



California Subject Examinations for Teachers®

TEST GUIDE

ENGLISH SUBTEST II

Subtest Description

This document contains the English subject matter requirements arranged according to the domains covered by Subtest II of CSET: English. In parentheses after each named domain is the CCTC-assigned domain code from the English subject matter requirements.

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California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET®)

English Subtest II: Language, Linguistics, and Literacy

Part I: Content Domains for Subject Matter Understanding and Skill in English

LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS, AND LITERACY (SMR Domain 2)

Candidates demonstrate knowledge of the foundations and contexts of the language, linguistics, and literacy contained in the English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools (1997) as outlined in the Reading/Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (1999) at a post secondary level of rigor. Candidates have both broad and deep conceptual knowledge of the subject matter. Many California students, coming from a variety of linguistic and sociocultural backgrounds, face specific challenges in mastering the English language. The diversity of this population requires the candidate to understand the principles of language acquisition and development. Candidates must become knowledgeable about the nature of human language, language variation, and historical and cultural perspectives on the development of English. In addition, candidates must acquire a complex understanding of the development of English literacy among both native and non-native speakers. Candidates will be able to:

0001 Human Language Structures (SMR 2.1)

- a. Recognize the nature of human language, differences among languages, the universality of linguistic structures, and change across time, locale, and communities
- b. Demonstrate knowledge of word analysis, including sound patterns (phonology) and inflection, derivation, compounding, roots and affixes (morphology)
- c. Demonstrate knowledge of sentence structures (syntax), word and sentence meanings (semantics), and language function in communicative context (pragmatics)
- d. Use appropriate print and electronic sources to research etymologies; recognize conventions of English orthography and changes in word meaning and pronunciation

(English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Grade 6, Reading: 1.1-5; Grades 7-8, Reading: 1.2; Grades 9-10, Reading: 1.1-3)

0002 Acquisition and Development of Language and Literacy (SMR 2.2)

- a. Explain the influences of cognitive, affective, and sociocultural factors on language acquisition and development
- b. Explain the influence of a first language on second language development
- c. Describe methods and techniques for developing academic literacy (e.g., tapping prior knowledge through semantic mapping, word analogies, cohesion analysis)

(English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Grades 6-12, Reading: 1.0)

0003 Literacy Studies (SMR 2.3)

- a. Recognize the written and oral conventions of Standard English, and analyze the social implications of mastering them
- b. Describe and explain cognitive elements of reading and writing processes (e.g., decoding and encoding, construction of meaning, recognizing and using text conventions of different genres)
- c. Explain metacognitive strategies for making sense of text (e.g., pre-reading activities, predicting, questioning, word analysis, concept formation)

(English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Grades 6-12, Reading: 1.0)

0004 Grammatical Structures of English (SMR 2.4)

- a. Identify methods of sentence construction (e.g., sentence combining with coordinators and subordinators; sentence embedding and expanding with clausal and phrasal modifiers)
- b. Analyze parts of speech and their distinctive structures and functions (e.g., noun phrases including count and noncount nouns and the determiner system; prepositions, adjectives, and adverbs; word transformations)
- c. Describe the forms and functions of the English verb system (e.g., modals, verb complements, verbal phrases)

(English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Grade 8, Reading: 1.2)