

Introducing the New  
Iowa Assessments™  
Language Arts  
Levels 15 – 17/18

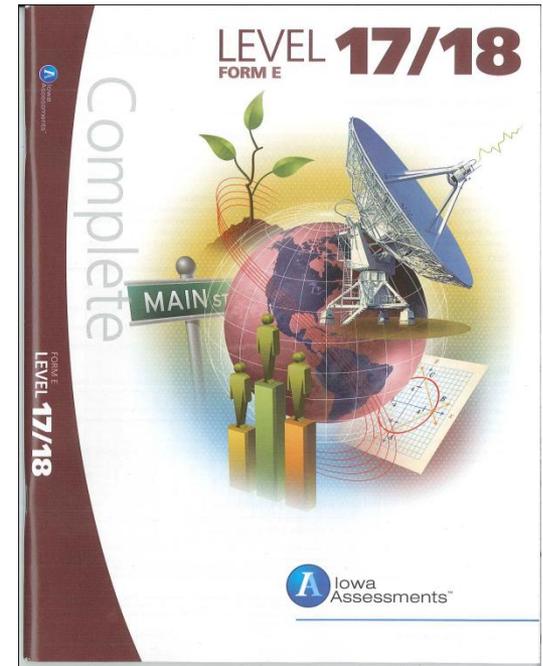
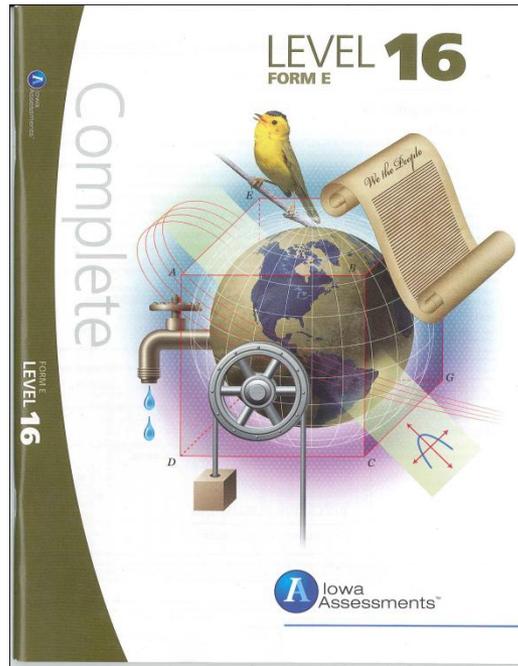
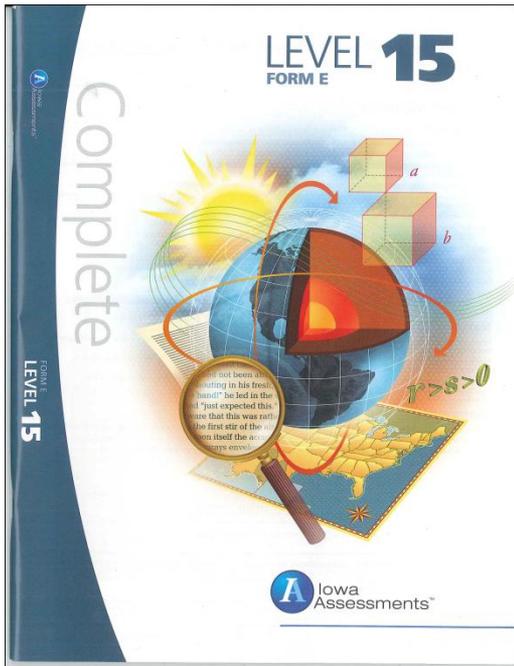


