



SMART

Pānui Aromatawai Guide

Introduction

SMART pānui assessments draw specifically from the pānui elements within Te Marautanga o Aotearoa and Te Reo Rangatira. During Tau 3–8, mokopuna develop the ability to recognise words accurately, build vocabulary knowledge, and make meaning from a range of texts. They strengthen fluency, comprehend texts of increasing length and complexity, and attend to audience, purpose, and text form. Mokopuna learn to interpret ideas, identify key information, and make connections within and across texts, demonstrating growing confidence in engaging with written language as readers.

At Tau 9–10, mokopuna extend their engagement with a broader range of literary and non-fiction text forms. They analyse textual features, language choices, and structural elements, and interpret how historical, cultural, and social contexts shape meaning. Reading at this level involves increasingly sophisticated interpretation, evaluation, and critical response, reflecting progression in vocabulary, morphological knowledge, and conceptual understanding.

Assessments are low-stakes and designed to describe each mokopuna overall pānui progress while highlighting strengths and gaps. Items vary in difficulty to cover the full range of performance (e maiangi ana to e kairangi ana)

Overview of Whenu

Te Reo Rangatira has four interrelated strands. Each strand supports and strengthens the others, they are interdependent and should be taught in an integrated way to ensure mokopuna develop as confident, capable communicators.

- Kia Tika | Accurate Language Use
- Kia Mārama | Understanding and Connecting Ideas
- Kia Arero Taiaha | Thoughtful and Diplomatic Communication

Kia Auaha | Creative and Expressive Language Use Across Tūārere 1–4, Te Reo Rangatira learning develops from highly supported, concrete language use to increasingly independent, precise, and purposeful communication. Mokopuna build knowledge and control of language forms (Kia Tika), deepen understanding and meaning-making (Kia Mārama), interact thoughtfully and

appropriately (Kia Arero Taiaha), and craft expressive texts (Kia Auaha). The Toi Moko-puna dispositions make the purpose of learning explicit so that language strengthens identity, culture, and confident participation.

Assessment Structure and Timing

Each assessment consists of *testlets* (a stimulus text + associated items, typically about six items per testlet).

SMART assessments are not timed by the tool, but times are provided as a guide to help kaiako prepare for and deliver the assessments.

For Pānui the structure and suggested timings are:

- **Year 3:** Approximately 30 items, approximately 30–35 minutes (paper-based option available).
- **Years 4 to 6:** Approximately 35 items, approximately 45 minutes.
- **Years 7 and 8:** Approximately 40 items, approximately 45–50 minutes.
- **Years 9 and 10:** Approximately 40 items, approximately 50–60 minutes.

Assessments start with less complex testlets and become more demanding. Items are attached to stimulus texts covering a range of fiction and non-fiction forms.

Stimulus Texts

When developing and selecting stimulus texts for the SMART Pānui assessment, the following guidelines apply. The texts are:

- reflective of **Te Marautanga o Aotearoa** and **Te Reo Rangatira** expectations for year-level progression in Pānui, including vocabulary development, text organisation, and interpretive demand
- realistic, relevant, and meaningful to mokopuna in Māori medium contexts

Approximate word count ranges (for SMART purposes):

- **Year 3:** 50–250 words per text (max total ~1000)
- **Years 4 to 6:** 50–300 words (max total ~1500)
- **Years 7 and 8:** 100–350 words (max total ~1800)
- **Years 9 and 10:** 100–400 words (max total ~2000)

Item Types and Content

Items assess mokopuna ability to locate explicit information, make inferences, interpret and integrate ideas, and evaluate content, language, and textual features. Closed-answer items are used.

Item difficulty is influenced by year-level content, proficiency demands, text complexity, and the need for critical thinking. Items are sequenced logically as a reader would naturally engage with the text.

Delivery Formats

Pānui assessments are available **online** or **paper-based**. The format does not limit mokopuna ability to demonstrate what they know. Mokopuna equipment includes basic stationery, on-screen tools (online), and approved assistive technologies. Dictionaries and thesauruses are not permitted.

Key points for successful Pānui Assessments:

1. Preparation

If you are intending to use devices, ensure mokopuna complete the familiarisation tool Te Marautanga pathway using their usual devices.

Decide paper or digital format.

For online: Create the Assessment Session Code, and generate and print mokopuna codes. Assessment Session codes need to be created prior to the beginning of the assessment, and can be created at any time before the assessment in the five week window.

For paper: Print question papers (reusable where appropriate) and individual answer sheets. These should be stored securely prior to the assessment.

Organise accessibility support as needed.

2. Delivering a Pānui Session

Kaiako or administrators will create a dedicated assessment session for Pānui. Share the session code and individual mokopuna codes with mokopuna.

Assessments are not timed by SMART, so kaiako and kura are able to manage timing and breaks themselves.

For online delivery; consider using the *Pause* function if a break is planned. Kaiako can monitor live progress on the session dashboard, then finalise the session once all mokopuna have submitted.

For Paper-Based Delivery; distribute question papers and named answer sheets. No session code is required. After completion, scan and upload answer sheets for integration with online results.

3. Post-Assessment

All results (online or scanned paper) appear together in marking and reporting. Flagged paper-based answers will require kaiako review and possibly kaiako marking.

Support is available via the Education Service Desk.

Using SMART results to contribute to Reporting to Parents and Whānau:

SMART results provide one piece of evidence to inform kaiako decisions about mokopuna progress and achievement for twice-yearly reporting to parents and whānau.

Using the SMART writing score alongside other information enables informed decisions when reporting with mokopuna progress descriptors: e maiangi ana, e whanake haere ana, e ū haere ana, e mātau ana, e kairangi ana.