

**Study Profile: STAAR English III Reading – ACT Reading (★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆)**

The STAAR English III reading – ACT reading external validity study is designed to establish empirical links between performance on the STAAR English III reading assessment and performance on the ACT reading test.

**Motivation (★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆)**

This analysis was based on a single group of students who took both the STAAR English III reading and the ACT reading assessments in 2010 or 2011. Data from STAAR derive from a stand-alone field test administered in 2011 and are linked to motivated ACT reading scores in corresponding years.

**Representativeness (★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆) and Sample Size (★ ★ ★ ★ ★)**

**Grade Levels**

*All English III Reading Examinees Versus Those Linked to ACT Scores*

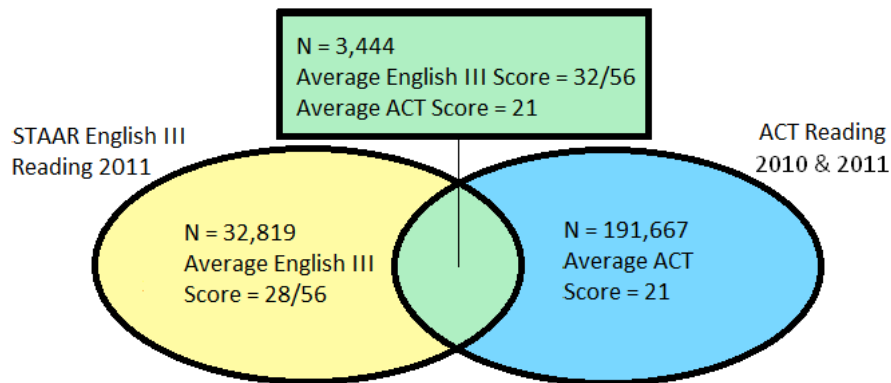
Group	Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12		Missing	Total	
All English	1	0%	85	0%	1,448	4%	33,936	94%	786	2%	7	0%	36,263
Linked	0	0%	1	0%	4	0%	3,337	97%	102	3%	0	0%	3,444

**Demographic Characteristics**

*All English III Reading Examinees Versus Those Linked to ACT Scores*

Group	Female		Economically Disadvantaged		African American		Hispanic		White		Other	
All English	18,727	52%	16,304	45%	4,815	13%	15,359	42%	13,906	38%	2,183	6%
Linked	1,976	57%	1,015	29%	420	12%	1,071	31%	1,754	51%	199	6%

**Summary of STAAR English III Reading and ACT Reading Achievement  
Linked and Unlinked Groups**



**Average ACT Reading Scores Based on Students' STAAR Performance**

Satisfactory Academic Performance	Advanced Academic Performance
23	27

**Correlation (★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆)**

Correlation between STAAR English III reading and ACT reading = **0.59**

**Content Overlap (★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆)**

There is some (approximately 47%) content/skills overlap between the STAAR English III reading assessment and the ACT reading test.

### Assessment Characteristics

Assessment Characteristic	STAAR English III Reading	ACT Reading
<b>Purpose</b>	Created to determine mastery of the English III Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), the state-mandated curriculum.	Designed to help college admissions officials identify students likely to be successful at their academic institutions.
<b>Assessment Type</b>	A criterion-referenced assessment	A norm-referenced assessment
<b>Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures understanding and analysis of literary, informational, and cross-genre texts</li> <li>• Includes fiction, poetry, drama, literary nonfiction, expository, persuasive, media literacy, and procedural texts</li> <li>• Core skills include using vocabulary in context, making complex inferences and conclusions, analyzing author’s craft, and understanding purpose.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures skill level in reading comprehension</li> <li>• Selections from four content areas are used to test reading comprehension: social studies, natural sciences, prose fiction, and humanities.</li> <li>• Core skills include using vocabulary in context, identifying details, making inferences and conclusions, and analyzing author’s craft.</li> <li>• Addresses approximately 47% of the content assessed on the STAAR English III assessment, primarily in reading comprehension</li> </ul>
<b>Item Format</b>	40 items total: 38 multiple-choice items and 2 short answer items	40 multiple-choice items total
<b>Administration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administered in March, July, and November</li> <li>• Administered by school personnel</li> <li>• Administered online and on paper</li> <li>• Four hour time limit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administered six times annually</li> <li>• Administered at an approved testing site (often a school with the test administered by school personnel)</li> <li>• Administered on paper</li> <li>• One timed section totaling 35 minutes</li> </ul>
<b>Performance Standards</b>	Performance standards established and implemented in spring 2012	The ACT Reading college readiness benchmark is a scaled score of 21 (maximum score of 36). It indicates a 50% likelihood of earning a first-year college GPA of 2.7 or higher.