

Did You Know?

2019 Pennsylvania State Literacy Plan (PaSLP)

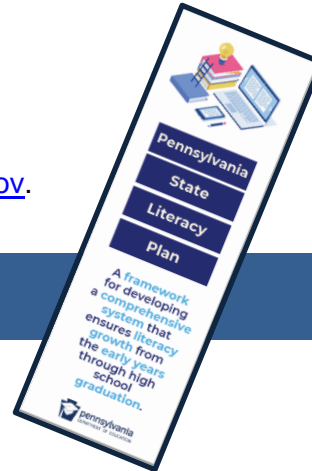
PDE has recorded a webinar about the 2019 PaSLP which includes an overview, highlighted changes, implementation, and use of the document. PDE encourages all district and school leaders, curriculum coordinators, ELA departments, and all teachers who may be responsible for the teaching and learning of English Language Arts to view the webinar.

Please visit the PDE and SAS websites for additional information:

[PaSLP Toolkit \(PDE\)](#)

[PaSLP Toolkit \(SAS\)](#)

Questions regarding the PaSLP may be sent to RA-EDPASLP@pa.gov.



Professional Learning



REVISED!!



Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA)

Access the course at <http://pdc.pdesas.org>.

PDE has updated/rewritten the TDA course available on SAS. The essential questions for the course include:

- How can I create a close reading lesson?
- How can text-dependent questions develop students' deeper understanding of content?
- How can I create effective text-dependent analysis prompts?
- How can analyzing student work guide instructional moves in the classroom?

Q: What evaluation tools are used for the passages on the statewide assessments?

A: As stated in the *2018 PSSA Technical Manual*, passages are reviewed using a three-tiered approach involving quantitative measures, qualitative measures, and reader-task considerations. Since PSSA and Keystone include authentic texts, PDE incorporates expert judgment, data, and readability measures to define appropriate passages for the tests at each grade level. For the quantitative measure, it is important to note that PSSA and Keystone do not solely rely on one readability measure. Rather, a combination of several readability estimates (e.g., Flesch, Dale-Chall, Lexile Free Analyzer, Fry, Spache) are used. However, the litmus test for the appropriateness of a passage for use at a given grade level involves the judgment of PA educators across the Commonwealth who have teaching experience at that grade level. Each year committees of educators review every passage, determining whether a given passage will be included in the pool of passages that may be selected. Judgment by educators with grade-level experience is the most important criterion.

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Our monthly ELA CAI eBLAST will focus on providing the following:
insight around
standardized assessment,
professional learning for
ELA professional learning
for ELA classroom
instruction and
assessment, professional
opportunities and a
question/answer section.

Email questions to:

dsimaska@pa.gov
rbaumleama@pa.gov

Coming Soon!

#1

Assessment Builder Additions

We have added mode-specific writing prompts and student annotated work to the Assessment Builder on SAS for grades 3-8 and Keystone Literature. These instructional resources will help support teachers in meeting the writing standards.

#2

Text Dependent Analysis Resource:

Selecting Complex Texts for Text Dependent Analysis
Thompson, J. (2019).

#3

TDA Close Reading Lessons:

Grades 3-8
Thompson, J. (2019).