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# STAAR Updates & End of Course Exams Overview

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## What do we know about STAAR?

- Will begin for grades 3-9 in Spring 2012
  - Current sophomores, juniors and seniors as well as repeating freshmen will remain on TAKS through graduation
- Will be “significantly more rigorous” than TAKS
- At the high school level, the STAAR assessments are called End of Course (EOC) exams
- Shift the goal from HS Graduation to College and Career Success
- **EOCs will impact grades, credits, and graduation**

## Phase-out of TAKS and Phase-in of EOC Assessments

	2011–2012	2012–2013	2013–2014	2014–2015
GR 9	★ EOC	EOC	EOC	EOC
GR 10	TAKS	EOC	EOC	EOC
GR 11	TAKS	TAKS	EOC	EOC
GR 12	TAKS*	TAKS*	TAKS*	EOC or TAKS*

\*Grade 12 includes TAKS for re-testers needing it for graduation only

★ EOC begins in 2011-12 for first-time 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Any students repeating 9<sup>th</sup> grade and all upperclassmen will remain on the TAKS system.



... the tests

Grades 3-8 STAAR	High School STAAR EOCs			
	Math	English	Science	Soc Studies
Reading: Gr. 3-8	Algebra I	Eng I	Biology	World Geo.
Math: Gr. 3-8	Geometry	Eng II	Chemistry	World Hist.
Writing: Gr. 4 & 7	Algebra II	Eng III	Physics	U.S. History
Science: Gr. 5 & 8	The high school level STAAR tests are COURSE tests, NOT grade level tests			
Soc. Studies: Gr. 8				

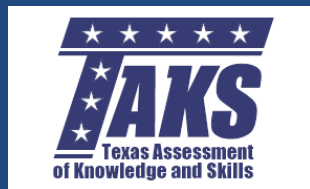
## STAAR: Longer Tests

- Math 3-8: +6 questions
- Reading 3-8: +4 questions
- Writing 4/7: +1 composition – 2 DAY TEST
- Science 5/8: +4 questions
- Soc Studies 8: +4 questions
  
- EOC: +6 to 13 questions

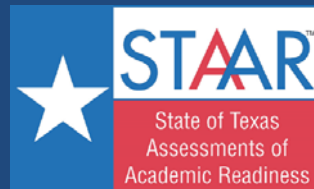
Impact of  
time limits?



## STAAR Released Items: A Comparative Look...



vs.

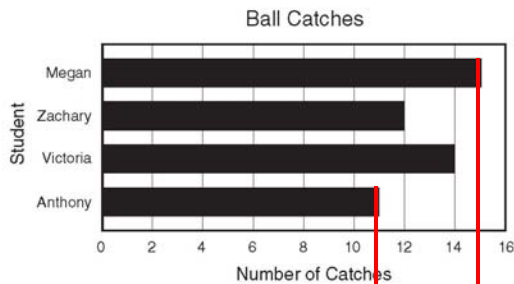




# 2009 TAKS 4<sup>th</sup> Gr Math

4.13 (B)  
Interpret bar graphs  
Readiness Standard

39 The graph below shows the number of times four students caught a ball during practice.



About how many more catches did Megan make than Anthony?

- A 2
- B 15
- C 26
- D 4**

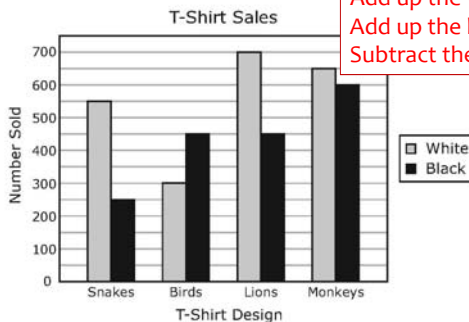
$$15 - 11 = 4$$



# STAAR Sample 4<sup>th</sup> Gr Math

4.13 (B)  
Interpret bar graphs  
Readiness Standard

13 The graph below shows the number of different kinds of T-shirts that were sold at the zoo last year.



Add up the white t-shirts  
Add up the black t-shirts  
Subtract the two numbers

According to the graph, about how many more white T-shirts were sold last year than black T-shirts?

- A 200
- B 450**
- C 3,950
- D 2,200

$$550 + 300 + 700 + 650 = 2,200$$

$$250 + 450 + 450 + 600 = 1,750$$

$$2,200 - 1,750 = 450$$

# 2009 TAKS 6<sup>th</sup> Gr Math

11 Liza is learning about hummingbirds. She learned that the bee hummingbird can weigh 0.07 ounce and that the giant hummingbird can weigh 7 ounces. What is the difference between these two weights?

