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## TASC Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ Science

TASC test is designed to assess the high school performance expectations in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). A PDF of the NGSS arranged by Disciplinary Core Idea is available online at:

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/next-generation-science-standards>

The NGSS performance expectations state what all learners should be able to do in order to demonstrate their understanding of science. Each NGSS performance expectation integrates a Science and Engineering Practice, one or more Disciplinary Core Ideas, and a Crosscutting Concept. Each NGSS performance expectation also includes a Clarification Statement and an Assessment Boundary to provide further information for the purposes of curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

TASC test Science assessments include items for the disciplines of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Earth and Space Sciences. Each discipline is subdivided into several Core Ideas, which each contain multiple performance expectations. Each test item assesses one performance expectation. Items may require recalling knowledge, applying knowledge and skills, or reasoning.

The number of test items per Core Idea is proportional to the number of performance expectations within the Core Idea. As a result, each Core Idea will have about 2-5 items on a given test. A given test will not necessarily include items for every performance expectation present in the NGSS, though any performance expectation is potentially assessable.

### High Emphasis:

#### Life Sciences

- Core Idea: HS-LS1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes
- Core Idea: HS-LS2 Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
- Core Idea: HS-LS3 Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits
- Core Idea: HS-LS4 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

#### Earth and Space Sciences

- Core Idea: HS-ESS1 Earth's Place in the Universe
- Core Idea: HS-ESS1 Earth's Systems
- Core Idea: HS-ESS1 Earth and Human Activity

### Medium Emphasis:

#### Physical Sciences

- Core Idea: HS-PS1 Matter and Its Interactions
- Core Idea: HS-PS2 Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
- Core Idea: HS-PS3 Energy
- Core Idea: HS-PS4 Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer

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**Note:** TASC test will not include test items to directly assess the performance expectations in the Core Idea of HS-ETS1 Engineering Design. However, some performance expectations in Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Earth and Space Sciences integrate engineering through a Practice or Disciplinary Core Idea. Items aligned to those performance expectations may require examinees to demonstrate their understanding of science through the application of the engineering design process such as defining and delimiting a problem, designing solutions to a problem, and evaluating and optimizing design solutions.

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