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PARCC

Grounded in the shifts at the heart of the Common Core State Standards

Common Core Shifts for ELA/Literacy

(excerpt from [parcconline.org](#) can be viewed [here](#))

1. **Complexity:** The standards require regular practice with complex text and its academic language
2. **Evidence:** The standards emphasize reading and writing grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational
3. **Knowledge:** The standards require building knowledge through content rich non-fiction

Common Core Shifts for Mathematics

(excerpt from [parcconline.org](#) can be viewed [here](#))

1. **Focus:** The standards focus in on the key content, skills and practices at each grade level
2. **Coherence:** Content in the standards builds across the grades, and major topics are linked within grades
3. **Rigor:** In major topics, the standards highlight conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application

The assessments will use authentic texts worthy of study instead of artificially produced or commissioned passages.

**TEXTS
WORTH
READING**

**QUESTIONS
WORTH
ANSWERING**

Sequences of questions that draw students into deeper encounters with texts will be the norm (as in an excellent classroom), rather than sets of random questions of varying quality.

Multi-step problems, conceptual questions, applications, and substantial procedures will be common, as in an excellent classroom.

**PROBLEMS
WORTH
DOING**

FOCUS

Instead of randomly sampling a mile-wide array of topics, PARCC assessments will have a strong focus where the standards focus. This will reinforce the concept of "going deep" rather than simply "covering topics."

*"To ensure that the assessment will be based on a rich model of instruction aligned with the CCSS, the PARCC Model Content Frameworks for educators were developed based on the Standards **before** the assessment blueprints were designed. The Model Content Frameworks were developed through a state-led process led by mathematics and ELA/literacy content experts in PARCC member states, including teachers, higher education representatives, and members of the Common Core State Standards writing team." (see PARCC development process [here](#))*