Test Specifications for the Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test for Reading – College and Career Readiness (MAPT-CCR for Reading)

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Background

The goal in creating the test specifications for the MAPT-CCR for Reading was to involve AE teachers and leaders in the field who are familiar with current reading standards and how they should be taught to adult learners in Massachusetts. Reading specialists and those who are familiar with how reading is defined in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) were also included. This was accomplished in 2015 by convening a MAPT-CCR for Reading Test Specifications Development Committee comprising six members.

In 2017 and early 2018, while assembling test forms and reviewing the test item bank, two test specification issues requiring guidance from a MAPT-CCR for Reading Advisory Committee were identified. These issues were related to 1) the proportions of IKI items for Literary and Informational text at all test levels, and 2) the appearance of word meaning in both Key Ideas and Details and Craft and Structure at all test levels. The test specifications were minorly revised by the Advisory Committee members after consideration of the standards.

The final and operational MAPT-CCR for Reading Test Specifications are provided in Tables 1 through 5.

Table 1

Test Specifications for MAPT-CCR for Reading Level 2 (EFL Beginning Basic, GLE 2-3)

Group	Topics	Text Type	
		Literary	Informational
Key Ideas and Details (KID)	Locating explicit information in text		
	Determining central ideas/themes		
	Summarizing key supporting details and ideas	27.5%	17.5%
	Identifying and analyzing connections in text		
	Key Ideas and Details Total: 45%		
	Identifying words and using general academic vocabulary		
	Understanding figurative language,		
Craft and	word relationships, and nuances in		
Structure	word meanings	22.5%	12.5%
(C&S)	Understanding author's purpose and organization		
	Identifying and analyzing literary		
	structures, techniques, and styles		
	Craft and Structure Total: 35%		
	Using information & ideas from diverse		
Internation of	media and formats		
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (IKI)	Evaluating content and claims	0%	20%
	Combining and comparing/contrasting		
	themes, ideas, points of view, claims		
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
	Total: 20%		
TOTAL		50%	50%

 $\label{eq:Table 2} Table \ 2$ Test Specifications for MAPT-CCR for Reading Level 3 (EFL Low Intermediate, GLE 4-5)

Group	Topics	Text Type	
		Literary	Informational
	Locating explicit information in text		
	Determining central ideas/themes		
Key Ideas and	Summarizing key supporting details	21.5%	13.5%
Details (KID)	and ideas		
Details (KID)	Identifying and analyzing connections		
	in text		
	Key Ideas and Details Total: 35%		
	Identifying words and using general		
	academic vocabulary		
	Understanding figurative language,		
Craft and	word relationships, and nuances in		
Structure	word meanings	23.5%	16.5%
(C&S)	Understanding author's purpose and		
(C&S)	organization		
	Identifying and analyzing literary		
	structures, techniques, and styles		
	Craft and Structure Total: 40%		
	Using information & ideas from diverse		
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (IKI)	media and formats		
	Evaluating content and claims	0%	25%
	Combining and comparing/contrasting		
	themes, ideas, points of view, claims		
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
	Total: 25%		
TOTAL		45%	55%

Table 3

Test Specifications for MAPT-CCR for Reading Level 4 (EFL High Intermediate, GLE 6-8)

Group	Topics	Text Type	
		Literary	Informational
	Locating explicit information in text		
	Determining central ideas/themes	13.5%	6.5%
Key Ideas and Details (KID)	Summarizing key supporting details and ideas		
	Identifying and analyzing connections in text		
	Key Ideas and Details Total: 20%		
	Identifying words and using general academic vocabulary		
	Understanding figurative language,		
C	word relationships, and nuances in		
Craft and	word meanings	21.5%	18.5%
Structure	Understanding author's purpose and		
(C&S)	organization		
	Identifying and analyzing literary		
	structures, techniques, and styles		
	Craft and Structure Total: 40%		
	Using information & ideas from diverse		
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (IKI)	media and formats		
	Evaluating content and claims	0%	40%
	Combining and comparing/contrasting		
	themes, ideas, points of view, claims		
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
	Total: 40%		
TOTAL		35%	65%

Table 4

Test Specifications for MAPT-CCR for Reading Level 5 (EFL Low Adult Secondary, GLE 9-10)

Group	Topics	Text Type	
		Literary	Informational
Key Ideas and Details (KID)	Locating explicit information in text		
	Determining central ideas/themes Summarizing key supporting details and ideas	10.5%	4.5%
	Identifying and analyzing connections in text		
	Key Ideas and Details Total: 15%		
Craft and Structure (C&S)	Identifying words and using general academic vocabulary		
	Understanding figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings	19.5%	20.5%
	Understanding author's purpose and organization		
	Identifying and analyzing literary structures, techniques, and styles		
	Craft and Structure Total: 40%		
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (IKI)	Using information & ideas from diverse		
	media and formats		
	Evaluating content and claims	0%	45%
	Combining and comparing/contrasting		
	themes, ideas, points of view, claims		
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
	Total: 45%		
TOTAL		30%	70%

Table 5

Test Specifications for MAPT-CCR for Reading Level 6 (EFL High Adult Secondary, GLE 11-12)

Group	Topics	Text Type	
		Literary	Informational
	Locating explicit information in text	10.5%	4.5%
	Determining central ideas/themes		
Key Ideas and	Summarizing key supporting details		
Details (KID)	and ideas		
Details (KID)	Identifying and analyzing connections		
	in text		
	Key Ideas and Details Total: 15%		
	Identifying words and using general		
	academic vocabulary		
	Understanding figurative language,		
Craft and	word relationships, and nuances in		
Structure	word meanings	19.5%	20.5%
(C&S)	Understanding author's purpose and		
(C&S)	organization		
	Identifying and analyzing literary		
	structures, techniques, and styles		
	Craft and Structure Total: 40%		
	Using information & ideas from diverse		
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (IKI)	media and formats		
	Evaluating content and claims	0%	45%
	Combining and comparing/contrasting		
	themes, ideas, points of view, claims		
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
	Total: 45%		
TOTAL		30%	70%