CRCT Content Descriptions
based on the Georgia Performance Standards

Reading
Grades 1 - 8

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Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT)
Content Descriptions
Reading

Georgia law requires the development and administration of the CRCT in the content areas of Reading, English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Each spring students in grades 1 through 8 take the Reading, English/Language Arts, and Mathematics CRCT, while students in grades 3 through 8 also take the Science and Social Studies CRCT. These tests are designed to measure student achievement of the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS).

Program Purpose
The CRCT is designed to measure student acquisition and understanding of the knowledge, concepts, and skills set forth in the GPS. The testing program serves as a measure of the quality of education in the state. Reports yielding information on academic achievement at the student, class, school, system, and state are produced annually.

Mandated Grades for Reading
Grades 1 through 8 are mandated to participate in the Reading CRCT each spring.

CRCT Content Descriptions
The CRCT Content Descriptions are provided to acquaint Georgia educators with the content coverage of the CRCT. Only the knowledge, concepts, and skills reflected in the GPS will be assessed on the CRCT. Committees of Georgia educators reviewed the curriculum and provided guidance for the assessment program.

It is important to note that some curricular standards are better suited for classroom or individual assessment rather than large-scale, paper-pencil assessment. While those curricular standards designed for classroom/individual assessment are not included in the Content Descriptions, the knowledge, concepts, and skills outlined are often required for the mastery of the standards that are assessed. Therefore, the CRCT Content Descriptions are in no way intended to substitute for the GPS; they are provided to help educators better understand how the curriculum will be assessed. Further, the CRCT Content Descriptions, by no means, suggest when concepts and skills should be introduced in the instructional sequence; rather, its purpose is to communicate when concepts and skills will be assessed on the CRCT. Georgia law requires educators to teach the standards set forth in the state-adopted curriculum (i.e., the GPS). The GPS is located at http://www.georgiastandards.org.

Reading Content Domains
To provide reliable measures as well as structure to the assessment program, the curricular standards provided in the GPS were grouped into content domains. Each domain is comprised of standards with similar content characteristics. The domains for Reading are:

Grades 1 and 2
Vocabulary
Comprehension

Grade 3
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition
Literary Comprehension
Reading for Information

Grades 4–8
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition
Literary Comprehension
Information and Media Literacy

Using the Reading CRCT Content Descriptions
The Reading CRCT Content Descriptions provide information about the content and skills assessed by the CRCT. The documents are organized by grade and content domain. The curriculum standards assessed in each domain are provided as are the related concepts, skills, and abilities assessed. It is important to note the differences between the GPS and the former curriculum. The GPS is a conceptual curriculum, requiring instruction be integrated; the concepts, knowledge, skills, and abilities described in this document should not be viewed as discrete or taught in isolation. Deep understanding by students, resulting in higher achievement, is best achieved when the full curriculum is taught in an integrated, conceptual fashion.

Reading
Grade: 1
Domain: Vocabulary

Domain Description
Vocabulary refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and acquire new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standards Associated with Domain
ELA1R5   ELA1R6

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Differentiate grade-level words with multiple meanings
- Determine words that are opposites (antonyms)
- Determine words with similar meanings (synonyms)
- Determine how word parts of a given word can aid in defining words or determining functions of words and use word parts to facilitate comprehension, such as:
    - root words
    - inflectional endings, such as: -s, -es, -ed, -ing
    - suffixes, such as: -er, -est, -y
    - compound words

Reading
Grade: 1
Domain: Comprehension

Domain Description
Comprehension refers to the skills required to read, recall, comprehend, and explore various texts including literary texts (narratives, stories, poems, fables), and information from a wide variety of informational articles.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA1R6

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Make predictions based on the text
- Distinguish fact from fiction (reality from fantasy)
- Recognize cause-and-effect relationships
- Recognize the plot, setting, and characters within a literary text
- Identify essential narrative elements within a literary text and understand how they contribute to the story, such as:
    - beginning-middle-end
    - setting
    - characters
    - problem/resolution
    - events
- Summarize stories or paraphrase parts of stories
- Determine the main idea and supporting details of informational articles
- Interpret information from graphic features and graphic organizers such as:
    - menus
    - charts
    - diagrams
    - calendars
    - maps

