

# M-STEP ELA Quick Information Sheet

*Source: Spring 2015 Michigan Statewide Assessment Transition Document (MDE-Office of Standards and Assessment)*

**Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP)** will be used to deliver a valid, reliable summative assessment measuring Michigan's standards for the 2014-2015 school year.

## **English Language Arts (Grades 3-8) and Grade 11\***

The M-STEP will have Smarter Balanced content plus Michigan-developed field-test items. This will include a Computer Adaptive Test (CAT), a Classroom Activity, and a Performance Task.\*

*\*Due to time concerns and restrictions for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade assessment (which includes the ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys) the Performance Tasks and their accompanying classroom activities will be recommended but not required for 11<sup>th</sup> graders.*

## **Computer Adaptive Test**

Similar to the MAP test, M-STEP is a computer-adaptive test designed to adjust the level of difficulty—based on the responses provided—to match the knowledge and ability of a test taker.

## **Classroom Activity**

The purpose of the Classroom Activity is to introduce students to the context of the Performance Task so they are not disadvantaged in demonstrating the skills the task intends to assess. Classroom Activities do not address content information; instead, they focus on vocabulary and key contextual topics. The Classroom Activity is designed to be an introduction and not an assessment.

## **Performance Tasks**

The addition of Performance Tasks play a key role in the measurement of Michigan's standards. Performance Tasks contain collections of questions and activities that are coherently connected to a single theme or scenario. These activities are designed to measure capacities such as depth of understanding, writing and research skills, and complex analysis, which cannot be adequately assessed with traditional test questions. The Performance Tasks will be taken on a computer (but will not be computer adaptive) and will take one or two class periods to complete.

## **Test Sessions**

The spring 2015 test sessions are NOT timed (with the exception of College Entrance and Work Skills Tests). *All times are estimates.* Students should be allowed extra time if they need it. Estimated times do not include scheduled breaks; please plan accordingly. The *Classroom Activity* is not an online activity and does not require scheduling of computer labs. **Headphones are required for the ELA Computer Adaptive Test session.**

**\*For more detailed information and to access the source document go to [www.michigan.gov/baa](http://www.michigan.gov/baa)**

**Spring 2015 Test Session Timings (in hours and minutes)**

	Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
English Language Arts	Computer Adaptive	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30
	Classroom Activity	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30	0:30
	Performance Task	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00

**The English Language Arts assessment consists of three parts:**

1. Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) session-administered online
2. Classroom Activity-NOT online
3. Performance Task (PT) Administered online