

TEA
Texas Education Agency





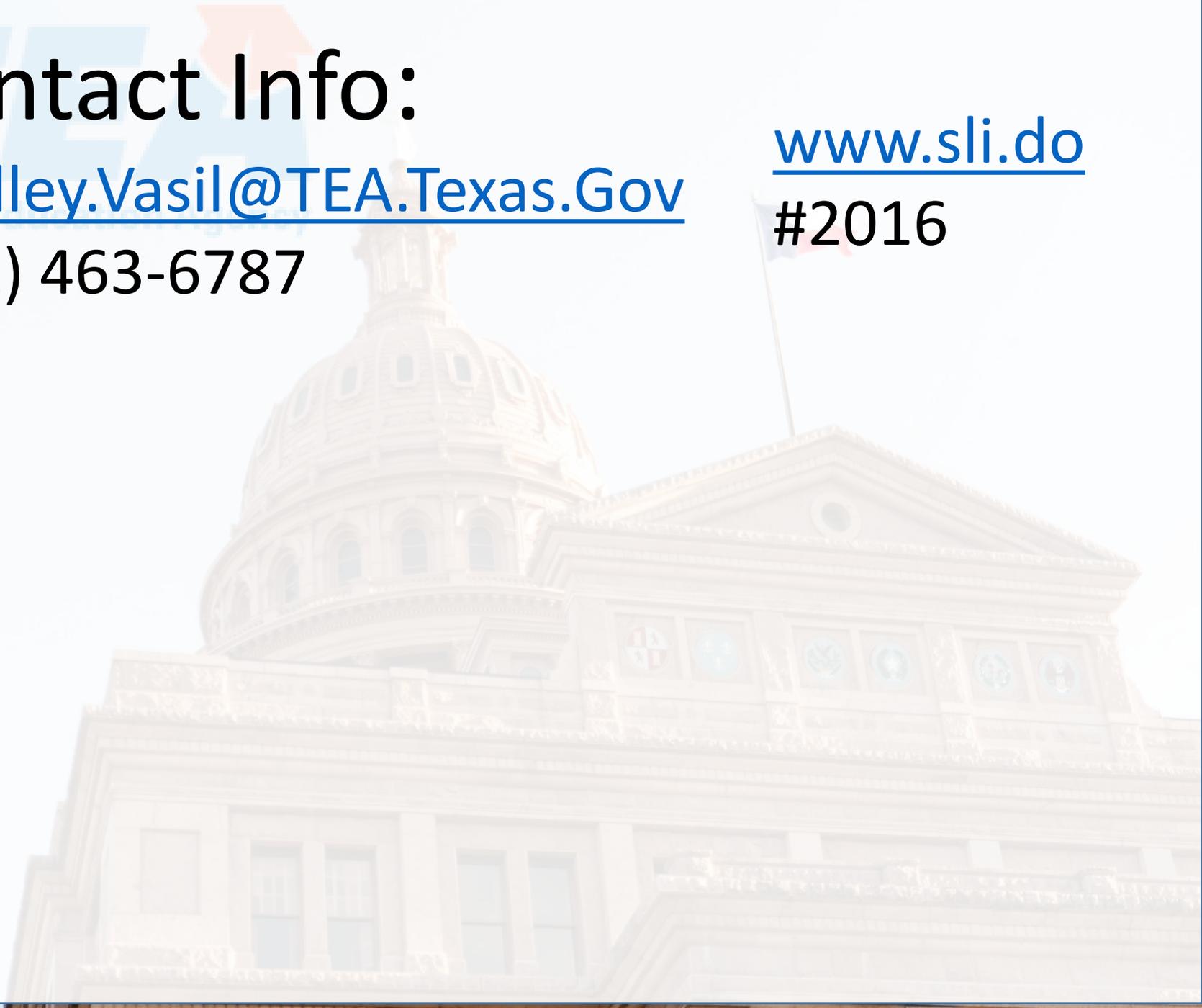
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#2016





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Who Am I?

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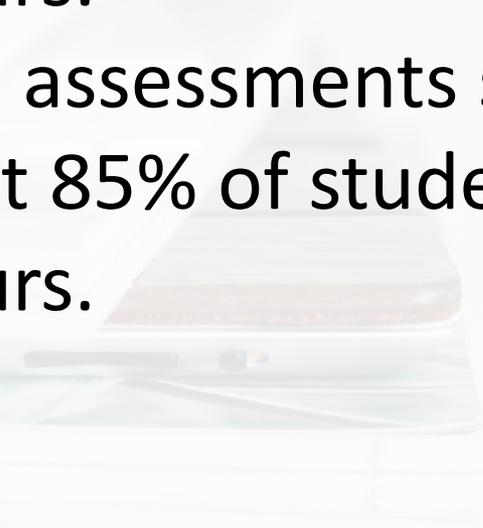
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- 1.HB 743—Shortening 3-8 Assessments
- 2.HB 1164—Writing Pilot
- 3.Short Answer
- 4.Standards Focus

