



Updates to SAGE Writing

In order to reduce testing time and increase consistency the following changes were made to SAGE Writing

Argument/Opinion Stimulus Passage lengths were reduced by ½, following the guidelines for each grade level below. We anticipate that this change will reduce the writing burden by about 1/3 overall.

Grade Level	Spring 2014 Informative/Explanatory	Spring 2014 Opinion/Argument	Spring 2105 Informative/Explanatory	Spring 2015 Opinion/Argument
3	650/750	1000-1100	500-600	500-600
4	750/850	1200-1300	600-700	600-700
5	800/900	1200-1300	700-800	700-800
6	1000/1100	1500-1600	850-1000	850-1000
7	1000/1100	1500-1600	1000-1100	1000-1100
8	1000/1100	1600-1700	1000-1100	1000-1100
9	1100/1200	1800-1900	1100-1200	1100-1200
10	1100/1200	1900-2000	1100-1200	1100-1200
11	1100/1200	1900-2000	1100-1200	1100-1200

Passage Word Counts and Difficulties

Acceptable upper limit for the stimulus word counts by grade level

(i)

Additional clarity and direction will be provided to direct teachers to provide two 60-minute writing sessions and only allow additional writing time in special circumstances.

In addition to the test and instructional changes, examples will be provided to educators to demonstrate what is needed to show proficiency.