**Iowa Testing Programs**

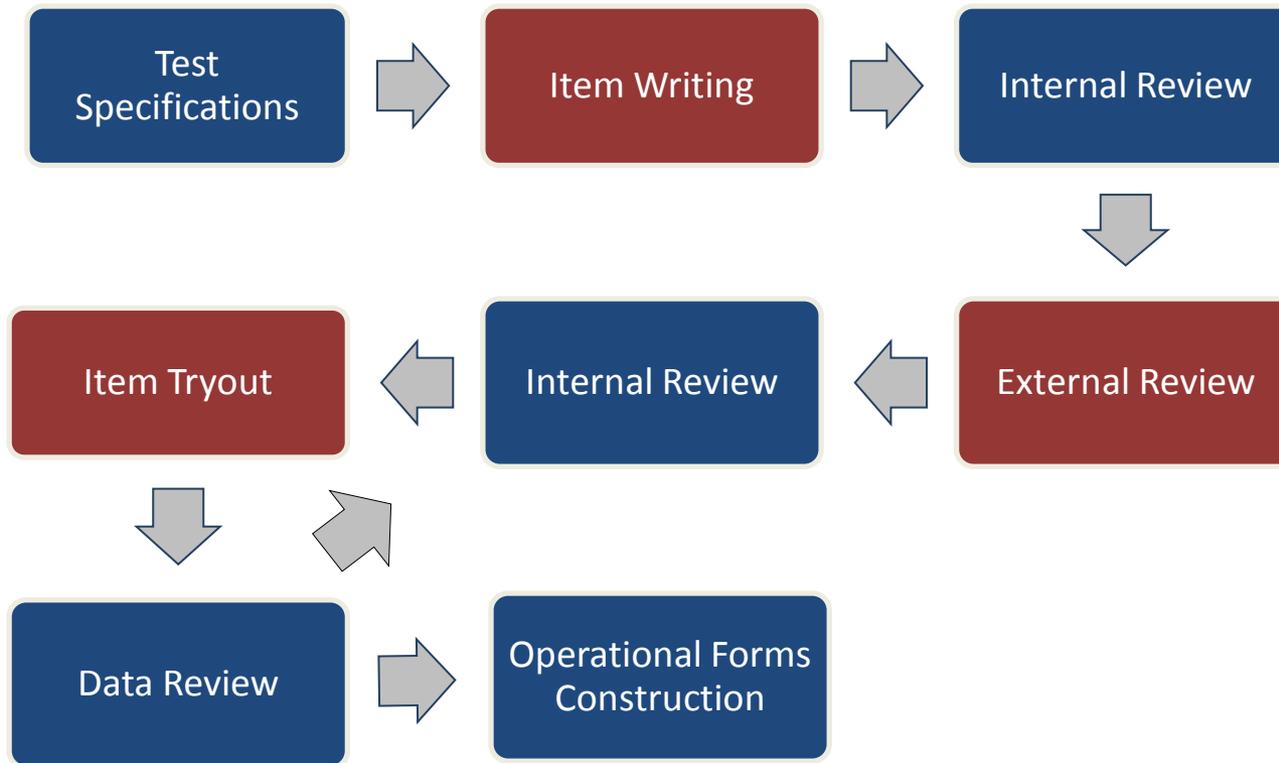
# ITP Assessment Tools

- Math Interim Assessments: Grades 3 – 8
  - Administered online
- Constructed Response Supplements
  - Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics at Levels 9 – 17/18
  - Available free of charge in fall 2011
- Iowa Algebra Readiness Assessment (IARA)
  - Administered online
- Iowa End of Course Assessments (IEOC)
  - Administered online
  - Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Matrix Algebra, Probability & Statistics, English Language Arts, Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, U.S. History, U.S. Government

# The Iowa Assessments™



# Test Development



# New Iowa Assessments™

- New forms
- All new items
- All items written and reviewed by Iowa educators
- All items field tested on Iowa students
- All items align to the Core

<http://www.corecurriculum.iowa.gov/>

# Major Changes from Current Forms

## All Levels

- New order of tests within the booklet
- Adjusted number of items and administration times
- New page layouts in full color

## Levels 15 – 17/18

- Spelling and Sources of Information tests have been dropped.