HB 743

- STAAR grades 3–5 assessments should be redesigned so that 85% of students can complete in 2 hours.
 - STAAR grades 6–8 assessments should be redesigned so that 85% of students can complete in 3 hours.
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HB 743

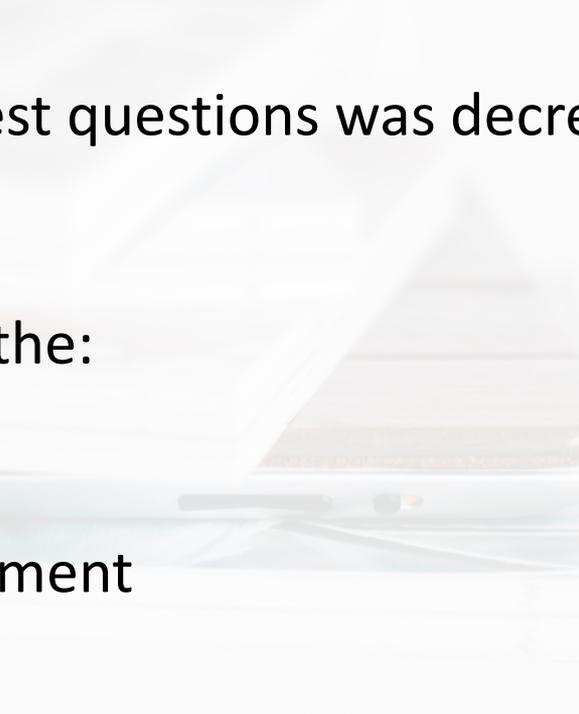
- To meet the requirements of House Bill 743, TEA took into consideration
- Testing time data collected from the spring 2015 administrations
- Testing time data collected from the spring 2016 administrations
- Time allotted to test for grades 3–8 in some other states
- Advice from our Technical Advisory Committee
- Projected reliability estimates

HB 743

- The tests were shortened to the minimum number of questions per test to maintain the necessary reliability projections and ensure the assessments are valid and reliable.
- State law, § 39.0304, requires the state assessments to be valid and reliable.
- Federal law, Section 1111(b)(3)(C)(iii), also requires the state assessments to be valid and reliable.

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HB 743

- The STAAR grade 3 reading assessment was shortened by 6 questions.
 - The STAAR grades 4–8 reading assessments were shortened by 8 questions each.
 - The number of field-test questions was decreased from 8 to 6 questions.
 - There is no change to the:
 - assessed curriculum
 - number of passages
 - word count per assessment
- 

HB 743

- The STAAR grade 4 writing assessment was shortened by a total of 4 multiple-choice questions and 1 written composition.
- The number of written compositions decreased by 1 (from 2 to 1).
- The number of multiple-choice questions decreased by 4 (from 28 to 24).
- The test was changed from a two-day test to a one-day test.
- The number of field-test questions was not changed; there will continue to be 5.
- There is no change to the assessed curriculum

HB 743

- The STAAR grade 7 writing assessment was shortened by a total of 10 multiple-choice questions and 1 written composition.
- The number of written compositions decreased by 1 (from 2 to 1).
- The number of multiple-choice questions decreased by 10 (from 40 to 30).
- The test was changed from a two-day test to a one-day test.
- The number of field-test questions was not changed; there will continue to be 6.
- There is no change to the assessed curriculum

HB 1164

This bill requires TEA to plan a study to develop a writing assessment methodology as an alternative to the STAAR Writing assessment.

Two year program

- House Bill 1164 states that a proposed alternative assessment method be designed to assess:
 - (1) a student's mastery of the essential knowledge and skills in writing through timed writing samples;
 - (2) improvement of a student's writing skills from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year;
 - (3) a student's ability to follow the writing process from rough draft to final product; anda student's ability to produce more than one type of writing
- The primary technical challenge is ensuring that the scores of writing samples are comparable in meaning when evaluated
 - in different places,
 - at different times, and
 - by different people

The Approved Design Overview

Student's Instructional Portfolio (Holistically Scored)

Timed Sample

1

- Final Product (Scored)