Reading
Grade: 2
Domain: Vocabulary

Domain Description
Vocabulary refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and acquire new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA2R3   ELA2R4

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Differentiate grade-level words with multiple meanings
- Define above grade-level words on the basis of context
- Determine words that are opposites (antonyms)
- Determine words with similar meanings (synonyms)
- Match homophones or homographs
- Determine how word parts of a given word can aid in defining words or determining function of words, such as:
    - root words
    - root words of irregular spelling patterns, such as: try, tried; drop, dropping
    - inflectional endings, such as: -s, -es, -ed, -ing
    - suffixes, such as: -er, -est, -y
    - compound words

Reading
Grade: 2
Domain: Comprehension

Domain Description
Comprehension refers to the skills required to read, recall, comprehend, and explore various texts including literary texts (narratives, stories, poems, fables), and information from a wide variety of informational articles.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA2R4

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Make predictions based on the text
- Distinguish fact from fiction (reality from fantasy)
- Interpret cause-and-effect relationships
- Determine the plot, setting, and characters within a literary text
- Summarize stories or paraphrase parts of stories
- Distinguish between the various genres (poetry, fable, stories, nonfiction articles)
- Analyze text to identify and infer main idea and supporting details in informational articles
- Analyze text to determine the author's purpose in informational articles
- Determine explicit facts in informational articles
- Analyze text to infer implicit facts in informational articles
- Interpret information from graphic features and graphic organizers
    - illustrations
    - charts
    - diagrams
    - graphs
    - graphic organizers

Reading
Grade: 3
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA3R2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Use grade-appropriate words with multiple meanings
- Recognize and understand words, such as: homophones, homographs, antonyms, and synonyms
- Apply the appropriate usage of words, such as: homophones, homographs, antonyms, and synonyms
- Identify common root words and infer meaning
- Define words with common prefixes, such as: un-, re-, dis-, in-
- Define words with common suffixes, such as: -tion, -ous, -ly, -less
- Determine the meaning of unknown words by using context

Reading
Grade: 3
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend and explore literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short story, fairy tale, fable, folktale, and poetry.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA3R3

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Make predictions based on the text
- Analyze the text to determine the author's purpose
- Summarize text content
- Recognize plot, setting, and character
- Make judgments about setting, characters, and events
- Use evidence from text to make inferences about setting, characters, and events
- Determine and infer main idea and supporting details
- Determine and explain cause-and-effect relationships
- Draw conclusions from text
- Cite explicit facts
- Infer implicit facts
- Analyze the elements of the text to determine genre

Reading
Grade: 3
Domain: Reading for Information

Domain Description
Reading for Information refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: nonfiction articles, biographies, subject-area texts, and reference sources.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA3R3

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Make predictions based on the text
- Differentiate fact from opinion
- Summarize text content
- Interpret information from graphic features, such as:
    - illustrations
    - diagrams
    - charts
    - graphs
    - graphic organizers
- Recognize and infer main idea and supporting details
- Determine and explain cause-and-effect relationships
- Draw conclusions from text
- Recognize explicit facts
- Infer implicit facts
- Determine the basic elements of a variety of genres
- Analyze the text to determine the author's purpose

Reading
Grade: 4
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA4R3

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Determine the meaning of unknown words by using context
- Determine the meaning of words and alternate word choices using a dictionary or thesaurus
- Use grade-appropriate words with multiple meanings
- Identify and infer the meaning of common root words
- Recognize and define the meaning of common prefixes, such as: un-, re-, dis-, in-
- Distinguish between and apply the appropriate usage of words, such as: antonym, synonym, and homophone

Reading
Grade: 4
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend and explore literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short story, poetry, legend, fable, folktale, drama, and narrative.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA4R1