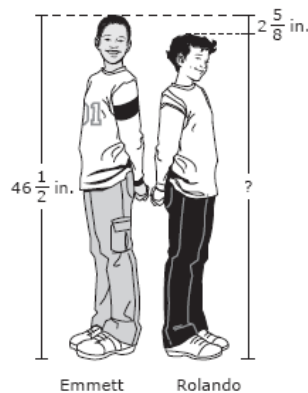
- A 6.93 oz
- B 7.07 oz
- C 6.97 oz
- D 0.63 oz

$$7 - .07 = 6.93$$

6.2 (B) use addition and subtraction to solve problems involving fractions and decimals  
**Readiness Standard**

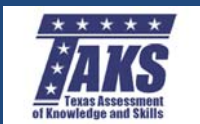
# STAAR Sample 6<sup>th</sup> Gr Math

Emmett is  $46\frac{1}{2}$  inches tall. Rolando is  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches shorter than Emmett. How tall is Rolando?



- A  $43\frac{1}{2}$  in.
- B  $43\frac{7}{8}$  in.
- C  $44\frac{2}{3}$  in.
- D  $49\frac{1}{8}$  in.

6.2 (B) use addition and subtraction to solve problems involving fractions and decimals  
**Readiness Standard**



## 2009 TAKS 8<sup>th</sup> Gr Science

8.9B - interpret information on the periodic table to understand that [physical] properties are used to group elements

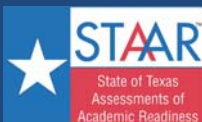
47 According to the periodic table, all of the following are metals except —

A sodium

B zinc

C fluorine

D calcium



## STAAR Sample 8<sup>th</sup> Gr Science

8.5 (C) interpret the arrangement of the Periodic Table, including groups and periods, to explain how properties are used to classify elements; **Readiness Standard**

3



An element has a metallic-gray appearance. It also has the properties of both a metal and a nonmetal. In which section of the periodic table indicated above would the element most likely be found?

A 1

B 2

C 3

D 4



## 2009 TAKS 8<sup>th</sup> Gr SS

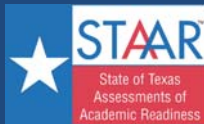
- Landmark ruling
- Held that slaves were property and could not be citizens
- Contributed to tensions that led to the Civil War

6 Which Supreme Court decision is described above?

- F *Marbury v. Madison*
- G *Dred Scott v. Sandford*
- H *McCulloch v. Maryland*
- J *Worcester v. Georgia*

28 The Supreme Court decision in *Marbury v. Madison* established which constitutional principle?

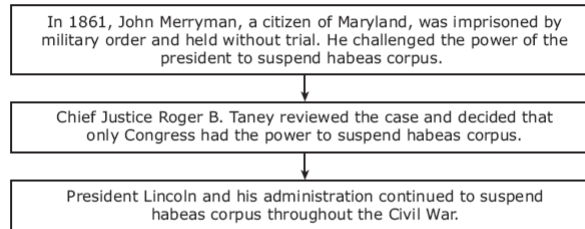
- F Judicial review
- G Popular sovereignty
- H States' rights
- J Implied powers



## STAAR Sample 8<sup>th</sup> Gr SS

10 A writ of habeas corpus requires an official to bring a prisoner before a civil court to justify the prisoner's arrest. President Abraham Lincoln authorized the suspension of habeas corpus during the Civil War.

### *Ex parte Merryman*



By ignoring Chief Justice Taney's ruling, President Lincoln —

- A exercised a constitutional check on judicial power
- B disregarded the principle of judicial review
- C upheld the concept of federalism
- D invoked the principle of separation of powers

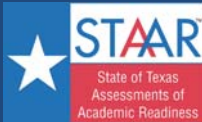


## 2009 TAKS 7<sup>th</sup> Gr Writing

Write a composition about a time when you thought you were right.

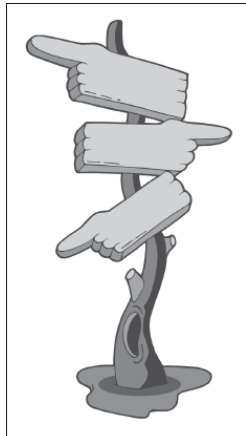
### REMEMBER—YOU SHOULD

- write about a time when you thought you were right
- make your writing interesting to the reader
- make sure that each sentence you write helps the reader understand your composition
- make sure that your ideas are clear and easy for the reader to follow
- write about your ideas in detail so that the reader really understands what you are saying
- check your work for correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences



## STAAR Sample 7<sup>th</sup> Gr Writing

Look at the picture below.