Growth Score: Time 2 – Time 1

Timed Sample

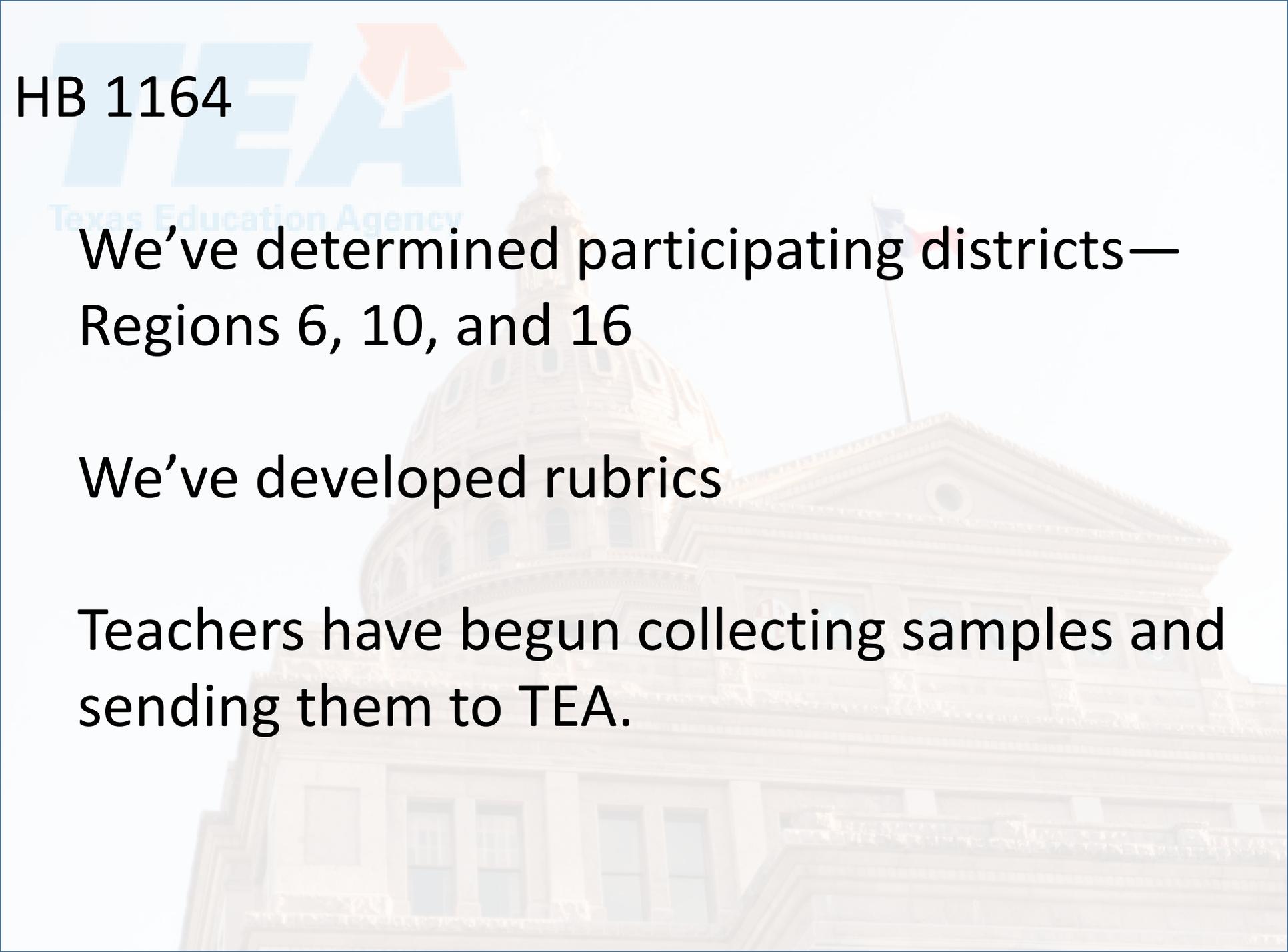
2

- Final Product (Scored)

Process Samples 1, 2, & 3

- Draft
- Revision
- Final Product (Scored)
- Scored also for *Process*

School Year

The image features a light blue background with a faint, large-scale image of the Texas State Capitol building. In the top left corner, the TEA logo is visible, consisting of the letters 'TEA' in a bold, blue font with an orange arrow pointing upwards from the 'A'. Below the logo, the text 'Texas Education Agency' is written in a smaller, blue font. The main text of the slide is in a large, black, sans-serif font, arranged in three paragraphs. The first paragraph is 'HB 1164'. The second paragraph is 'We've determined participating districts— Regions 6, 10, and 16'. The third paragraph is 'We've developed rubrics'. The fourth paragraph is 'Teachers have begun collecting samples and sending them to TEA.'

HB 1164

We've determined participating districts—
Regions 6, 10, and 16

We've developed rubrics

Teachers have begun collecting samples and
sending them to TEA.



Short Answer Removal

As of January 2017 STAAR EOC will no longer have short answer questions.

Short Answer Removal

Why?

This was done to reduce the testing burden on students. This creates a better alignment for the (expected) time it takes for students to take the test across all grade levels.

Short Answer Removal

What else was changed?

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The Written Composition multiplier changed from 3 to 2 and we moved some items from the Writing portion to the Reading portion.

Well, why'd you do that?

