Missouri Assessment Program – Practice Form
Grade 4 English Language Arts
Script for Administering Braille Edition

This script should be used to administer the Braille edition of the assessments. This script should not be used to administer the online assessments. This document contains secure testing materials and must be destroyed following the guidelines provided in Section 3.4 of the Test Coordinator’s Manual.

To ensure that all students are tested under the same conditions, the Test Examiner (TE) should adhere strictly to the script for administering the test. These instructions can be found in the boxes in bold on the following pages. The TE should answer questions raised by students when asked but should never help the class or individual students with specific test items. Except for single words, no test items can be read to any student for any content area unless the student has Read Aloud as a specified tool/accommodation.

Please remember that the script must be followed exactly and used each time a test is administered. All directions and listening presentations that a TE must read to students are indicated by the word “SAY” and are in boxes so they stand out from the regular text. They should be read aloud exactly as written, using a natural tone and manner. If the TE makes a mistake in reading a direction, the TE should stop and say, “I made a mistake. Listen again.” Then the direction should be reread.

The TE should try to maintain a natural classroom atmosphere during the test administration. Before each test begins, he or she should encourage students to do their best.
GRADE 4, SESSION 1

Make sure that each student has his or her own test booklet and any additional materials needed to access the assessment. Students should mark their answers or indicate their responses to the Test Examiner.

SAY  Please make sure you have the correct test booklet. Do not open your test booklet until I tell you to do so.

Pause to make sure students have their own test booklets.

SAY  Now you will be taking the English Language Arts Practice Form. This test has four sessions that contain different types of questions. Today you will take Session 1. This session includes questions based on passages. Be sure to read each passage. Some questions will require you to choose each correct answer. Other questions will require you to mark or indicate your answers to the Test Examiner. One question will require you to respond to a writing prompt. First, read the prompt to understand the task. Then, plan and draft your essay. Finally, write the final draft of your essay. Read each question carefully and follow the directions.

Pause.

SAY  When you come to the word STOP at the bottom of the page, you have finished this session. You may go back over Session 1 and check your answers, but do not go to any other session. When you finish checking Session 1, please close your test booklet and sit quietly.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have. When you are sure that the students understand the directions, continue.

SAY  Open your test booklet to the first question in Session 1. You may begin.

Make sure students are on the correct page.
When the students have finished,

**SAY**  
Stop. This is the end of the English Language Arts Practice Form, Session 1.  
Please close your test booklet.

If this is the end of testing for the day, collect all testing materials and secure the materials after confirming that all test booklets are accounted for.

If this is **not** the end of testing for the day, have students close their test booklets and take a short break. Resume testing when students are ready to continue.
GRADE 4, SESSION 2

Make sure that each student has his or her own test booklet and any additional materials needed to access the assessment. Students should mark their answers or indicate their responses to the Test Examiner.

**SAY** Please make sure you have the correct test booklet. Do not open your test booklet until I tell you to do so.

Pause to make sure students have their own test booklets.

**SAY** Now you will be taking Session 2 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions based on passages. Be sure to read each passage. Some questions will require you to choose each correct answer. Other questions will require you to mark or indicate your answers to the Test Examiner. Read each question carefully and follow the directions.

You may NOT go back to Session 1 in your test booklet. Work through each question in Session 2 only.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have.

**SAY** When you come to the word STOP at the bottom of the page, you have finished this session. You may go back over Session 2 and check your answers, but do not go to any other session. When you finish checking Session 2, please close your test booklet and sit quietly.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have. When you are sure that the students understand the directions, continue.

**SAY** Open your test booklet to the first question in Session 2. You may begin.

Make sure students are on the correct page.
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When the students have finished,

[SAY] Stop. This is the end of the English Language Arts Practice Form, Session 2. Please close your test booklet.

If this is the end of testing for the day, collect all testing materials and secure the materials after confirming that all test booklets are accounted for.

If this is not the end of testing for the day, have students close their test booklets and take a short break. Resume testing when students are ready to continue.

GRADE 4, SESSION 3  
Make sure that each student has his or her own test booklet and any additional materials needed to access the assessment. Students should mark their answers or indicate their responses to the Test Examiner.

[SAY] Please make sure you have the correct test booklet. Do not open your test booklet until I tell you to do so.

Pause to make sure students have their own test booklets.

[SAY] Now you will be taking Session 3 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions. Some questions will require you to choose each correct answer. Other questions will require you to mark or indicate your answers to the Test Examiner. Read each question carefully and follow the directions.

You may NOT go back to a previous session in your test booklet. Work through each question in Session 3 only.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have.

[SAY] When you come to the word STOP at the bottom of the page, you have finished this session. You may go back over Session 3 and check your
answers, but do not go to any other session. When you finish checking Session 3, please close your test booklet and sit quietly.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have. When you are sure that the students understand the directions, continue.

