Help Your Students Pass the TEXES STR Exam with Professionally Graded Practice Essays

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Breakout Session 3G Monday, October 11, 2:45-3:30 PM
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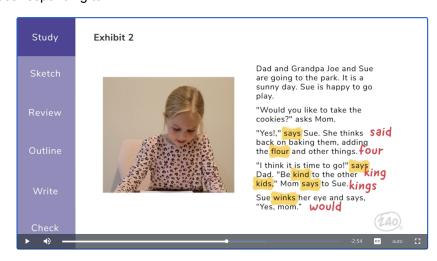
Inside views of our study material and graded practice tests included in the live session

1. What is the STR exam and what is the CRQ portion?

- The Science of Teaching Reading exam is a new requirement in 2021 for teachers seeking all elementary and most middle certifications
 - Strict passing standard implemented in September
- 1 constructed-response question (CRQ or essay) worth 20% of overall score
 - Presents a case study of 1 student who has a need in each of these <u>2 areas</u>: foundational reading skills and reading comprehension skills
 - o Provides 4 exhibits with information about the student's performance
 - Directions include a list of 5 tasks test-takers have to identify the student's need, describe an
 instructional strategy to address the need, and explain its effectiveness (for each of the 2 areas)

2. What do 240's study materials consist of?

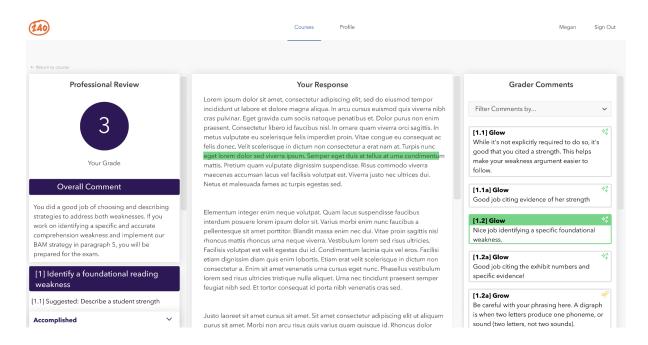
- STR study guide includes a comprehensive CRQ section, including:
 - o A detailed breakdown of the prompt requirements and scoring guide
 - o A video walkthrough of our suggested strategy with helpful graphics to sketch your response
 - Handy tips sections with everything students will need to answer correctly: common student weaknesses and go-to instructional strategies, relevant TEKS chart, "BAM" strategy to tackle task
 5 in the directions
- 3 Study Prompts for students to practice responding to
 - Each includes the 4 student exhibits (including a video of real students reading)
 - Sample high- and low-level responses to review
 - Video series in which a tutor walks you through each step of the process - from reviewing exhibits to writing and revising your response



3. How does professional grading work?

- We offer 3 unique full-length practice tests, each with its own CRQ prompt
 - o Designed to mirror the experience of the real exam

- After submitting their responses, students choose to Self-Grade (free and ready instantly) or have their
 CRQ Professionally Graded (\$29.99 and ready in 5-7 days)
 - Both options utilize our <u>checklist-style rubric</u>, which covers every required task and was developed using a weighted formula that automatically computes a final score of 1-4
- Our team of professional graders is made up of current and former teachers who:
 - Have 5-17 years of experience teaching reading
 - Have completed 5 months of extensive STR training
 - o Effective communicators who give constructive yet friendly feedback
 - Are available for grading 7 days a week
- Graded CRQ includes a score, overall comment, completed rubric, and color-coded, in-line comments
 personally written by your grader



4. How will this help me and my students?

- Comments are marked "Glow" or "Grow" and tagged to a section of the rubric as well as the relevant
 piece of highlighted text in the essay allowing students to understand exactly why credit was or wasn't
 awarded for each specific task and what they need to do to improve
 - The official exam gives a blurb explaining why you *might* have earned that score. Our personalized, meaningful feedback takes the mystery out of grading
- Instructors can use the overall comment as a snapshot of student performance
 - The completed rubrics can reveal trends among groups of students to guide your instruction