

Sample Comprehensive Exam Question

Language Arts

- I. Recent theory in language arts instruction has focused on the need for integration of the language arts throughout the curriculum, possibly eliminating direct instruction in the language arts (spelling, penmanship, grammar and other language tools) and dealing with language learning through its use in other aspects of the curriculum. State your position on such a notion. Justify your answer through references to recent research and those conducting that research. Describe the classroom you would envision if language arts instruction was handled in this way. Compare and contrast the nature of such an instructional program at the first grade level with a twelfth grade level. What similarities would you expect to see? What differences would you expect to see? Explain your reasoning.