PASSAGES BY YEAR

EXACT TEA WORDING • STAAR READING

READING SELECTIONS · GENRE · EXACT WORD COUNT

PASSAGE	GENRE	WORDS	USED IN
YEAR 2024 • 32 SELECTIONS			
A Lens into the Past	Drama	591	Grade 3
from A Forest Full of Stars	Fiction	346	Grade 3
More Than Air	Informational	303	Grade 3
Digging on Dirt	Informational	437	Grade 3
Parks with a Purpose	Informational	513	Grade 4
Riding Out West	Informational	373	Grade 4
Going Home (Burlington Route)	Poetry	175	Grade 4
from Surprise Kick	Fiction	480	Grade 4
Fashion Forward	Informational	531	Grade 5
A Country Connected	Informational	472	Grade 5
The World Is at My Fingertips	Poetry	230	Grade 5
from Tales from Watership Down	Fiction	759	Grade 5
from Sports and Society	Informational	534	Grade 6
The Age of Language	Informational	640	Grade 6
from The Last Wild Place	Fiction	581	Grade 6
A Wave of a Day	Poetry	209	Grade 6
Why We Need Solo Sports	Argumentative	732	Grade 7
Art for the People, Art by the People	Informational	367	Grade 7
Grandfather's Legacy	Fiction	455	Grade 7
A Different Approach to Budgeting	Informational	893	Grade 7
The Great Aviation Communicator	Informational	695	Grade 8
Cameras in the Courtroom	Argumentative	446	Grade 8
Challenging the Status Quo	Argumentative	401	Grade 8
from Mr. Linden's Library	Fiction	858	Grade 8
Credit Where Credit Is Due	Argumentative	892	English I
from Finding Dorothy	Fiction	724	English I
from Big Wheels Keep On Turnin'	Informational	611	English I
from Parnassus on Wheels	Fiction	940	English I
That's Not What Happened	Drama	943	English II
from What the Octopus Knows	Informational	667	English II
Narwhals Are Real	Poetry	216	English II
Antarctica: Governing the Icy Continent	Informational	812	English II

PASSAGES BY YEAR

EXACT TEA WORDING • STAAR READING (CONTINUED)

READING SELECTIONS · GENRE · EXACT WORD COUNT

PASSAGE	GENRE	WORDS	USED IN
YEAR 2025 • 32 SELECTIONS			
from Nature's Best Jumpers	Informational	513	Grade 3
Art Gardens for Communities	Informational	422	Grade 3
The Farm Where Nothing Grew	Fiction	408	Grade 3
Olivia's Soccer Practice	Fiction	207	Grade 3
Year-Long Summer	Fiction	614	Grade 4
Rock Star Dad	Poetry	253	Grade 4
Cultural Cooking Connections	Informational	369	Grade 4
Tradition with a Twist	Informational	266	Grade 4
On Time	Drama	734	Grade 5
Tasha's Hat	Fiction	409	Grade 5
Crochet Away!	Informational	329	Grade 5
Pencils or Programs ? Traditional Animation Is Here to Stay	Argumentative	593	Grade 5
A Sour Deal	Drama	763	Grade 6
from Competitive Cheerleading	Informational	336	Grade 6
from Behind the Desk with Matt Christopher: The #1 Sportswriter for Kids	Informational	494	Grade 6
The Bat's Cave: A Dark City	Informational	584	Grade 6
Too Early, Too Late	Drama	781	Grade 7
Counting like the Maya	Informational	390	Grade 7
An Ancient Farming Method	Informational	422	Grade 7
Winter Wisdom	Informational	745	Grade 7
Grains of Sand	Drama	914	Grade 8
from Music and the Maestro	Informational	520	Grade 8
Saturday Surprise	Fiction	437	Grade 8
Seeing in a Sea of Snow	Informational	739	Grade 8
Listen Up! Audiobooks for the Win	Argumentative	776	English I
from Kokoro	Fiction	782	English I
The List	Fiction	592	English I
Buried History	Informational	669	English I
The Flying Car: A Cool Idea That Missed Its Moment	Informational	1,000	English II
Moon Landing	Fiction	992	English II
The Apollo 11 Moon Landing July 20, 1969	Poetry	308	English II
Falling into Place along the Fall Line	Informational	854	English II

PASSAGES BY YEAR

EXACT TEA WORDING • STAAR READING (CONTINUED)

READING SELECTIONS · GENRE · EXACT WORD COUNT

PASSAGE	GENRE	WORDS	USED IN
YEAR 2026 • 32 SELECTIONS			
The Need for Referees	Informational	560	Grade 3
Swim Team	Fiction	297	Grade 3
from Unlikely Friendships for Kids	Informational	340	Grade 3
The Texas Cowboy	Informational	514	Grade 3
Squash Soup	Drama	673	Grade 4
Save the Screens	Informational	390	Grade 4
Write It Down	Informational	272	Grade 4
from The Ice Dove	Fiction	666	Grade 4
Twists and Turns	Drama	743	Grade 5
from Clarence Birdseye: Frozen Food Innovator	Informational	442	Grade 5
From Tin to Table	Informational	355	Grade 5
Elephant and Hare	Fiction	582	Grade 5
Chess, Anyone?	Informational	746	Grade 6
The Cardboard Catastrophe	Fiction	519	Grade 6
from The Automobile	Informational	272	Grade 6
Young Master Yani	Informational	760	Grade 6
Coloring Is for Everyone	Argumentative	733	Grade 7
from Orville and Wilbur Wright: Pioneers of the Age of Flight	Informational	429	Grade 7
The Yellow Kite	Poetry	413	Grade 7
Building the Golden Gate Bridge	Informational	580	Grade 7
Board Games Are Good for You	Argumentative	600	Grade 8
from No Summit Out of Sight	Informational	785	Grade 8
Waiting for Ideas	Poetry	204	Grade 8
How Maglev Trains Work	Informational	671	Grade 8
To Become a Chef	Informational	999	English I
What Community Means	Poetry	309	English I
Less Is More	Informational	745	English I
Winning	Drama	1,010	English I
Email: Friend or Foe ?	Argumentative	765	English II
The Art and Practice of Mindfulness Meditation	Informational	783	English II
Twilight	Poetry	233	English II
from The Leopard	Informational	900	English II

Source: Texas Education Agency, STAAR released reading tests, 2024 to 2026. Word count: whitespace tokens containing a letter; directions and passage labels excluded. Revising and editing drafts not listed. Genre labels are Teach BIG's, not TEA's. • **teachbig.com**