



Tips for Taking the **Paper-Based** FSA ELA Writing Assessments

Grades 4–6 ELA Writing



It's almost time to take the paper-based FSA ELA Writing test!

Here are some important explanations and reminders to help you do your very best.



FSA ELA Writing

- Students in Grades 4–6 will take the paper-based Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) Writing test.
- There is **one 120-minute session** for FSA ELA Writing.



Test Invalidation

Let's talk about the term

test invalidation.

It's important for you
to understand what it means
so it won't happen to you!



Test Invalidation

If your test is invalidated,
it means that your test
will not be scored,
and you will not be able to
retake the same test.



To make sure your test is scored...

Remove all electronic devices.

If you have an electronic device at your desk, in your pocket, or anywhere you can reach it during testing or while on a break, **your test will not be scored.**



Electronic Devices

Some examples of electronic devices are:

- Cell phones or smartphones
- Tablets
- Smartwatches
- Handheld video games
- Cameras
- Calculators



Electronic Devices

Your teacher may collect electronic devices or instruct you to put them away (in a locker or backpack away from your desk).

If you aren't sure if something is an electronic device, please ask your teacher before the test.



To make sure your test is scored...

Do your own work.

If you are caught looking at another student's answers, allowing another student to look at your answers, or using any kind of unauthorized aid during the test, **your test will not be scored.**



To make sure your test is scored...

Don't be disruptive.

If you are disruptive during a test, you may be dismissed from the room, and your test may not be scored. It is very important for you to remain quiet, respect other students, and pay attention to and follow the instructions.



To make sure your test is scored...

Don't leave school during a session.

If you leave the school's campus for lunch or an appointment before you complete the test session,
you will not be allowed to finish taking the test when you return.



Testing Rules

During the test, you must not:

- Talk to other students or make any disturbance
- Look at another student's test or planning sheet
- Allow another student to look at your test or planning sheet
- Ask for help writing your response
- Give help to another student in writing a response
- Have notes or scratch paper (other than your planning sheet)
- Have any electronic or recording devices in your possession at any time, including breaks, even if you do not use them
- Fail to follow any other instructions given



Testing Rules

Before the test, your test administrator will read the testing rules aloud and ask you to read the **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**. You will be asked to sign your below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment to show that you understand the rules.

Testing Rules Acknowledgment

I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.

Signature _____



Taking the Test

Let's talk about the materials
you will use to take the test
and the process you will follow
when taking the test.

Planning Sheets

- Before you begin, your test administrator will give you a **planning sheet** that you may use to take notes and plan your writing.
- Your test administrator will collect your planning sheet at the end of the test session.
- While testing, make sure that your planning sheet is not easily visible to other students.

STUDENT NAME _____

PLANNING SHEET

Use this sheet to plan what you will write. The writing on this sheet will NOT be scored.

THIS SHEET WILL NOT BE SCORED.



Test and Answer Books

You will receive an FSA ELA Writing test and answer book that contains reading passages, a writing prompt, and **three** lined pages where you will write your response.

Make sure you write inside the box that contains the lines.

A photograph of a page from a test book. The page is white with horizontal ruling lines. At the bottom left, it says "Page 9". At the bottom right, there is a button that says "Go On" with a right-pointing arrow. The page is framed by a black border.



Taking the Test

- Read each passage carefully and respond completely to the writing prompt.
- Your writing should show that you can organize and express your thoughts clearly.
- You are required to write your response in English.
- Manage your time carefully so that you have time to read the passages, plan your response, write your response on the lined pages, and proofread, revise, and edit your response.



Remember...

During the test, you may not:

- Look at another student's response
- Allow another student to look at your response
- Have notes, scratch paper (other than your planning sheet), or electronic devices



Remember...

You may not ask for help in planning or writing your response.

Your teacher or test administrator is not allowed to discuss the test or help you read or understand the passages or prompt, or help you write your response.



Remember...

Once you finish a test and turn it in,
you may not ask for it back.

Make sure you are finished writing your response
before turning in your test.



Remember...

During breaks and after testing,
it's important that you

**do not talk about the don't talk about the
passages or prompt**

with friends, teachers, or other students.



Most Importantly...

**Get a good night's sleep
and eat a good breakfast before the test.**

Relax and do your best!