

WRITING BENCHMARKS ASSESSED AT GRADE 8

SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS BENCHMARK ITEM FORMAT

STRAND B: WRITING

LA.B.1.3.1 The student organizes information before writing according to the type and purpose of writing.

LA.B.1.3.1 Benchmark Clarifications

Focus

Clarification 1.3.1.1 The student demonstrates knowledge of the function of planning in accomplishing the specific writing mode or purpose.

Clarification 1.3.1.2 The student recognizes how modifications to a writing plan affect the maintenance of the writing focus.

Organization

Clarification 1.3.1.3 The student demonstrates knowledge of the function of prewriting in establishing an effective organizational plan.

Item Format MC4

LA.B.1.3.2 The student drafts and revises writing that is focused, purposeful, and reflects insight into the writing situation; conveys a sense of completeness and wholeness with adherence to the main idea; has an organizational pattern that provides for a logical progression of ideas; has support that is substantial, specific, relevant, concrete, and/or illustrative; demonstrates a commitment to and an involvement with the subject; has clarity in presentation of ideas; uses creative writing strategies appropriate to the purpose of the paper; demonstrates a command of language (word choice) with freshness of expression; has varied sentence structure and sentences that are complete except when fragments are used purposefully; and has few, if any, convention errors in mechanics, usage, and punctuation.

Note: The conventions portion of this benchmark is assessed by LA.B.1.3.3. (Also assesses LA.B.2.3.3)

LA.B.1.3.2 Benchmark Clarifications

Focus

Clarification 1.3.2.1 The student demonstrates knowledge of effective ways to focus on a central idea or topic.

Clarification 1.3.2.2 The student demonstrates knowledge of the mode or purpose for writing.

Organization

Clarification 1.3.2.3 The student demonstrates knowledge of how a logical progression of ideas contributes to effective organization and communication.

Clarification 1.3.2.4 The student demonstrates knowledge of how to use transitional elements to develop relationships among ideas.

Item Format MC4, WP

MC3: three-option multiple-choice

MC4: four-option multiple-choice

WP: writing prompt

WRITING BENCHMARKS ASSESSED AT GRADE 8 (CONTINUED)

SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS BENCHMARK ITEM FORMAT

STRAND B: WRITING

LA.B.1.3.2 Benchmark Clarifications (continued)

Support

Clarification 1.3.2.5 The student demonstrates knowledge of how to incorporate supporting ideas that clarify, explain, or define, contributing to a sense of completeness or wholeness in writing.

Clarification 1.3.2.6 The student demonstrates knowledge of how communication is affected by word choice.

Item Format MC4, WP

LA.B.1.3.3 The student produces final documents that have been edited for correct spelling; correct punctuation, including commas, colons, and semicolons; correct capitalization; effective sentence structure; correct common usage, including subject/verb agreement, common noun/pronoun agreement, common possessive forms, and with a variety of sentence structures, including parallel structure; and correct formatting.

Note: This benchmark assesses the conventions portion of LA.B.1.3.2. Correct formatting is not assessed.

LA.B.1.3.3 Benchmark Clarifications

Conventions

Clarification 1.3.3.1 The student demonstrates knowledge of spelling conventions.

Clarification 1.3.3.2 The student demonstrates knowledge of punctuation conventions.

Clarification 1.3.3.3 The student demonstrates knowledge of correct capitalization.

Clarification 1.3.3.4 The student demonstrates knowledge of standard English usage.

Clarification 1.3.3.5 The student demonstrates knowledge of sentence structure.

MC3, WP

LA.B.2.3.1 The student writes text, notes, outlines, comments, and observations that demonstrate comprehension of content and experiences from a variety of media.

Not assessed

LA.B.2.3.2 The student organizes information using alphabetical, chronological, and numerical systems. Not assessed

LA.B.2.3.3 The student selects and uses appropriate formats for writing, including narrative, persuasive, and expository formats, according to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion.

Assessed with

LA.B.1.3.2

LA.B.2.3.4 The student uses electronic technology, including databases and software, to gather information and communicate new knowledge.

Not assessed

MC3: three-option multiple-choice

MC4: four-option multiple-choice

WP: writing prompt