# Administration Times: Levels 15 – 17/18

Subject Area	Administration Time
Reading	40
Written Expression	40
Mathematics	40
Science	40
Social Studies	40
Vocabulary	15
Computation	20

# Language Arts

- Written Expression
- Vocabulary

# Written Expression Domains & Standards

## Planning & Organization

- Order of ideas
- Relevance of ideas
- Logic and coherence
- Research

## Sentence Structure

- Complete sentences
- Modifier placement
- Parallel constructions
- Combining sentences
- Coordination/subordination

## Appropriate Expression

- Conciseness
- Unambiguous references
- Word choice/language suited to purpose
- Correct written language

## Usage & Grammar

- Pronouns/plural nouns
- Modifiers
- Verb forms & agreement
- Commonly confused words

## Mechanics

- Spelling
- Capitalization
- Punctuation

# Written Expression

Domain	Level 15 Total Items	Level 16 Total Items	Level 17/18 Total Items
Planning and Organization	11	13	14
Sentence Structure	14	16	15
Appropriate Expression	11	8	9
Usage & Grammar	8	9	10
Mechanics	10	8	6
Total	54	54	54

Cognitive Levels of Items Above	Level 15 Total Items	Level 16 Total Items	Level 17/18 Total Items
Essential Competencies	19	14	13
Conceptual Understanding	17	23	21
Extended Reasoning	18	17	20

# Vocabulary

	<b>Level 15 Total Items</b>	<b>Level 16 Total Items</b>	<b>Level 17/18 Total Items</b>
Vocabulary	40	40	40

# Cognitive Levels

- Essential Competencies

- Identify and/or correct errors in the use of language;
- Recognize correct written language;
- Locate information

# Cognitive Levels

- Conceptual Understanding
  - Apply knowledge of sentence construction to a piece of writing;
  - Make basic decisions regarding research for writing

# Cognitive Levels

- Extended Reasoning
  - Exercise judgment in researching, structuring, and developing a piece of writing

A group of students wants to place the following notice in their school newspaper. Read quickly through the draft in the box below. Then go on to the spread-out format and consider the suggestions for revision.

### DIG THIS!

¶1 If you're a student at Mossville High, chances are good that you pass by the 12th Street Community Garden on your way to school. Thanks to the hard work of the Mossville Neighborhood Association, there is now a thriving community resource where once there was only a vacant, litter-covered lot. People sit on benches among the flower beds or stop at the vegetable stand where produce sales help support the garden.

¶2 The gardeners have been so successful that tending their creation has become more than they're able to handle. That's where Mossville students can make a difference. You can help this important project survive, volunteer a few hours each week. Your time will be well spent in several ways. Not only will you provide valuable help to the association members, but you will also demonstrate pride in the neighborhood. At the same time, you will have a chance to acquire some practical agricultural skills from some experienced people.

¶3 Signing up is easy. Just speak to someone in the produce stand. One of the association members will provide some tools and show you what to do. Get out and work with your hands, learn from your neighbors, and give back to your community.

## Core (Writing): Production and Distribution of Writing (#4, grades 6 and up)

“Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.”



**Iowa Assessments: Planning & Organization—Logic & Coherence**  
**Cognitive Level: Extended Reasoning**

¶1 If you're a student at Mossville High, chances are good that you pass by the 12th Street Community Garden on your way to school. Thanks to the hard work of the Mossville Neighborhood Association, there is now a thriving community resource where once there was only a vacant, litter-covered lot. People sit on benches among the flower beds or stop at the vegetable stand where produce sales help support the garden.

1

¶2 The gardeners have been so successful that tending there creation has become more than they're able to handle. That's where Mossville students can make a difference. You can help this important project survive, volunteer a few hours each week. Your time will be well spent in several ways. Not only will you provide valuable help to the association members, but you will also demonstrate pride in the neighborhood.

- 1 The writer wants to add a sentence to introduce paragraph 2. Which sentence would best accomplish this purpose?**
- A** This story isn't over yet.
  - B** There's more here than meets your eye, however.
  - C** Now the neighborhood association needs your support.
  - D** It isn't really enough anymore just to walk through the neighborhood.

**Core (Language):** Conventions of Standard English (#1g, grades 4 and up)

“Correctly use frequently confused words . . . .”



