

Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP)

Guidance for MAAP Writing

November 2017



The writing portion of the English Language Arts (ELA) MAAP assessment will be given online beginning this school year (2017-2018). The Office of Student Assessment (OSA) is providing the following guidance to help districts better prepare for the transition from paper/pencil to online.

- All students in grades 3-8 and English II, except those requiring a paper/pencil version as dictated by their IEP, 504, or LSP, must complete the writing portion of the ELA MAAP assessment online writing.
- The writing portion will continue to include one full length, text-based operational response and one full-length, text based field test response. The operational response is included in the student's score while the field test response is not. Instead, the field test prompt is used to determine which prompts will be used on future assessments.
- All students in grades 3-8 and English II, except those with extended time accommodations dictated by their IEP, 504, or LSP, will have 75 minutes per prompt. The prompts should be completed back-to-back. There should be no break between the completion of each prompt.
- The maximum character count per prompt is 10,000.
- The following tools are available for all students in grades 3-8 and English II:
 - undo/redo
 - bold
 - italics
 - underline
 - indent/unindent
 - bullets
 - highlight in the text
- Spellcheck and grammar check are NOT available. Students will NOT be able to cut and paste from the text to their response.
- The writing responses will be scored by humans as they have been scored in previous years, using the MAAP writing rubric.
- Examples of online writing prompts, including the tools, can be found [here](#).

For further information, please contact Melissa Beck at mbeck@mdek12.org