



Form F Operational Field Test



LAS Links Online®

GRADES: K–12

ENGLISH FORM F OPERATIONAL FIELD TEST

GRADE BANDS: K–1, 2–3, 4–5, 6–8, 9–12

ADMINISTRATION: ONLINE

Description of Operational Field Test

The LAS Links Operational Field Test (OP FT) 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. Connecticut and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) are testing two new forms: Form E Operational Field Test in 2022, and Form F Operational Field Test in 2023.

Item and Data Reviews

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 DRC's development plan for the operational field tests.

An additional item review was conducted in 2020 with educators from Connecticut as well as the rest of 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.

An item data review was conducted in the summer of 2022 with educators from Connecticut as well as the rest of the United States. Separate committees were convened for elementary grade bands and middle/high school grade bands. Informed by student response data, participants reviewed the items for 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 Forms E and F Operational Field Tests compared to previously tested LAS Links Forms C and D:

- The LAS Links Forms E and F Operational Field Tests are aligned to the same English language proficiency (ELP) standards as Forms 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 Forms E and F Operational Field Tests incorporated the most current guidelines regarding bias, fairness, sensitivity, and accessibility for English learners. Examples of adjustments include:
 - o Content and graphics were adjusted to better reflect current English learner experiences.
 - o The format for items in the writing subtest was updated to allow both the stimulus paragraph and the items to appear on the same screen.
 - o Graphics were enhanced to be more reflective of current learning environments.

Online Tools Training for Forms E and F Operational Field Tests

There were no changes to the item types used in the Forms E and F Operational Field Tests, 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 fall of 2022, Form F will be added to the labeling of the Online Tools Training for each domain.

Updated Format for Forms E and F Writing Item Pairs

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

Use Grammar and Conventions Directions: Read the letter. Choose the words that correctly complete the sentences. Hello Stacie, I have heard that you are interested in working as a crew member for the school play, <u>(1)</u> I am writing to tell you about available opportunities. You and I could help the construction crew build the set, or <u>(2)</u> could help with the lights and sound. Let me know which opportunity sounds better to you. Amanda	Which word correctly completes blank 1? <input type="radio"/> a but <input type="radio"/> b for <input type="radio"/> c so <input type="radio"/> d yet Which word correctly completes blank 2? <input type="radio"/> a their <input type="radio"/> b them <input type="radio"/> c us <input type="radio"/> d we
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Update for Grade K Reading Assessment Blueprint of Form F Operational Field Test

The item count for the Grade K Reading subskill area of Read School Texts has been reduced from ten to eight items. This change was made based on educator feedback indicating that some skills that are important to assess for first-grade students are beyond the appropriate expectations for kindergarten students. Additionally, student response data indicates that kindergarten students can be assessed reliably with fewer items in this subskill area. This blueprint change will also be included in the Forms E and F Operational Tests.

Update for Grades K–1 Writing Assessment of Forms E and F Operational Field Tests

- In the Start Writing section of the Grades K–1 assessment, there will be a difference between the print and the online forms for those items that ask students 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 or letter.
 - The Start Writing items that ask students 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 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 are referring 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).

Estimated Time to Complete Administration of Each Subtest for Forms E and F

Although the LAS Links is an untimed test, the following table shows the estimated time to complete the administration of each subtest across grade bands of the Form F Operational Field Test. These times remain the same as those used with the Form E Operational Field Test that was administered in the spring of 2022. At Grades 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 (increased by five minutes).

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	40 minutes—Grades K–1, 2–3, 4–5 50 minutes—Grades 6–8, 9–12 Constructed-response items were replaced with multiple-choice items.
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

The CSDE and DRC have posted the [LAS Links Read Aloud Functionality: Without the Text to Speech Accommodation](#) on the [website](#) to show what is read aloud when no accommodations are selected.

Test Design

The LAS Links Forms E and F Operational Field Tests are 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 enable the development of future LAS Links forms.

All new test forms for LAS Links will retain the same score scale as Forms C and D. For the 2022–2023 LAS Links Form F OP FT Administration, reporting data and reporting date information are to be determined. Once this information has been finalized by DRC and CSDE, this document will be updated.

LAS Links Form F Operational Field Test Design				
Skill Area	# of Practice Items	# of OP Items	# of Embedded FT Items	Total # of Items (Practice + OP + FT)
Grades K–1				
Listening	2	20	3	25
Speaking	4	10 (8 for K)	3	17 (15 for K)
Reading	3	30 (24 for K)	4	37 (31 for K)
Writing	3	18 (14 for K)	3 (2 for K)	24 (19 for K)
Grades 2–3				
Listening	2	20	3	25
Speaking	4	12	3	19
Reading	3	30	5	38
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23
Grades 4–5				
Listening	2	20	3	25
Speaking	4	12	3	19
Reading	2	30	6	38
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23
Grades 6–8				
Listening	2	23	3	28
Speaking	4	12	3	19
Reading	2	30	6	38
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23
Grades 9–12				
Listening	2	23	3	28
Speaking	4	12	3	19
Reading	2	30	6	38
Writing	2	17	3–4	22–23

LAS Links Forms E and F Blueprint

The operational blueprint for LAS Links Forms E and F is shown in the following table. The blueprint is organized by skill area, language context strand, and subskill 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 score scale as Forms C and D.

LAS Links Forms E and F Operational Blueprint								
Skill Area	Language Context Strand	Subskill 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
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Listen for Academic Instruction	2	3	3	3	3	
		Listen for Information	4	3	3	4	4	
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Listen for Academic Instruction	2	3	3	3	3	
		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 (8 for K)	10	14	14	14	
		Read Academic Texts	2	5	6	6	6	
	Language Arts/Social Studies/History	Read School Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	2	2	2	2	
		Read Academic Texts	2	5	6	6	6	
	Mathematics/Science/Technical Subjects	Read School Texts (Gr. 1–12 only)	2 (N/A for K)	2	2	2	2	
		Total	30 (24 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	