So that we could keep the balance of the reading and writing portion of the assessment at 50-50.



Short Answer Removal

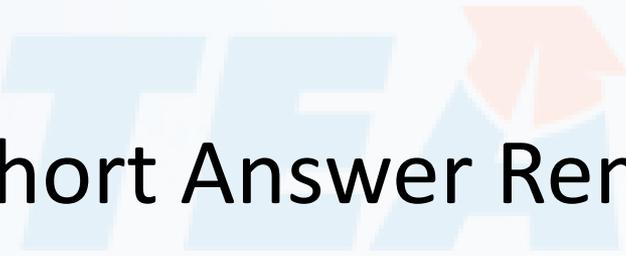
No changes to assessed curriculum. Blueprint changes have been updated.



Short Answer Removal

Who made this decision?

All decisions at TEA are made collaboratively and with input from all levels of TEA staff.

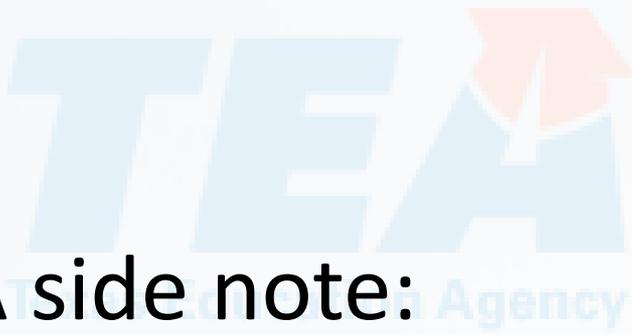


Short Answer Removal

Texas Education Agency

Doesn't this mean the test was more difficult for students who had to take the test with the short answer items?

No. The overall difficulty of the assessment will be in line with past administrations of STAAR. The assessment is always equated and put on a scale.



A side note:

The assessment is more reliable with the removal of the SA items.

We were able to remove a “quirk” in the blueprint.



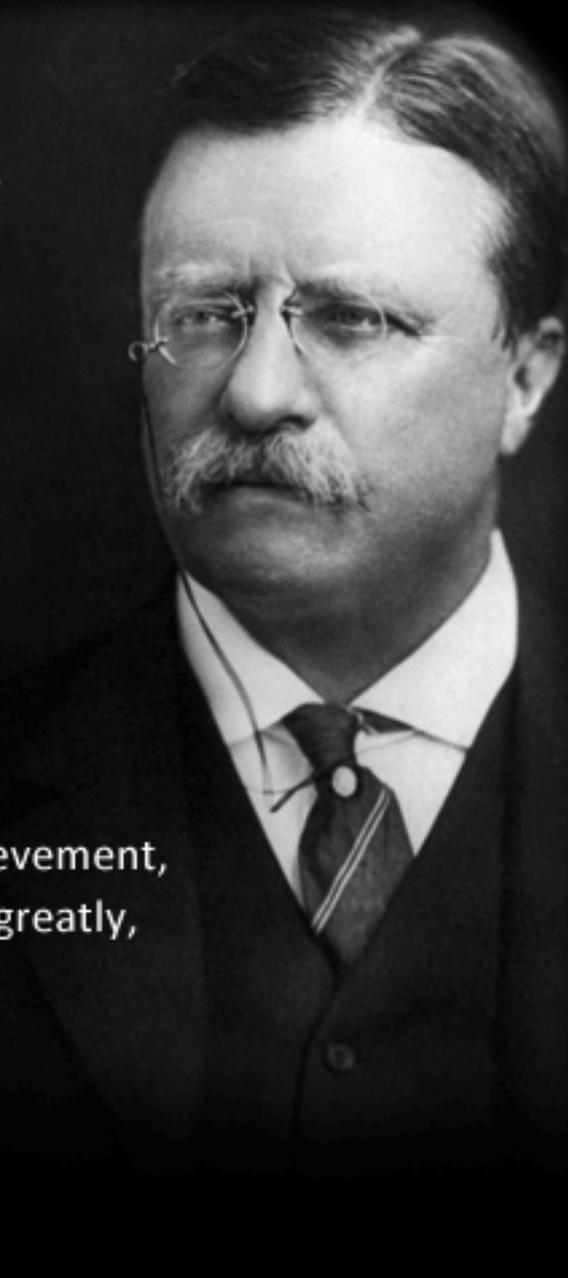
Assessment should reflect high quality instruction, not the other way around.

The best “test prep” is always high quality instruction aligned to the standards.

It is not the critic who counts;
not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles,
or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena,
whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood;
who strives valiantly;
who errs, who comes short again and again,
because there is no effort without error and shortcoming;
but who does actually strive to do the deeds;
who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions;
who spends himself in a worthy cause;
who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement,
and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly,
so that his place shall never be with those cold
and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.

— Theodore Roosevelt



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