



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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CS-TG-SD106-02

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 California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects (2013) at a postsecondary level of rigor. Candidates have both broad and deep conceptual knowledge of the subject matter. The diversity of the California student 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. Demonstrate knowledge of the nature of human language, differences among languages, the universality of linguistic structures, and language 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)

(California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, L.6–12.3–4)

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 the acquisition of a subsequent language
- c. Describe methods and techniques for developing academic literacy (e.g., tapping prior knowledge through semantic mapping, word analogies, cohesion analysis)

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- d. Demonstrate the ability to consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., college-level dictionaries, rhyming dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of words and/or determine or clarify their precise meaning, part of speech, etymology, and/or standard usage
- e. Apply knowledge of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases
- f. Apply knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots and affixes to draw inferences concerning the meaning of scientific and mathematical terminology
- g. Describe and explain cognitive elements of reading and writing processes (e.g., decoding and encoding, constructing meaning, recognizing and using text conventions of different genres)
- h. Explain metacognitive strategies for making sense of text (e.g., pre-reading activities, predicting, questioning, word analysis, concept formation)

(California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, W.6–12.4–5, L.6–12.3–4)

0003 Grammatical Structures of English (SMR 2.3)

- 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)
- d. Recognize conventions of English orthography and changes in word meaning and pronunciation

(California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, L.6–12.1)