

STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CALIFORNIA ENGLISH ASSESSMENTS

Test	Materials Examined	Time	Number of Items	Purpose	Framework	Reading Section	Objective Writing Section	Essay Section
ACT	full sample form	80 minutes (35 minute reading, 45 minute objective writing)	40 multiple choice reading; 75 multiple choice objective writing	Selection of students for higher education	high school reading and English/language arts curriculum	yes	yes	no
AP Language and Composition	sample questions	60 minute multiple choice, 120 minute essay	52 multiple choice; 3 essays	provide opportunities for high school students to receive college credit and advanced course placement	AP English Language and Composition course description	yes	no	yes
California State University entry level English placement exam	sample items	two 30-minute sections (one each reading and objective writing); 45-minute essay	45 multiple choice reading; 45 multiple choice objective writing; 1 essay	assess whether admitted students possess entry-level English skills	CSU English curriculum	yes	yes	yes
Golden State Exam — reading/literature	sample items	two separate 45-minute sessions	30 multiple choice; 2 essays	monitor student achievement toward state-approved content standards, provide special diploma	<i>English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve</i> , adopted by the State Board of Education Standards	yes	no	yes
Golden State Exam — written composition	sample items	two separate 45-minute sessions	30 multiple choice; 2 essays	monitor student achievement toward state-approved content standards provide special diploma	<i>English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve</i> , adopted by the State Board of Education Standards	no	yes	yes

Santa Barbara College tests for English placement	full sample form	85 minutes (30 minutes reading, 35 minutes objective writing, 20 minute essay)	35 multiple choice reading; 70 multiple choice objective writing; 1 essay	assess whether students possess entry level English skills	high school reading and language arts curriculum	yes	yes	yes
SAT I	full sample form	two 30-minute sessions; one 15-minute session	78 multiple choice	selection of students for higher education	high school reading and English/language arts curriculum	yes	yes	no
SAT II- Literature	full sample form	60 minutes	60 multiple choice	selection of students for higher education	high school English and American literature curriculum	yes	no	no
SAT II-Writing	full sample form	one 40-minute multiple choice session; one 20-minute essay session	60 multiple choice; 1 essay	selection of students for higher education	high school reading and language arts curriculum	no	yes	yes
Stanford-9	full form	60 minutes	84 multiple choice (54 reading comprehension, 30 vocabulary)	monitor student achievement toward California standards	NAEP framework	yes	no	no
University of California Subject A Examination	sample questions	2 hours	1 essay	assess admitted students' writing skills	UC English curriculum	no	no	yes