




*Revised Edition*

# **STANDARDS** *for the* **Assessment** *of* **Reading** *and* **Writing**

*Prepared by*  
the Joint Task Force on Assessment  
of the International Reading Association  
and the National Council of Teachers of English

**NCTE** National Council of  
Teachers of English

**INTERNATIONAL**  
 **Reading Association**  
800 BARRSDALE ROAD, PO BOX 8139  
NEWARK, DE 19714-8139, USA  
[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)

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1. The interests of the student are paramount in assessment. 11
2. The teacher is the most important agent of assessment. 13
3. The primary purpose of assessment is to improve teaching and learning. 15
4. Assessment must reflect and allow for critical inquiry into curriculum and instruction. 16
5. Assessment must recognize and reflect the intellectually and socially complex nature of reading and writing and the important roles of school, home, and society in literacy development. 18
6. Assessment must be fair and equitable. 20
7. The consequences of an assessment procedure are the first and most important consideration in establishing the validity of the assessment. 22
8. The assessment process should involve multiple perspectives and sources of data. 24
9. Assessment must be based in the local school learning community, including active and essential participation of families and community members. 26
10. All stakeholders in the educational community—students, families, teachers, administrators, policymakers, and the public—must have an equal voice in the development, interpretation, and reporting of assessment information. 28
11. Families must be involved as active, essential participants in the assessment process. 29

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# The IRA–NCTE Joint Task Force on Assessment

The International Reading Association and the National Council of Teachers of English thank the following members of the Joint Task Force on Assessment for their work on this document.

**Peter Johnston** (chair)

The University at Albany, New York

**Peter Afflerbach**

University of Maryland, College Park

**Sandra Krist**

Los Angeles Unified School District, California

**Kathryn Mitchell Pierce**

Wydown Middle School, Clayton, Missouri

**Elizabeth Spalding**

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Alfred W. Tatum**

University of Illinois at Chicago

**Sheila W. Valencia**

University of Washington, Seattle