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Recognize and analyze the elements of setting, characterization, and plot
- Identify the speaker of a poem or story
- Recognize and interpret sensory details or figurative language in prose and poetry, such as:
  - personification
  - metaphor
  - simile
- Recognize and show the relevance of foreshadowing clues
- Determine similarities and differences between characters or events and theme in a literary work and the actual experiences of an author's life
- Determine themes and lessons in fiction passages
- Make judgments and inferences about setting, characters, and events
- Identify rhyme and rhythm, repetition, similes, and sensory images in poems

Reading
Grade: 4
Domain: Information and Media Literacy

Domain Description
Information and Media Literacy refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: informational essays, articles, subject-area texts, and reference sources. This domain also refers to the skills required to read, analyze, and evaluate various types of workplace, consumer, and media reading materials.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA4R1   ELA4LSV2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Analyze methods of text structure and sentence structure, such as:
    - chronological
    - cause-and-effect
- Analyze text to summarize main idea and supporting details
- Determine and explain cause-and-effect relationships in text
- Make perceptive and well-developed connections to:
    - draw conclusions
    - make predictions
- Recall explicit facts
- Distinguish between fact and opinion
- Interpret common textual features, such as:
    - paragraphs
    - topic sentences
    - concluding sentences
    - glossary
- Interpret common graphic features, such as:
    - diagrams
    - illustrations
    - charts
    - maps
- Demonstrate an awareness of the presence of media in people's daily lives
- Evaluate the role of media in focusing attention and in forming an opinion
- Judge the extent to which media provides a source of entertainment or information

Reading
Grade: 5
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA5R3

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Understand and determine the meaning of unfamiliar words by using context clues, such as:
    - definition
    - example
- Comprehend and use words with multiple meanings to determine which meaning is intended from the context of the sentence
- Relate the meaning of unfamiliar words using knowledge of:
    - common roots
    - suffixes
    - prefixes
- Determine the meaning of common prefixes, such as: un-, re-, dis-, pre-, mis-, im-
- Determine the meaning of common suffixes, such as: -er, -able, -ous, -ness, -ful, -ly, -ment
- Apply the meaning of terms, such as: antonym, synonym, and homophone

Reading
Grade: 5
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend and explore literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short stories, dramas, folktales, poetry, fables, and descriptive narratives.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA5R1

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Distinguish and understand the elements of setting, characterization, plot, and conflict
- Relate a work to information about its historical or cultural setting
- Determine how meaning in prose and poetry is affected by imagery, rhythm, flow, or figurative language, such as:
  - personification
  - metaphor
  - simile
  - hyperbole
  - refrain
- Interpret the author's use of dialogue and description
- Understand that theme refers to the implied or stated message about life and the world
- Analyze the effects of sound to uncover meaning in poetry
- Evaluate the use of graphics in poetry, such as:
  - capital letters
  - line length
  - stanzas
- Make judgments and inferences about setting, characters, and events

Reading
Grade: 5
Domain: Information and Media Literacy

Domain Description
Information and Media Literacy refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: informational essays, articles, subject-area texts, biographies, book/film reviews, encyclopedia entries, diary entries, and reference sources. This domain also refers to the skills required to read, analyze, and evaluate various types of workplace, consumer, and media reading materials.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA5R1   ELA5LSV2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Understand and apply knowledge of common textual features, such as:
    o paragraphs
    o topic sentences
    o concluding sentences
    o glossary
- Determine and analyze main ideas
- Understand supporting ideas and details
- Use knowledge of common organizational structures, such as:
    o chronological order
    o logical order
    o cause and effect
    o classification schemes
- Make perceptive and well-developed connections to:
    o draw conclusions
    o make predictions
- Demonstrate an awareness of media in the daily lives of most people
- Determine and use knowledge of common graphic features, such as:
    o charts
    o maps
    o diagrams
    o captions
    o illustrations
- Evaluate the role of the media in focusing attention and in forming an opinion
- Judge the extent to which media provides a source of entertainment as well as a source of information