**SAY**  Open your test booklet to the first question in Session 3. You may begin.

Make sure students are on the correct page.
When the students have finished,

**SAY** Stop. This is the end of the English Language Arts Practice Form, Session 3. Please close your test booklet.

If this is the end of testing for the day, collect all testing materials and secure the materials after confirming that all test booklets are accounted for.

If this is **not** the end of testing for the day, have students close their test booklets and take a short break. Resume testing when students are ready to continue.
GRADE 4, SESSION 4
For Session 4, scripts are provided for items assessing listening.

Make sure that each student has his or her own test booklet and any additional materials needed to access the assessment. Students should mark their answers or indicate their responses to the Test Examiner.

SAY Please make sure you have the correct test booklet. Do not open your test booklet until I tell you to do so.

Pause to make sure students have their own test booklets.

SAY Now you will be taking Session 4 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions based on presentations. Some questions will require you to choose each correct answer. Other questions will require you to mark or indicate your answers to the Test Examiner. Read each question carefully and follow the directions.

You may NOT go back to a previous session in your test booklet. Work through each question in Session 4 only.

Are there any questions?

Pause to answer any questions the students have. When you are sure that the students understand the directions, continue.

SAY Open your test booklet to Session 4. You will listen to a presentation and then answer questions 1 through 4.

Make sure students are on the correct page.
One sunny morning, a merchant was traveling to the market to sell his cotton. As he walked, he glanced toward the distant sea. He saw something gliding across its shimmering waves.

*It’s a trading ship carrying fine silk cloths from far-off lands!* the merchant thought. Immediately, he flung his bags of cotton beneath some willows and rushed toward the sea.

Before long, the merchant passed a farmer who was planting wheat in his field.

“What’s your hurry, sir?” the farmer called to the merchant.

The merchant just pointed to the sea and continued his frantic dash.

Shading his eyes with one hand, the farmer studied the bright waters. He spied something riding on the waves too.

*It’s a trading ship filled with strange new fruits and vegetables!* the farmer thought. Instantly, he abandoned his sack of seeds and joined the race.

Soon the merchant and the farmer passed an artist painting a picture of flowers.

“Is something wrong?” the artist shouted nervously. She wondered if they were fleeing from an animal.

The men answered by pointing to the sea.

Carefully, the artist examined the waters. She noticed a passenger ship floating not far from shore. Perhaps it held beautiful gold statues. Dropping her bottle of red paint, she chased after the men.

Finally, the three arrived on the sandy beach. Gasping to catch their breath, they stared at their mysterious treasure. It was a gigantic, soggy log!

Suddenly, the artist smiled. “I spilled red paint on my picture to greet a log,” she said, laughing at her foolishness.

The farmer and the merchant chuckled too.

The farmer said, “My treasure is waiting for me in my fields.”

The merchant added, “Mine is under the willows.”

Then the three turned and walked away. They let the sea keep its prize.
Read the presentation aloud again.

SAY Please answer questions 1 through 4. When you complete these four questions, please stop working and sit quietly.

Pause. Allow time for students to respond.
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SAY  Find question 5 in your test booklet. You will listen to a presentation and then answer questions 5 through 8.

Pause.

SAY  How You Learn
Have you ever wondered how you are able to learn new things? How can a person go from knowing nothing about music to playing the piano? Scientists have discovered that our brains are sort of like muscles, which can grow stronger with training. If we practice something over and over again, our brains may make this task easier and easier.

Scientists made this discovery by studying animals. When animals learned to use puzzling toys, their brain cells grew new connections, or links. These links carry information from cell to cell. When brain cells have many links, the brain can better understand an idea.

The scientists think human brains may work much the same way. When you learn, your brain forms new links between brain cells. To gain a new skill, however, you have to be willing to practice the task over and over again. It requires effort.

For instance, if you want to play the piano, you must learn which piano keys play certain notes. At first, you may often forget the correct keys. However, if you keep practicing, the links in your brain may form strong connections. In time, you may be able to easily recall every note and play songs on a piano.

Scientists say that people can also help boost their brain growth by taking care of their bodies. First, exercising causes the brain to operate better. Blood flow to the brain increases, and brain cells may multiply. Eating healthy foods is important too. Food provides the brain with the building blocks it needs to work. Finally, getting enough sleep is necessary. The brain often strengthens its memories during sleep.

Don’t give up if something seems difficult at first. Practice and healthy habits will give your brain a chance to create the pathways that will make the task easier.

SAY  I will read it one more time.
Read the presentation aloud again.

SAY Please answer questions 5 through 8. When you complete these four questions, please stop working and sit quietly.

Pause. Allow time for students to respond.

When the students have finished,

SAY Stop. This is the end of the English Language Arts Practice Form, Session 4. Please close your test booklet.

Collect all test materials.