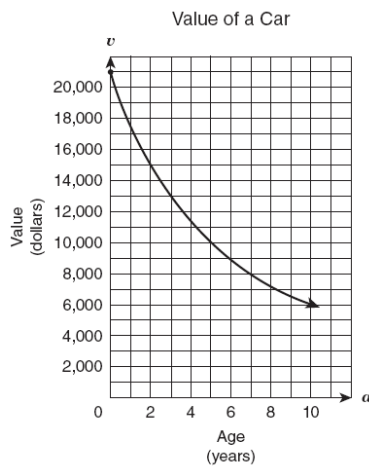
Sometimes it's hard to make a decision because there are so many choices.

Write a personal narrative about a time when you had to make a decision. Be sure to write in detail about the choice you made and describe what happened as a result of your decision.



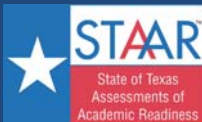
## 2009 TAKS Algebra 1

A.1(E) interpret and make decisions, predictions, and critical judgments from functional relationships  
**Readiness Standard**



According to the graph, which of the following statements appears to be true?

- A The value of the car decreased by \$1,000 per year.
- B The value of the car decreased by \$2,000 per year.
- C The value of the car decreased more from Year 9 to Year 10 than in any other year.
- D The value of the car decreased more from Year 0 to Year 1 than in any other year.**



## STAAR Sample Algebra 1

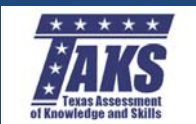
- 3 Southern Phone Company is promoting a new cell phone service plan: a customer can make up to 500 minutes of calls each month for \$39.99. If the number of minutes used in a month exceeds 500, then the function

$$c = 0.40(m - 500) + 39.99$$

describes the monthly charge,  $c$ , in dollars in terms of  $m$ , the total number of minutes used. Which of the following statements best describes this function?

- A If the total number of minutes used is more than 500, then every minute beyond 500 costs 40 cents.**
- B Every minute used costs 40 cents, regardless of the total number of minutes used.
- C The first 500 minutes used costs 40 cents each, after which there is an additional charge of \$39.99.
- D If the total number of minutes used is more than 500, then every minute used costs 40 cents.

A.1(E) interpret and make decisions, predictions, and critical judgments from functional relationships – **Readiness**

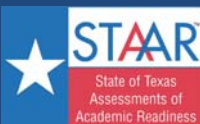


## 2009 TAKS Biology

29 Cell membranes perform all the following functions except —

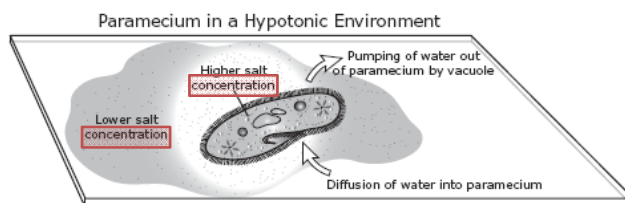
- A making nutrients for cells
- B holding cytoplasm within cells
- C regulating substances exiting cells
- D recognizing other cells

B4.(B) investigate and identify cellular processes including homeostasis, permeability, energy production, transportation of molecules, disposal of wastes, function of cellular parts, and synthesis of new molecules. (OLD TEKS)



## STAAR Sample Biology

2 The diagram below shows how a paramecium maintains homeostasis. A paramecium normally lives in a hypotonic environment in which water continually diffuses into the cell. To maintain homeostasis, the paramecium must pump out large amounts of water using its contractile vacuole.



If the paramecium is then placed in a hypertonic environment, which of the following will occur?

- A Water will diffuse into the paramecium.
- B Water will diffuse out of the paramecium.
- C Salt will be pumped out of the paramecium by the vacuole.
- D Salt will be pumped into the paramecium by the vacuole.

B4.(B) Investigate and explain cellular processes, including homeostasis, energy conversions, transport of molecules, and synthesis of new molecules - Readiness Standard (NEW TEKS)

### More Rigorous Items

- assessing content and skills at a greater depth and higher level of cognitive complexity
- assessing more than one standard in an item

### More Rigorous Test

- assessing standards multiple times and in more complex ways
- including a greater number of rigorous items on the test, thereby increasing the overall test difficulty
- Increased performance standards (passing levels)

