

Instructional Materials Technology Information

Since EdReports released its first reviews five years ago, the materials landscape has changed dramatically, especially in the area of technology. District questions have evolved from ensuring materials could be accessed on older browsers and versions of operating systems to detailed questions about interoperability, compatibility, security, support, and digital design. These questions have become even more important during the pandemic as districts assess what instructional materials may work best in their communities not just in-person, but also remotely and in hybrid settings. Access to high quality instructional materials by all students is more important than ever, and technology plays an essential role in that access. To help provide technology information for materials that meet alignment criteria in Gateways 1 and 2, EdReports is requesting publishers answer the following questions to help consumers better understand the digital design and capabilities of their instructional materials.

- Section 1 provides broader questions most frequently asked of EdReports about the design of materials. These questions are meant to provide higher level, summary information.
- Section 2 provides more fine-grained details on aspects of design and functionality.

EdReports is seeking the most accurate, descriptive information about curricular products. We are not evaluating quality or desirability, but documenting features in materials to empower local schools and districts with information to select materials that will work best for them given their technological capabilities and instructional vision.

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Section 1: Usability Snapshot

This section includes questions on digital design and support that allows users quick access to essential information. Please do not exceed a 150 word limit per question. You may use or remove prompt text in providing additional details. Words in the detail prompt text will not count toward the word limit.

*** Note:**

“**Yes with core product**” below should be used to indicate functionality in the materials purchased that are available without LMS integration.

“**Yes with dependencies**” below refers to functionality present or accessible only through working in a separate LMS, by utilizing other software as a plug-in, or linking externally to sites outside the materials.

Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Are the materials designed so that students are able to access and complete work online?			X		The native materials are on a simple HTML website, with no interactive student activities. The students can only complete the writing work online via Google Docs or another tool. The reading materials are not all available online, due to licensing constraints; those texts are only available in a printed Student Reader book.
In what ways do the materials support learning in hybrid settings (both in-person and remote learning) concurrently?	X				Assuming students have the printed texts, all additional instructional material is available online for both students and teachers.
Are tasks, activities, and lessons able to be printed either for in-class use or for use in at-home learning?		X			The activity instructions are not formatted for printing via the website; however, all materials are available for printing via a PDF reader or Google Docs.
Is there instruction so students can work independently (or with an adult at home)?	X				Yes. All activity instruction is available on a student website. All videos are linked from the student website, and the website also includes a

					Remote Learning Guide to give overall guidance to students and families.
Does the technology facilitate a teacher's ability to differentiate lessons, tasks, or other content for students?		X			The teacher website clearly identifies which activities are optional and gives some guidance around how to approach differentiation. Using a third-party tool, teachers can assign optional activities to certain groups or students.
Are there tutorials, videos, or other integrated supports in the materials to help educators to understand and/or utilize the materials?	X				The website includes both a Program Guide (which explains how to use the website) and a Remote Learning Guide (which explains how to facilitate remote classrooms).
Are there tutorials, videos, or other integrated supports in the materials to help parents/guardians to understand and/or utilize the materials?	X				The Remote Learning Guide is accessible through the student website, and it gives a full overview of how to use the website to complete classwork.
Are all of the following audiences provided access to the product as part of the core purchase? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parents/guardians • Educators (Teachers, Administrators, etc.) • Students 	X				Yes, the student materials are available to all visitors (students, parents, etc) without a login. Teacher materials are available behind a password login for visitors who register and confirm their email address.
Are the materials designed to integrate with a Learning Management System (LMS)?				X	The website can be integrated with a Learning Management System via LTI. But the materials are not currently designed for interactive student activities within the LMS.
Does all content conform to the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard ?	X				The NIMAS packages for all student materials are available on the NIMAC repository.

Is technical support during day-to-day use primarily the responsibility for the client or the publisher?	X				We support teachers who need help accessing the teacher materials.
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Section 2: Technology Checklist

The following checklists are designed to give more detailed information about digital design and technical capabilities in key areas of instructional materials to support state and local decision making. This list reflects details commonly requested by those making purchasing decisions at the state or local level. You may use or remove prompt text in providing additional details.

Design

Design questions address whether the materials are designed to be used digitally in an in-person environment, remote learning environment, or both. Digital design can vary, often ranging from the ability to access files that are identical to print materials online to doing tasks and assessments as part of the program. The ability to take advantage of design functionality may depend on answers to questions in other sections of the checklist such as internet capabilities, number and type of devices, etc.

