	4	20	15
Reading	2	30	6	38	50
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23	40
Grades 9–12					
Listening	2	23	3	28	35
Speaking	4	12	4	20	15
Reading	2	30	6	38	50
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23	40

*Note: All tests are untimed; estimated administration times are provided for planning purposes.

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LAS Links Form E Blueprint

The operational blueprint for LAS Links Form E is shown in the following table. The blueprint is organized by skill area, language context strand, and sub-skill area. Operational item counts for each grade are shown, and multiple-choice (MC) items are distinguished from constructed-response (CR) items. All new test forms for LAS Links will retain the same scale score as Forms C and D.

LAS Links E Operational Blueprint								
Skill Area	Language Context Strand	Sub-skill Area	K–1 # of Items	2–3 # of Items	4–5 # of Items	6–8 # of Items	9–12 # of Items	Item Type
Listening	Social, Intercultural, and Instructional Communication	Listen for Information	8	8	8	9	9	MC
		Listen for Academic Instruction	2	3	3	3	3	
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Listen for Information	4	3	3	4	4	
		Listen for Academic Instruction	2	3	3	3	3	
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Listen for Information	4	3	3	4	4	
		Total	**20**	**20**	**20**	**23**	**23**	
Speaking	Social, Intercultural, and Instructional Communication	Make Conversation	1	1	1	1	1	CR
		Describe and Request Information	2	2	2	2	2	
		Tell a Story	1	1	1	1	1	
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Use Academic Words	1	1	1	1	1	
		Present and Explain Information	2 (1 for K)	3	3	3	3	
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Use Academic Words	1	1	1	1	1	
		Present and Explain Information	2 (1 for K)	3	3	3	3	
		Total	**10 (8 for K)**	**12**	**12**	**12**	**12**	
Reading	Foundational Skills	Read Words	12	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	MC
	Social, Intercultural, and Instructional Communication	Read School Texts	10	10	14	14	14	
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Read Academic Texts	2	5	6	6	6	
		Read School Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	2	2	2	2	
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Read Academic Texts	2	5	6	6	6	
		Read School Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	2	2	2	2	
		Total	**30 (26 for K)**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	
Writing	Foundational Skills	Start Writing	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Auto CR
			5					CR
	Social, Intercultural, and Instructional Communication	Use Grammar and Conventions	4	6	6	6	6	MC
		Write to Express Ideas	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	CR (0–3)
			N/A	1	1	1	1	CR (0–4)
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Use Grammar and Conventions	1	2	2	2	2	MC
		Write Academic Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	3	3	3	3	CR
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Use Grammar and Conventions	1	2	2	2	2	MC
		Write Academic Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	3	3	3	3	CR
		Total	**18 (14 for K)**	**17**	**17**	**17**	**17**	