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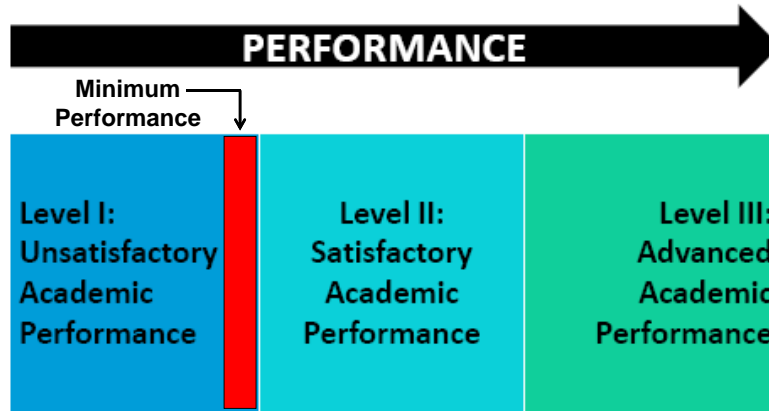


## EOCs: End of Course Exams

High School STAAR EOCs			
Math	English	Science	Soc Studies
Algebra I	Eng I	Biology	World Geo.
Geometry	Eng II	Chemistry	World Hist.
Algebra II	Eng III	Physics	U.S. History

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# STAAR EOC STANDARDS



November 2011

Texas Education Agency  
Student Assessment Division

## Graduation Requirements

### TAKS

- 10 Exams
  - 4 Stand-Alone Exams
- 26 Credits

### STAAR

- 15 Exams
  - 2 Stand-Alone Exams (Alg 2 / Eng 3)
  - Cumulative Score in Each Subject (15 exams in 12 contents)
    - Minimum Floors in every exam
    - In subjects never tested before (Alg 2, Physics, World Geo, etc.)
    - Higher rigor, higher standards
    - Longer tests, 4hr time limits
  - Distinguished & LT Scholars:
    - Students must achieve Advanced Performance in Algebra 2 & English 3 for DAP
- 26 Credits: Tied to 15%...

## Cumulative Average: (An Example)

Passing: 70 / Minimum: 65  
Required Cumulative Average = 70%

- 
- Bio: 69
  - Chem: 71
  - Physics: 68
- Cumulative Avg: **69.3%**  
*(Has not met the cumulative avg)*  
**No Graduation!**
- 
- Bio: **64**
  - Chem: 71
  - Physics: 76
- Cumulative Avg: 70.3%  
*(Met cumulative but Bio did not meet Minimum)*  
**No Graduation!**

## Legislation Regarding EOC

### Texas Education Code 30.023(c)

A school district... shall adopt a policy that requires a student's performance on an end-of-course assessment instrument in which the student is enrolled to account for 15 percent of the student's final grade for the course.

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## EOC 15% Consideration Areas

1. **Grading**: The EOCs will count 15% of your grade
  2. **Retakes**: You may retake for any reason but it won't change your grade (unless it moves you to passing)
  3. **Course Credit**: You may still earn ½ credits but you may not earn 1.0 credit unless your grade is > 70%
  4. **GPA/Class Rank**: No GPA until you're in HS, but grades and EOC scores will be on your transcript
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## Students taking EOC courses in MS

- CURRENT 8<sup>th</sup> Graders (and below):
    - They will take the STAAR EOC course test (ie, Alg 1)
    - They will take STAAR enrolled-grade test (ie, 8<sup>th</sup> Gr STAAR)
    - Their EOC score will count in their cumulative avg for graduation
    - Their EOC score will count as 15% of their final grade and credit will not be granted unless the final avg is 70% or higher
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## Students taking EOC courses in MS

- CURRENT 9<sup>th</sup> Graders Who Took Alg 1 in MS
  - They will take their current STAAR EOC test (ie, Geometry / Alg 2)
  - They do not have to go back and take Alg 1 EOC
  - They can choose to take the Alg 1 to help their cumulative average (and the state will only use the score if it helps)
  - Their cumulative average will be based on fewer EOCs if they choose not to take Alg 1 EOC

*\*Most students will not need to take Algebra 1 EOC*

## Cumulative Average: (An Example)

Passing: 70 / Minimum: 65  
Required Cumulative Average = 70%

- Alg 1: 82
  - Alg 2: 84
  - Alg 1: 82
  - Alg 2: 84
- Cumulative Avg: **84%**  
(Met the cumulative avg on all 3 EOCs)  
**Graduates!**

### Current 9<sup>th</sup> Grader who took Alg 1 LAST YEAR

- Alg 1: Credit earned in 2011
  - Alg 2: 85
  - Alg 1: Credit earned in 2011
  - Alg 2: 85
- Cumulative Avg: **84%**  
(Met cumulative on all 2 EOCs)  
**Graduates!**

## Preparing STUDENTS for STAAR!

- **Grades**: Aim for the highest grade in the course possible (so that you won't be in jeopardy with the EOC)
- **CBAs**: Take these seriously, try to do your best, and pay attention to how they're different than normal tests/quizzes!
- **STAAR**: Shoot for the HIGHEST score possible, because the tests will get harder as you go...



# Questions?