Reading
Grade: 6
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA6R2   ELA6RC3   ELA6RC4

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Decode new words from grade level subject areas and grade level contexts
- Determine the intended meaning for a multiple meaning word used in context
- Decipher the meaning of new words through the use of context, such as:
    - the sentence
    - the paragraph
    - the passage
- Determine the meaning of new words through the use of Greek and Latin word parts, such as:
    - root words
    - prefixes
    - suffixes

Reading
Grade: 6
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend and explore literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short stories, dramas, folktales, poetry, legends, and descriptive narratives.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA6R1

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Classify and explain the meaning of sensory details and figurative language, such as:
    - metaphor
    - simile
    - hyperbole
    - personification
    - alliteration
    - onomatopoeia
    - idioms
- Interpret the author's use of dialogue and description
- Relate a work to its historical setting
- Decipher and analyze theme
- Describe the speaker in a literary work
- Analyze the use of sound in poetry
- Interpret the purpose of print features in poetry, such as:
    - bold face print
    - italics
    - capitalized letters
    - line length
- Determine and describe elements of story structure, such as: setting, characterization, plot, conflict, and tone

Reading
Grade: 6
Domain: Information and Media Literacy

Domain Description
Information and Media Literacy refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: informational essays, articles, subject-area texts and reference sources, including articles, biographies, book reviews, film reviews, encyclopedia entries, diary entries, and reference sources. It also refers to the skills required to read, analyze, and evaluate various types of workplace, consumer, and media reading materials.

Standard Associated with Domain

ELA6R1	ELA6RC2	ELA6LSV2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Apply knowledge of common textual features of informational texts, such as:
    - paragraphs
    - topic sentences
    - concluding sentences
    - glossaries
    - indices
- Examine the author's purpose
- Classify and analyze main ideas, supporting ideas, and supporting details
- Determine common organizational structures and patterns, such as:
    - transitions
    - logical order
    - cause and effect
    - classification schemes
- Read to identify steps and create a simple product
- Determine the message and theme in grade level subject area texts
- Describe the features of nonfiction texts
- Decipher and evaluate text that is meant to persuade
- Identify and evaluate persuasive techniques
- Read and interpret common graphic features, such as:
    - graphic organizers
    - diagrams
    - captions
    - illustrations
    - charts
    - tables
    - graphs

Reading
Grade: 7
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA7R2   ELA7RC3   ELA7RC4

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words using context clues, such as:
    - contrast
    - cause and effect
- Apply knowledge of word roots and affixes to understand vocabulary
- Show knowledge of word meanings through the use of definition, example, restatement, or contrast
- Show an understanding of contextual vocabulary in various subjects
- Relate understanding of new words found in subject area texts
- Apply strategies for finding content and contextual meaning for unfamiliar words or concepts
- Explain idioms and analogies in prose and poetry

Reading
Grade: 7
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short story, drama, folktale, poetry, legend, and descriptive narrative.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA7R1

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Distinguish between the concepts of theme in a literary work and the author's purpose in an expository text
- Determine the theme in a selection and distinguish theme from topic
- Interpret a character's traits, emotions, or motivations and give supporting evidence from the text
- Analyze characterization (dynamic and static) in prose and plays as delineated through:
  - a character's thoughts, words, speech patterns, and actions
  - the narrator's description
  - the thoughts, words, and actions of other characters
- Relate a literary work to information about its setting or historical moment
- Determine which events advance the plot and determine how each event explains past or present action(s) or foreshadows future action(s)
- Explain and analyze the effects of sound, form, figurative language, and graphics, such as:
  - alliteration
  - onomatopoeia
  - internal rhyme
  - rhyme scheme
  - simile
  - metaphor
  - personification
  - hyperbole
  - capital letters
  - line length
  - word position
- Analyze how an author's use of words creates tone and mood giving supporting evidence from text
- Compare and contrast traditional literature from different cultures