**Iowa Assessments:** Usage and Grammar – Commonly confused words  
**Cognitive Level:** Essential Competencies

The gardeners have been so successful that  
tending there creation has become more

**2**

than they're able to handle.

**2**

- 2 J** *(No change)*
- K** their creation has become more than there able
- L** they're creation has become more than their able
- M** their creation has become more than they're able

**Core (Language):** Conventions of Standard English (#1f, grades 4 and up)  
“Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.”



**Iowa Assessments:** Sentence Structure– Complete sentences  
**Cognitive Level:** Conceptual Understanding

That’s where Mossville students can make a  
difference. You can help this important project  
**3**  
survive, volunteer a few hours each week.

**3**

- 3**
- A** *(No change)*
  - B** By volunteering a few hours each week, you can help this important project survive.
  - C** You can help this important project survive. Volunteering a few hours each week.
  - D** Volunteer a few hours each week, you can help this important project survive.

# Answer Folder Changes

- Colors are being used to help teachers more easily verify that the correct form is being used.
- The optional section for tryout items is now located in the interior of the answer folders. Use the adjacent “Other Information” box to grid in the tryout form number.

A blue-themed answer folder form with a large grid at the top and several smaller sections at the bottom for administrative information.A gold-themed answer folder form with a large grid at the top and several smaller sections at the bottom for administrative information.A red-themed answer folder form with a large grid at the top and several smaller sections at the bottom for administrative information.



# Scratch Paper

- Each student should have a supply of scratch paper for all testing sessions.
- Collect all scratch paper after each session.
- Destroy all used scratch paper.

# Security

- Test booklets are **SECURE** materials.
- **NO** booklets are to be retained at the district or school level.



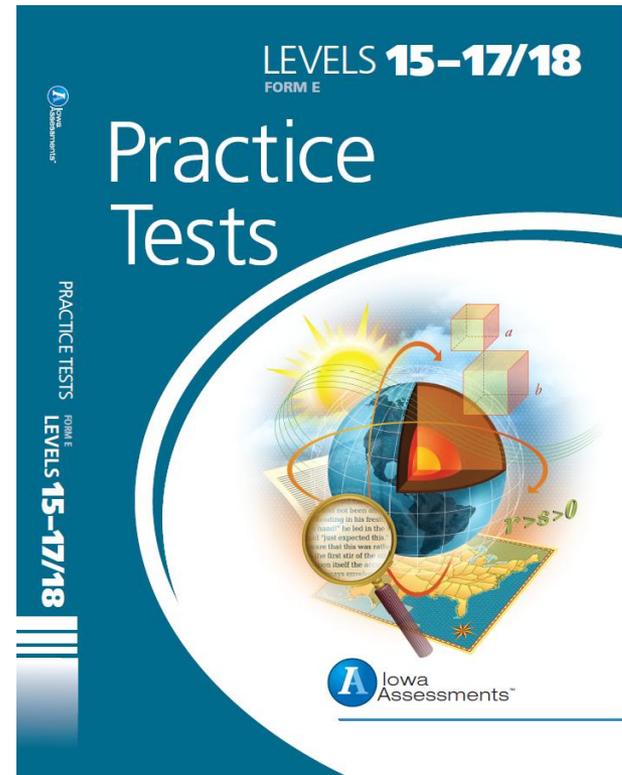
# Security

For security reasons, tests may be viewed on only two occasions:

1. When students are taking an assessment
  - Order only enough materials to test your students.
2. When educators are reviewing Item Analysis Reports (Item Response Record)
  - Contact ITP for review copies.

# Level 15 – 17/18 Practice Tests

- Reading
- Written Expression
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Vocabulary
- Computation



# Details

- This presentation will be available on the Iowa Testing Programs website at <http://itp.education.uiowa.edu>.
  - Contact your testing coordinator if you need assistance gaining access to secure areas of this site.
- A list of Frequently-Asked-Questions (FAQs) is posted on our website and will be updated frequently.
- Contact [iowa-testing-programs@uiowa.edu](mailto:iowa-testing-programs@uiowa.edu) with any additional questions.