



STAAR/SST ECR Prompts

2023 to 2026

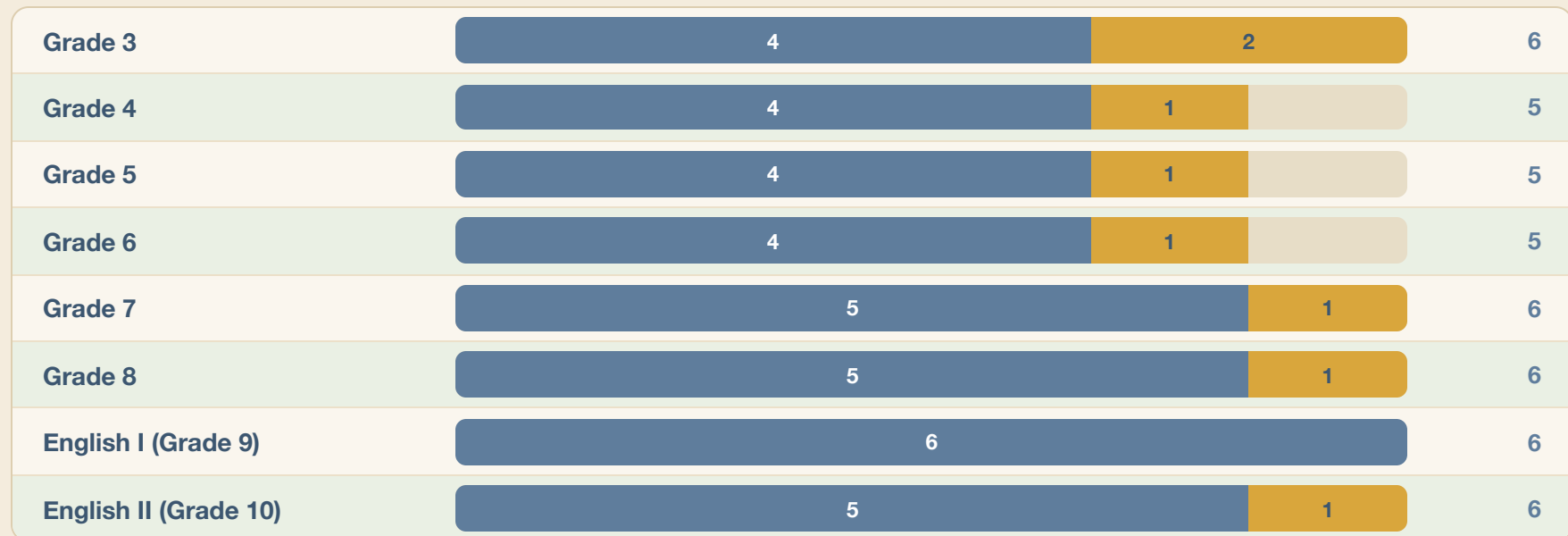
Grades 3 to 10

Every Extended Constructed Response prompt from the released tests: the prompt task itself, worded exactly as Texas Education Agency published it.

ECR prompts by mode and grade

45 prompts total

■ Informational ■ Argumentative



Why does 2023 show more than one prompt for a grade? Each STAAR/SST test has only one ECR prompt per year. 2023 was the first year of the redesigned test, so Texas Education Agency also released extra ECR prompts that year in the **Item Sampler** and the **Practice Test**. Every prompt in this chart is labeled under its year: Actual Test, Item Sampler, or Practice Test. 2024, 2025, and 2026 show the Actual Test prompt only.

STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

Extended Constructed Response prompts, Grades 3 to 10



YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 3 6 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain the relationship between the poet and the pants and how this relationship is developed by the poet.	Pants
2023 Practice Test	Informational	Explain how bees and pumpkins are beneficial to one another.	From Seed to Pumpkin to Seed
2023 Actual Test	Argumentative	Explain your opinion about why people should or should not be rewarded for recycling.	Rewards for Recycling; Laws for Less Trash
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain the ways that soil is important to Earth.	Digging on Dirt
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Explain why the farmer and Olivia feel DIFFERENTLY while working toward their goals.	The Farm Where Nothing Grew; Olivia's Soccer Practice
2026 Actual Test	Argumentative	Explain if life was better or worse for cowboys before 1884 when more railroad tracks were built in Texas.	The Texas Cowboy
Source: Texas Education Agency STAAR/SST released tests 2023 to 2026 teachbig.com			

STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

Extended Constructed Response prompts, Grades 3 to 10



YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 4 5 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain why the Edwards Aquifer is important in the article.	Austin's Secret Salamander
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain how Herbie's behavior changes and how this is developed by the playwright.	The Spelling Test
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how the events in the story cause Cody to change his opinions.	Surprise Kick
2025 Actual Test	Argumentative	Explain whether or not people should make changes to traditional dishes.	Cultural Cooking Connections; Tradition with a Twist
2026 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how the animals carved from wood in paragraph 2 contribute to the story.	from The Ice Dove

