

Winter 2025-2026 Grade 8 Reading Growth Assessment

In the 2025-2026 school year, students in Virginia public schools will take growth assessments in Grades 3-8 Reading and Mathematics. Legislation passed in the 2021 Virginia General Assembly ([HB2027](#) and [SB1357](#)) requires growth assessments be administered to students once in the fall and once in the winter (mid-year). In addition to the growth assessments, the Standards of Learning (SOL) tests for Grades 3-8 Reading and Mathematics will continue to be administered. Test items at or below a student’s grade level may be delivered online via the computer adaptive algorithm as appropriate for the student. **Please note the winter computer adaptive test for Grade 8 Reading will begin with questions that assess Grade 8 Reading SOL, and the overall test may include test questions that assess Grade 7 or Grade 8 Reading SOL.** Students who meet the criteria for needing a paper test will receive Grade 8 test items.

Test Blueprint Summary Table

Reporting Category	<u>Grade 8 Standards of Learning</u> Eligible to Appear in the Winter Growth Assessment	Number of Items Winter Growth Assessment Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) Format	Number of Items Winter Growth Assessment Paper Format
Demonstrate comprehension of literary texts and vocabulary development and use word analysis strategies*	8.RV 8.RL.1 8.RL.2 8.RL.3	7	14
Demonstrate comprehension of informational texts and vocabulary development and use word analysis strategies*	8.RV 8.RI.1 8.RI.2 8.RI.3	12	17
Total Number of Items on Test		19	31
Total Number of Passages on Test**		3	4

**Vocabulary development and word analysis* will be tested with both literary and informational texts.

**A passage set is a set of items associated with a single text, a single text and companion graphic with description, or a pair of texts. All reading passage sets are determined *grade-level appropriate* by a committee of Virginia educators prior to administration on the Reading SOL tests, with consideration to reading load. *Students receive no more than one pair of texts per test administration in Grades 3-8.* All Reading SOL content is tested within a passage set and no longer in standalone items.