STAAR®
Grade 8 Reading Test Design

**BASE TEST**
- 4–5 single selections (dependent upon length)
- Paired selection
- Paired selection
- 44 total MC items

**FIELD TEST**
- Single selection
- Paired selection
- 6 MC items embedded

**Genres Assessed:**
- **LITERARY:**
  - Fiction
  - Literary Nonfiction
  - Poetry
  - Drama
  - Media Literacy (embedded)
- **INFORMATIONAL:**
  - Expository
  - Persuasive
  - Procedural (embedded)
  - Media Literacy (embedded)

**Total Reading Load:**
- **BASE TEST:** APPROX. 4,100 words maximum
- **FIELD TEST:** APPROX. 900 words maximum

(Length of selections may vary; reading load is constant)