

Reading Alt MCA Individual Student Report (ISR) Quick Guide

Individual Student Reports (or ISRs) are generated for every student who is expected to take a statewide assessment. The ISR provides information about your student's performance and learning of the Minnesota Academic Standards.

The Reading Alternate MCA (Alt MCA) may be taken in place of the MCA for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The Alt MCA is administered in Reading in grades 3-8 and 10.

Each subject and test appears on a separate ISR. If your student did not participate, the ISR shows why results are not included (for example, absent or not completed).

1. Student Information—Your student's name, grade, school, district, testing year, and assessment.
2. Administration Mode—The Reading Alt MCA can be administered online, on paper, or a hybrid of both. The mode used by your student is indicated. If your student's test was ended early, that is also indicated here.

Alt MCA R Gr 5

m DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1 Firstname M. Lastname
MDE Assessment Middle School
MDE Assessment Control District

Spring 2026
Grade 5

These are Firstname's results from the Reading Alternate Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (Alt MCA) taken in the spring of 2026.

2 Firstname took the Reading Alternate MCA this year using either online or paper test materials. Contact your student's teacher for more information about their mode of administration.

Firstname had most of the Reading Alt MCA passages read to them by the Test Administrator.

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Reading: Firstname's Overall Alt MCA Results

Firstname's score of 227 shows evidence of learning at the **Advanced** level for grade-level expectations in reading to show how well they understand what they read. The Reading Alternate MCA measures student learning of the extended benchmarks from the Reading strand of the Minnesota Academic Standards in English Language Arts.

A grade 5 student with a score at the Advanced level needs minimal levels of support and scaffolding of skills when completing academic tasks. They can use the text to show evidence of being able to:

- Use a direct quote to support an explanation, describe how a problem was solved, and figure out the meaning of a phrase using clues.
- Describe a detail from an event that shows if the person was there when it happened (firsthand) or heard about it from someone else (secondhand account).

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Advanced 227

100 190 200 225 300

Beginning Intermediate Meets Advanced

Scores in the Meets and Advanced performance levels demonstrate proficiency in grade-level standards

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Scan the QR code to access a video about the new reading assessments or go to the [MDE Students and Families Statewide Testing Assessment Results webpage](https://education.mn.gov/Students-and-Families/Statewide-Testing-Assessment-Results) (education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing > Assessment Results).

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3. Passage Access—Description included of how reading passages were accessed by your student during administration.
4. Overall Results—A description of your student's performance and learning of the extended benchmarks of the Minnesota Academic Standards.
5. Performance Level—The bar graph shows your student's overall score in the range of performance levels. There are four performance levels: Beginning, Intermediate, Meets, and Advanced.
6. Overview of the New Reading Assessments—An overview video of the new reading assessments can be accessed by scanning the QR code on the report.



Information for students and families is available on the **MDE Statewide Testing Students and Families** website (education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing).

7 Grade 5 Reading Alt MCA: Percentage of Students Demonstrating Proficiency

In spring 2026, 45% of the grade 5 students in Minnesota who took the Reading Alt MCA performed at the meets and advanced levels. Performing at these levels demonstrates proficiency in the knowledge and skills described in the extended benchmarks from the Reading strand of the Minnesota Academic Standards in English Language Arts.



Performance Related to Cognitive Complexity

On the Reading Alt MCA, each task has three questions that have an increasing level of cognitive complexity. Question complexity can depend on many variables, including how many answer options there are and how much support the question provides with pictures or graphics. This section shows how your student is doing on questions with increasing levels of complexity. Complexity levels are reported as points earned out of points possible.

8 Complexity Level	9 Content Descriptions	10 Points Earned/ Points Possible
Low	Questions at this level generally require students to: • Identify specific words or pictures from the text to answer questions. • Identify the problem in the text. • Match a word to the picture of that word. • Identify a picture that supports information found in the text. • Identify an event in the text from a firsthand account (someone who personally experienced the event).	5 / 9
Middle	Questions at this level generally require students to: • Quote a basic phrase from the text to answer questions. • Identify how a problem in the text gets solved. • Determine the meaning of a given word. • Describe a picture found in the text. • Identify an event in the text from a secondhand account (someone who didn't personally experience the event).	4 / 9
High	Questions at this level generally require students to: • Find a direct quote that helps answer a question about the text. • Describe how a problem is solved in the text. • Determine the meaning of a given phrase. • Explain what information is shown in a picture from the text. • Describe an event in the text from a firsthand account (someone who personally experienced the event) or secondhand account (someone who didn't personally experience the event).	3 / 9

11 How to request this report in a translated language or an alternative format:

If a QR code is present on the report, you can access a video available in ten translated languages. This ISR may also be made available in another translated language or an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or as an audio file. Contact MDE by email at mde.testing@state.mn.us or by phone at 651-582-8674. TTY users may call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711.

7. State Proficiency—At the state level, the percentage of students demonstrating proficiency in grade-level standards. Scores in the Meets and Advanced performance levels demonstrate proficiency.

Performance Related to Cognitive Complexity

8. Complexity Level—The Reading Alt MCA tasks each have three questions with increasing levels of cognitive complexity of low, medium, and high.
9. Content Descriptions—This section shows how your student is doing on questions with increasing levels of complexity.
10. Points Earned/Points Possible—For each complexity level, the number of points earned out of points possible is reported.
11. Contact Information—To request the report in an alternative format or translated language, please contact the Minnesota Department of Education by email at mde.testing@state.mn.us, by phone at 651-582-8674, or visit the MDE Statewide Testing website (education.mn.gov > Districts, Schools and Educators > Statewide Testing > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing).