

Table of Specifications of the Meitzav Examination: Eighth Grade
April 2012

Domain	Relevant Benchmarks	No. of Tasks	Possible Text Types	Language	Length of Texts	Possible Item Types	Possible Categories of Comprehension Questions*
<p>Access to Information from Spoken Texts</p> <p>20%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ understand the main ideas and supporting details in a text and use this knowledge as needed ▪ identify different text types and use this knowledge as needed ▪ identify explicit opinions and feelings ▪ extract relevant information for a specific purpose ▪ draw inferences 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ advertisement ▪ announcement ▪ broadcast ▪ conversation ▪ excerpt from a lesson ▪ interview ▪ message ▪ news / weather report ▪ oral presentation ▪ speech ▪ radio program ▪ report ▪ story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sentence Structure: simple, compound and some complex sentences ▪ Vocabulary: high frequency words (related to general issues) ▪ Verbs: a variety of tense forms, such as past simple, past progressive, present simple, present progressive, future, present perfect, imperative 	<p>Level One approximately 80 – 100 seconds</p> <p>Level Two approximately 100 – 120 seconds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ filling in a chart / table ▪ graphic organizer ▪ matching ▪ multiple-choice ▪ open-ended (e.g. wh-questions and sentence completion) ▪ sequencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literal ▪ Integration ▪ Inference

ראמ"ה: מדידה בשירות הלמידה

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עמוד 1 מתוך 5 עמודים

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<p>Access to Information from Written Texts</p> <p>60%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ understand the main ideas and supporting details in a text and use this knowledge as needed ▪ understand the structure and conventions of different text types and use this knowledge as needed ▪ identify different text types and use this knowledge as needed ▪ identify explicit opinions and feelings ▪ draw inferences in order to identify points of view in a text, distinguishing fact from opinion ▪ extract / interpret information from visual data ▪ extract relevant information for a specific purpose 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ advertisement ▪ article / report ▪ biography ▪ book cover ▪ brochure ▪ comic strip ▪ diary entry ▪ flyer ▪ graph ▪ interview ▪ letter / email ▪ message ▪ notice ▪ postcard ▪ review ▪ short expository text ▪ story ▪ timetable / schedule ▪ travel guide ▪ web page 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sentence Structure: simple, compound and some complex sentences ▪ Vocabulary: high frequency words (related to general issues / themes) ▪ Verbs: a variety of tense forms, such as past simple, past progressive, present simple, present progressive, future, present perfect, imperative 	<p>Level One (two texts) approximately 100 – 140 words and 160 – 200 words</p> <p>Level Two (one text) approximately 270 – 320 words</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ chart / table ▪ graphic organizer ▪ matching ▪ multiple-choice ▪ open-ended (e.g. wh-questions and sentence completion) ▪ sequencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literal ▪ Integration ▪ Inference ▪ Personal response

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Domain	Relevant Benchmarks	No. of Tasks	Length of Tasks	Possible Text Types	Assessment Criteria
Written Presentation 20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ describe people, places, things and events ▪ react to the content of something read or seen ▪ produce a short piece of coherent writing that conveys personal experiences ▪ express ideas and opinions about general topics and experiences using main ideas and supporting details 	1	70 – 80 words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ article (e.g. for school newspaper) ▪ description ▪ email ▪ extended form ▪ forum ▪ friendly letter ▪ opinion ▪ short composition ▪ story 	<p>Communicative Ability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ relevance ▪ clarity of message ▪ organization ▪ vocabulary <p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ use of basic syntactical and grammatical structures (word order and verb form) ▪ spelling ▪ basic punctuation and capitalization <p>Length</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ writes at least 70 words

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* Categories of Comprehension

Lower Order Thinking Skills (LOTS)

Literal Comprehension: Literal comprehension refers to an understanding of the explicit meaning of a text. Questions that require literal comprehension include items that can be answered directly from the text at the sentence level. They can be questions that require either copying or rephrasing of information from the text.

Higher-Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)

Integration: Integration refers to an understanding of the explicit meaning of a text but also requires accessing information from various parts of the text in order to answer a given question. Questions that require integration include items that require thinking about how ideas or information in the passage relate to each other as well as to an understanding of its main idea and supporting details.

Inference: Inference refers to an understanding of the implicit meaning of a text. Questions that require inference include items that involve combining the pupils' literal understanding of the text with their own knowledge and experiences in order to produce a response that is not explicitly stated in the text. It also entails reference questions and questions that require identification of a specific text type.

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Personal response: Personal response refers to questions that call for pupils' personal involvement with the text. The answers come from the pupils and are not found in the text. However, the answers must relate to the text. In order to answer personal response questions, pupils have to draw on both their literal understanding of the text and their own knowledge and opinions.

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