Reading
Grade: 7
Domain: Information and Media Literacy

Domain Description
Information and Media Literacy refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: informational essays, articles, subject-area texts, and reference sources. This domain also refers to the skills required to read, analyze, and evaluate various types of workplace, consumer, and media reading materials.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA7R1   ELA7RC2   ELA7LSV2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Analyze, to gain understanding of text, common textual features, such as:
    o paragraphs
    o topic sentences
    o concluding sentences
    o introduction
    o conclusion
    o footnotes
    o index
    o bibliography
- Apply knowledge of common organizational patterns and structures, such as:
    o logical order
    o cause and effect relationships
    o comparison and contrast
    o transitions
- Trace the development of the author's argument for and against an issue
- Provide evidence used to support an author's argument
- Determine messages and themes from books in all subject areas
- Makes connections between messages and themes from one subject area to another
- Examine the author's purpose in writing
- Describe the features of nonfiction texts
- Apply knowledge of common graphic features, such as:
    o graphic organizers
    o diagrams
    o captions
    o illustrations
- Demonstrate understanding of the use of a simple mechanical device by following technical directions
- Determine how image and text in electronic journalism affect the reader

Reading
Grade: 8
Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition

Domain Description
Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition refers to the skills required to read, interpret, and apply difficult text and new vocabulary in a variety of texts.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA8R2   ELA8RC3   ELA8RC4

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Determine meanings, alternate word choices, or etymologies of words
- Show an understanding of contextual vocabulary in various subjects
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words in content or concepts within text
- Determines strategies for finding meaning for unfamiliar words or concepts within text

Reading
Grade: 8
Domain: Literary Comprehension

Domain Description
Literary Comprehension refers to the skills required to comprehend literary works by identifying and analyzing elements of various texts. Texts may include: short story, drama, folktale, poetry, legend, and descriptive narrative.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA8R1

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Determine the difference between the concepts of theme in a literary work and author's purpose in an expository text
- Recognize the theme in a selection
- Distinguish theme from topic
- Classify the genre of the selection
- Analyze a character's traits, emotions, or motivations and give supporting evidence from the text
- Compare and contrast motivations and reactions of literary characters from different generations or time periods as they confront situations within the selection
- Draw conclusions regarding the structural elements of the plot, such as:
  o subplots
  o climax
- Evaluate the plot's development and resolution of conflicts
- Analyze and evaluate the effects of sound, form, and figurative language, such as:
  o alliteration
  o onomatopoeia
  o internal rhyme
  o rhyme scheme
  o meter
  o simile
  o metaphor
  o personification
  o hyperbole
  o symbolism
  o imagery
- Explain how an author's use of words creates and establishes tone and mood

Reading
Grade: 8
Domain: Information and Media Literacy

Domain Description
Information and Media Literacy refers to the skills required to read, recall, and analyze details and information from various texts. Texts may include: informational essays, articles, subject-area texts, and reference sources. This domain also refers to the skills required to read, analyze, and evaluate various types of workplace, consumer, and media reading materials.

Standard Associated with Domain
ELA8R1   ELA8RC2   ELA8LSV2

Associated Concepts, Skills, and Abilities
- Analyze, to obtain information such as main idea, common textual features, such as:
    o paragraphs
    o topic sentences
    o concluding sentences
    o introduction
    o conclusion
    o footnotes
    o index
    o bibliography
- Apply, analyze, and evaluate common organizational patterns and structures, such as:
    o graphic organizers
    o logical order
    o comparison and contrast
    o cause and effect relationships
- Trace the development of the author's argument, point of view, or perspective in text
- Makes connections between messages and themes from one subject area to another
- Examine the author's purpose in writing
- Recognize the features of nonfiction texts
- Demonstrate understanding of and explain the use of a complex mechanical device by following technical directions
- Apply information from a variety of consumer, workplace, and public documents such as job applications to explain a situation or decision and to solve a problem
- Interpret and evaluate the various ways in which visual image makers communicate information and affect impressions and opinions