Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP)

Grade 6 *Reading*

Test Blueprint

Much like the blueprint for a building, a test blueprint serves as a guide for test construction. The blueprint indicates the content areas that will be addressed by the test and the number of items that will be included by content area and for the test as a whole. There is a blueprint for each VAAP test in reading, mathematics, and science (e.g., grade 3 reading, grade 5 mathematics, grade 8 science, high school reading).

The VAAP tests consist of multiple-choice test items with three answer choices that can be presented to the student online or in a paper format. The test items are aligned to the Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL) which are derived from the Virginia Standards of Learning and have been reduced in depth, breadth, and complexity so that the content is relevant, accessible, and appropriate for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Each test covers a number of VESOL. In the test blueprint, the VESOL are grouped into categories that address related content and skills. These categories are labeled as reporting categories. For example, a reporting category for the Grade 6 *Reading* VAAP test is *Demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts and use word analysis strategies*. The VESOL in this reporting category address fictional texts.

In the Grade 6 *Reading* VAAP test, each VESOL is assigned to the appropriate reporting category. For example, VESOL R-6 5 is assigned to *Demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts and use word analysis strategies*, while VESOL R-6 1 is assigned to both the fiction and the nonfiction reporting categories.

A document with all VESOL is available online on the [VAAP webpage](). A Complexity Continuum is provided with the text of each VESOL to better define the intended scope of student expectations or difficulty range of each VESOL. Generally the Complexity Continuum will range from expectations associated with recall or identification at the low end to those requiring application of skills or content at the upper end. The Complexity Continuum is intended to acknowledge the wide variation in the skill level of students who participate in VAAP and to provide appropriate access points for the content of the VESOL in both instruction and assessment. Items on the VAAP tests reflect this continuum with test questions at the low end of the complexity continuum appearing at the beginning of the test and increasing in complexity throughout the assessment.

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Test Blueprint Summary Table

Reporting Category	Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL)[1]	Number of Test Items
Demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts and use word analysis strategies	R-6 1 R-6 2 R-6 5 R-6 7	15
Demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts and use word analysis strategies	R-6 1 R-6 3 R-6 4 R-6 6	15
Number of Operational Test Items[2]		**30**
Number of Field Test Items[3]		**5**
Total Number of Items on the Test		**35**

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[1] The Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL) are academic content standards derived from the Standards of Learning (SOL) in reading, mathematics, and science that have been reduced in depth, breadth, and complexity. A document with all VESOL is available online on the VAAP webpage.

[2] Operational test items are those items in the test that are scored and used in computing a student's test score.

[3] Field test items are those items in the test that are being tried out with students for potential use on subsequent tests and are not used in computing a student's test score.