# Essential Element, Linkage Levels, and Mini-Map

## ELA: Grade 11-12

**ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.c**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade-Level Standard</th>
<th>DLM Essential Element</th>
<th>Linkage Levels</th>
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<td><strong>ELA.W.11-12.2.c</strong></td>
<td><strong>ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.c</strong></td>
<td><strong>EMERGENT WRITING (EW.11-12)</strong></td>
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</table>
| Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts | Use complete, simple sentences, as well as compound and other complex sentences as appropriate | Initial Precursor
- Can produce utterances comprising of two words |
| Distal Precursor
- Can use two words together when producing a written text |
| **CONVENTIONAL WRITING (CW.11-12)** | **Proximal Precursor**
- Can write coherent, semantically accurate, and grammatically correct simple sentences |
| **Target**
- Can write coherent, semantically accurate, and grammatically correct simple sentences. Can write coherent, semantically accurate, and grammatically correct compound sentences. Can write complex sentences that contain one independent clause with one or more dependent clauses and are grammatically correct |
| **Successor**
- Can write compound-complex sentences by combining the elements of compound and complex sentences |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?</th>
<th>How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?</th>
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<td><strong>Initial Precursor:</strong> In the context of writing, students can work on linking together two or more words when brainstorming ideas to write relative to a selected topic. Teachers can support this by providing students with word banks or other augmentative and alternative communication supports with words related to the selected topic.</td>
<td><strong>Distal Precursor:</strong> As students work toward writing sentences about selected topics, they can first work on writing lists of single words and then phrases that combine two or more words related to the selected topic. Students may use supports like word prediction, and words do not need to be spelled correctly, but students at the Distal Precursor level should be working to link two or more ideas in writing.</td>
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</table>

This Essential Element is tested in an ELA writing testlet. Writing testlets are assessed at two levels: Emergent Writing and Conventional Writing. The Initial and Distal Precursor nodes are assessed in the emergent writing testlet in Grade 11-12 with five other Essential Elements: ELA.EE.L.11-12.2.b, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.a, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.b, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.d, and ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.f. The Proximal Precursor, Target, and Successor nodes are assessed in the conventional writing testlet in Grade 11-12 with five other Essential Elements: ELA.EE.L.11-12.2.b, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.a, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.b, ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.d, and ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.f.

A diagram showing the relationship of nodes in the mini-map appears below.

**Key to map codes in upper right corner of node boxes:**

- **IP** Initial Precursor
- **SP** Supporting
- **DP** Distal Precursor
- **S** Successor
- **PP** Proximal Precursor
- **UN** Untested
- **T** Target
ELA.EE.W.11-12.2.c - Use complete, simple sentences, as well as compound and other complex sentences as appropriate.