



Mini-Map for ELA.EE.L.4.2.a

Subject: ELA

Writing

Grade: 4

Learning Outcome

DLM Essential Element	Grade-Level Standard
ELA.EE.L.4.2.a Capitalize the first word in a sentence.	ELA.EE.L.4.2.a Use correct capitalization.

Linkage Levels Descriptions

Initial Precursor Emergent Writing	Distal Precursor Emergent Writing	Proximal Precursor Conventional Writing	Target Conventional Writing	Successor Conventional Writing
The student can understand that words are comprised of letters rather than numbers, punctuation marks, or other symbols.	The student can differentiate between uppercase and lowercase letters.	The student can understand that when a word is capitalized, the first letter of the word is in uppercase.	The student can capitalize the first word of a sentence.	The student can capitalize the correct words when writing a title.

Emergent and Conventional Writing Testlets

This Essential Element is tested in an ELA writing testlet. Writing testlets are assessed at two levels: Emergent Writing and Conventional Writing. The Initial Precursor and Distal Precursor nodes are assessed in the emergent writing testlet in Grade 4 with two other Essential Elements: ELA.EE.L.4.2.d and ELA.EE.W.4.2.b. The Proximal Precursor, Target and Successor nodes are assessed in the conventional writing testlet in Grade 4 with two other Essential Elements: ELA.EE.L.4.2.d and ELA.EE.W.4.2.b.

Initial Precursor and Distal Precursor Linkage Level Relationships to the Target

How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?

Before students can effectively use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence, they must understand that writing involves letters. Students at the Initial Precursor level can begin learning about letters in the context of writing. Whether they use a standard pencil, keyboard, or alternate pencil, teachers can help students select or write letters about the topics selected for writing. Students can learn letters by using them rather than first learning to identify letters and then use them to write.

How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?

Before students can effectively use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence, they must understand the difference between uppercase and lowercase letters. In the context of writing, teachers and students can work on distinguishing between uppercase and lowercase letters as they select, write, or type letters to write about the topics the students select.

Instructional Resources

Writing Testlet FAQs
Instructionally Embedded Assessment
Year-End Assessment
Released Testlets
See the Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets .
Using Untested (UN) Nodes
See the document Using Mini-Maps to Plan Instruction .

