ELA Passage Selection for Grades 3-12

What to consider when

selecting passages for instruction and assessment

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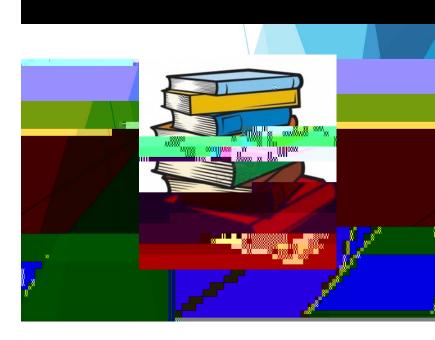
Office of State Assessment

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Ideally, selected texts for students in Grades 3-12 should be...

developmentally/grade appropriate in both complexity and



When selecting for classroom use, teachers can use passages that...

- may require some scaffolding or background knowledge
- address student interests and meet learning objectives
- will support cross-curricular or inter-disciplinary learning
- may only be of local interest

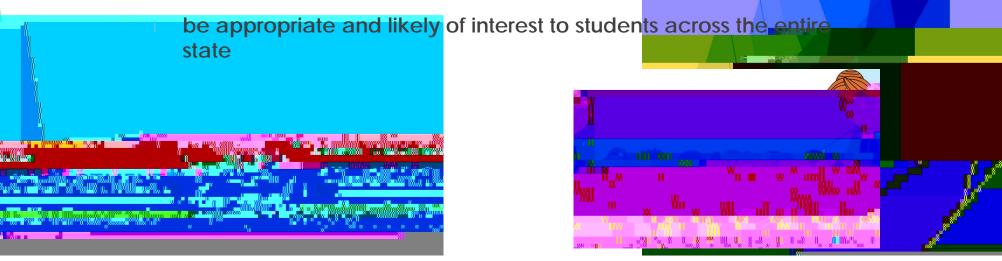




When selecting passages for NYS ELA assessments, there are other considerations. Passages must...

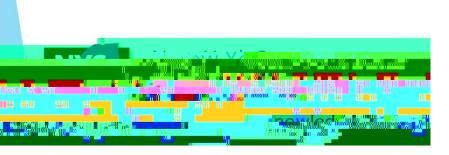
meet established criteria for length (word count)

vary in complexity within established grade bands



Passages must...(continued)

- be suitable for item development
- be information rich and demonstrate exemplary writing skill
- represent a variety of eras, genres, topics, styles, and cultures





What does passage selection look like in practice?

On your table, you will find copies of passages from Grades 4, 6, and 8 and high school that were used on NYS ELA assessments. Choose one grade you would like to review.

Take 5 minutes to read the texts for your grade, considering the information that was just shared with you.

- Do the passages represent different genres and styles?
- Are the passages interesting and accessible to a wide variety of students?
- Can the passages be used to assess several learning standards?

Take a minute to discuss with your colleagues how your classroom practice may change as a result of today's presentation.





We value your opinions and feedback! https://www.research.net/r/passageselect

If you would like to participate in the test development process visit us at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/teacher/home.html

For additional questions about NYS assessments, please email emscassessinfo@nysed.gov