(a) Introduction.

(1) The English language arts and reading Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) embody the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The strands focus on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing to ensure a literate Texas. The strands are integrated and progressive with students continuing to develop knowledge and skills with increased complexity and nuance in order to think critically and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

(2) The seven strands of the essential knowledge and skills for English language arts and reading are intended to be integrated for instructional purposes and are recursive in nature. Strands include the four domains of language (listening, speaking, reading, writing) and their application in order to accelerate the acquisition of language skills so that students develop high levels of social and academic language proficiency. Although some strands may require more instructional time, each strand is of equal value, may be presented in any order, and should be integrated throughout the year. It is important to note that encoding (spelling) and decoding (reading) are reciprocal skills. Decoding is internalized when tactile and kinesthetic opportunities (encoding) are provided. Additionally, students should engage in academic conversations, write, read, and be read to on a daily basis with opportunities for cross-curricular content and student choice.

(3) Text complexity increases with challenging vocabulary, sophisticated sentence structures, nuanced text features, cognitively demanding content, and subtle relationships among ideas (Texas Education Agency, *STAAR Performance Level Descriptors*, 2013). As skills and knowledge are obtained in each of the seven strands, students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth to increasingly complex texts in multiple genres as they become self-directed, critical learners who work collaboratively while continuously using metacognitive skills.
(4) English language learners (ELLs) are expected to meet standards in a second language; however, their proficiency in English influences the ability to meet these standards. To demonstrate this knowledge throughout the stages of English language acquisition, comprehension of text requires additional scaffolds such as adapted text, translations, native language support, cognates, summaries, pictures, realia, glossaries, bilingual dictionaries, thesauri, and other modes of comprehensible input. ELLs can and should be encouraged to use knowledge of their first language to enhance vocabulary development; vocabulary needs to be in the context of connected discourse so that it is meaningful. Strategic use of the student's first language is important to ensure linguistic, affective, cognitive, and academic development in English.

(5) Current research stresses the importance of effectively integrating second language acquisition with quality content area education in order to ensure that ELLs acquire social and academic language proficiency in English, learn the knowledge and skills, and reach their full academic potential. Instruction must be linguistically accommodated in accordance with the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) and the student's English language proficiency levels to ensure the mastery of knowledge and skills in the required curriculum is accessible. For a further understanding of second language acquisition needs, refer to the ELPS and proficiency-level descriptors adopted in Chapter 74, Subchapter A, of this title (relating to Required Curriculum).

(6) Oral language proficiency holds a pivotal role in school success; verbal engagement must be maximized across grade levels (Kinsella, 2010). In order for students to become thinkers and proficient speakers in science, social studies, mathematics, fine arts, language arts and reading, and career and technical education, they must have multiple opportunities to practice and apply the academic language of each discipline (Fisher, Frey, & Rothenberg, 2008).

(7) Statements that contain the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(b) Knowledge and Skills.
### Knowledge and Skills Statement

(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking --beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts, phonics, and morphology to communicate, decode, and spell. The student is expected to:

### Student Expectation

(B) demonstrate and apply spelling knowledge by:
- (i) spelling multisyllabic words with closed syllables; open syllables; VCe syllables; vowel teams, including digraphs and diphthongs; r-controlled syllables; and final stable syllables;
- (ii) spelling homophones;
- (iii) spelling compound words, contractions, and abbreviations;
- (iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;
- (v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCV;
- (vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and
- (vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants

### Breakout

(i) demonstrate spelling knowledge by spelling multisyllabic words with closed syllables
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<td>(xviii) apply spelling knowledge by spelling multisyllabic words with VCe syllables</td>
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<td>(ii) spelling homophones;</td>
<td>(iii) spelling compound words, contractions, and abbreviations;</td>
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<td>(iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;</td>
<td>(v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCC;</td>
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<td>(vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and</td>
<td>(vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants</td>
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### Knowledge and Skills Statement

(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking --beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts, phonics, and morphology to communicate, decode, and spell. The student is expected to:

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<td>(B) demonstrate and apply spelling knowledge by:</td>
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<td>(i) spelling multisyllabic words with closed syllables; open syllables; VCe syllables;</td>
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<td>vowel teams, including digraphs and diphthongs; r-controlled syllables; and final</td>
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<td>(v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV,</td>
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<td>and VCCCCV;</td>
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<td>(vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and</td>
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<td>(vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base</td>
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<td>words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants</td>
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### Breakout

(xix) apply spelling knowledge by spelling multisyllabic words with vowel teams, including digraphs
(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking --beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts, phonics, and morphology to communicate, decode, and spell. The student is expected to:

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   (ii) spelling homophones;  
   (iii) spelling compound words, contractions, and abbreviations;  
   (iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;  
   (v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCV;  
   (vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and  
   (vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants | (xx) apply spelling knowledge by spelling multisyllabic words with vowel teams, including diphthongs |
(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking --beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts, phonics, and morphology to communicate, decode, and spell. The student is expected to:

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(iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;  
(v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCV;  
(vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and  
(vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants | (xii) apply spelling knowledge by spelling multisyllabic words with r-controlled syllables |
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(iii) spelling compound words, contractions, and abbreviations;  
(iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;  
(v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCCV;  
(vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and  
(vii) spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants | (xxv) apply spelling knowledge by spelling contractions |
### Knowledge and Skills Statement

(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking --beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts, phonics, and morphology to communicate, decode, and spell. The student is expected to:

**Student Expectation**

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(iii) spelling compound words, contractions, and abbreviations;
(iv) spelling multisyllabic words with multiple sound-spelling patterns;
(v) spelling words using knowledge of syllable division patterns such as VCCV, VCV, and VCCCCV;
(vi) spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and
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**(xxvi) apply spelling knowledge by spelling abbreviations**
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