Source: Texas Education Agency STAAR/SST released tests 2023 to 2026 | teachbig.com

STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

Extended Constructed Response prompts, Grades 3 to 10



YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 5 5 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how Kim shows determination throughout the story.	The Camping ‘Trip.’
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain why Baby Bear changes his attitude toward Goldie over the course of the play.	The Return of Goldie Locks
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how El-ahrairah’s kindness helps him throughout the selection.	Tales from Watership Down
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Explain the effects that technology has had on animation.	Pencils or Programs? Traditional Animation Is Here to Stay
2026 Actual Test	Argumentative	Argue whether Hare is right to solve her problem in the way that she does.	Elephant and Hare

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YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 6 5 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how the Camel Mobile Library has affected the people of Garissa.	One Book, One Camel
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Though The Silmarillion and the painting of George Washington were left incomplete by their creators, both are widely known today. Explain how the painting and the novel are different in their journeys from unfinished projects to popular and important works.	George Washington's Portrait; The Story Behind The Silmarillion
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how Chip in the excerpt from The Last Wild Place and Xavier in the poem "A Wave of a Day" behave SIMILARLY to each other.	from The Last Wild Place; "A Wave of a Day"
2025 Actual Test	Argumentative	The town council, a group of people who make decisions about town laws and policies, is considering closing off public access to a bat cave in your town to protect the bat population that lives inside. Write a letter addressed to the town council about whether public access to the cave should be closed off.	The Bat's Cave: A Dark City
2026 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how art has impacted Wang Yani's experiences in life.	Young Master Yani

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STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

Extended Constructed Response prompts, Grades 3 to 10



YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 7 6 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain some ways humans benefit from allowing robots to complete simple tasks at home and in the workplace.	Are People Ready for Robots?
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain how the friendship between Angie and Pete contributes to the development of a theme in the play.	A Star-Spangled Catastrophe
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain how the author supports the thesis that the system created by Sainsbury's is "positively groundbreaking" and "revolutionary."	Turning Waste into Energy
2024 Actual Test	Argumentative	Should students be involved in deciding how money is spent in their schools or communities through participatory budgeting? Why or why not?	A Different Approach to Budgeting
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Describe how the relationship between the author and her grandmother influenced the author's life.	Winter Wisdom
2026 Actual Test	Informational	<i>Prompt not released by TEA.</i>	<i>None</i>

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STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

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YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
Grade 8 6 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain what new research reveals about horses' ability to communicate.	Say What, Horse?
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain how Anthony's interactions with Grandpa help to develop a theme about how sharing experiences may lead to greater understanding between people.	Starting from Scratch
2023 Practice Test	Informational	Explain how Avery's father in the story "Avery's Gift" is similar to Ellison's father in the article "Chicken of the Sea Is So Wacky, Of Course It Was Created by Kids."	Avery's Gift; Chicken of the Sea Is So Wacky, Of Course It Was Created by Kids
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how Carol's curiosity influences events in the excerpt.	Mr. Linden's Library
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Explain what the invention of snow goggles reveals about ancient cultures.	Seeing in a Sea of Snow
2026 Actual Test	Argumentative	Argue whether the United States should invest in maglev trains or focus on improving train systems that already exist.	How Maglev Trains Work.
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STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

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YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
English I (Grade 9) 6 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain why travelers enjoy using the National Road today.	Back in Time: The National Road
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain how the characterizations of Ashoke and Mrs. Lapidus contribute to the development of the plot in this excerpt.	The Namesake
2023 Practice Test	Informational	Explain how the author of the article and the poet both emphasize how the quality of food had an effect on cowboys' morale.	The Cowboy's Home on Wheels; The U-S-U Range
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Identify and explain the significance of the revelation Miss McGill has from her dealings with Mr. Mifflin.	Parnassus on Wheels
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how the treatment of the time capsule over time has demonstrated that people value its significance.	Buried History
2026 Actual Test	Informational	Explain the influence of the stage directions on the development of a character throughout the play.	Winning
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STAAR/SST ECR Prompts 2023 to 2026

Extended Constructed Response prompts, Grades 3 to 10



YEAR	MODE	PROMPT	PASSAGE(S)
English II (Grade 10) 6 prompts 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026			
2023 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how acquiring the loft room changes Thea.	The Song of the Lark
2023 Item Sampler	Informational	Explain the feelings the poet expresses while watching the fox and how those feelings are developed by the poet.	The Fox
2023 Practice Test	Argumentative	Write a letter to your principal in which you argue who would benefit most from a volunteering program at school: student participants or members of the community they could serve.	Volunteering Is Its Own Reward
2024 Actual Test	Informational	Explain what makes the situation in Antarctica unusual.	Antarctica: Governing the Icy Continent
2025 Actual Test	Informational	Explain how geological features have helped shape the history of human civilizations.	Falling into Place along the Fall Line
2026 Actual Test	Informational	Describe how the author uses language throughout the excerpt to build toward the encounter with the leopard in paragraph 19.	The Leopard.
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