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Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Are the materials designed to be used with both digital and print components?					If yes, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the print options? (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase hard-copy books/workbooks <input type="checkbox"/> Photo copies available for purchase
Are there print options available for student-facing materials that could be	X				

utilized in a blended digital approach?					<p>___X___ Users can print at home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users can print the student activity materials, and can also purchase the readers and student activity materials. The trade books and texts are only available in print, due to licensing restrictions from the copyright holders.
Is the print content identical, similar, or comparable to the digital?					
Is the digital design of the materials intended to replicate a textbook experience?	X				PDFs which mirror the printed textbooks are available for all student materials, except texts and trade books.
Are digital teacher guides available for the materials?	X				There is a full teacher website, containing all lesson instruction as well as implementation guidance for remote and in-person learning. The remote-learning guide is also available to students and families.
Do the materials contain videos/animations/simulations for student learning?			X		There are references to supplemental videos, but no embedded or required videos/animations/simulations.
Is any or all online content dependent on links that are not maintained by the publisher?			X		
Do the materials include opportunities for online collaboration among students?		X			The remote learning guide provides guidance for many different options for online collaboration using third-party tools; but the website itself does not have any collaboration features.
Do the materials include built in features for student-to-teacher interaction?		X			The remote learning guide suggests multiple ways to use the website along with third-party tools.
Is a 1:1 device ratio required?			X		The website does not require special technology or student login, so it can be viewed on any household internet device.

Are the assessments contained within the materials able to be securely completed by students online?		X			All assessment materials can be edited by teachers using Google Docs or Adobe PDF.
Is data available about user sessions (e.g., timestamps, content being viewed, callbacks fired, etc...)?			X		
Are there online professional learning supports to help teachers utilize the materials?			X		
Are there parent/guardian resources available for school systems to utilize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For when there is in-person instruction? For when there is hybrid instruction? For creating continued learning plans for distance learning schedules? 	X				Remote learning guide is available on the student site, which covers all of these scenarios.

Learning Management Systems	Blackboard	Canvas	Eduphoria	Google Classroom	ItsLearning	Moodle	Schoology	Other: Please list below
Are the materials configured to work with one or more learning management systems? Check all that apply.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
If the materials integrate with any of the LMS above, include information here about any additional costs and which version of your materials and the LMS was tested.								

System Access

System access questions address how users access the digital materials and what kind of logins/passwords are accepted/supported/required.

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Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Is single sign-on supported?				x	Clever, Google Classroom
Can the platform manage staff assigned to multiple schools with a single sign-on?	x				
Can co-teachers be assigned to multiple classes?	x				There are no restrictions on course access for registered users
Can students who move between teachers or schools using the same materials be re-assigned without losing their work/progress?		x			Students access the web materials without registration, but assignment/progress saving requires usage of a third-party LMS.
Can the platform provide user accounts for staff members (principals and other admin) who are not assigned students?	x				Any staff member can register for access to all materials.

Can passwords be reset without assistance from trained IT staff?	x				All staff.
When working offline, does the product automatically sync when a connection is re-established?			x		

Technical Support

Technical Support questions are designed to help users understand what assistance to expect. These details are important to consider alongside local capacity for devices, networks, and use. Considering what level of independence users will have alongside these criteria can help schools and districts reflect on their needs for support.

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“**Yes with dependencies**” below refers to functionality present or accessible only through working in a separate LMS, by utilizing other software as a plug-in, or linking externally to sites outside the materials.

Technical Support	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Is technical support provided to districts during initial set-up and deployment?				x	Website access is free and easy; we provide email tech support for users who need help
Is technical support provided during the duration of the contract?	x				Website tech support is available via email.
If utilizing a free or trial version, is technical support provided?	x				
Are there self-service supports for troubleshooting?	x				FAQ pages on our website

Does technical support include planning for emergency access and district support?			x		
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Compatibility

Compatibility questions address technical compatibility specifications. It is designed to help users understand how the materials will look and operate on various devices. These details are important to consider alongside local capacity for devices, networks, and use. Understanding what devices function best can help determine users' needs for district device or technical support.

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Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	LMS Dependent	No	Under Development	
Does the product have a native mobile application?		x			
Is the product browser-based?	x				
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on smartphones?	x				
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on tablet devices?	x				
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on laptop devices?	x				
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on desktop devices?	x				

Are all users (students/teachers/staff/admin/parents) permitted to use the product on more than one device (e.g. computer at school and a laptop at home or a smartphone and a laptop)?	x				
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Device Type	Mark box if device is compatible	Oldest operating system/version supported	Newest operating system/version supported	Details Indicate if the materials are designed for a specific device type or if they are generally compatible.
Windows	x	Windows Vista 7	Windows 11	Generally compatible.
Linux	x	All desktop versions	All desktop versions	Generally compatible with any Linux system with a visual browser (i.e. not compatible with text-only browsers in a Linux shell).
Windows Tablet	x	All	All	Generally compatible with any tablet that can run a web browser.
Apple Laptop/Desktop	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
iPhone	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
iPad	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
Android Phone	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
Android Tablet	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
Chromebook/Chrome OS	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
Amazon Fire OS	x	All	All	Generally compatible.
Other E-Reader	<input type="checkbox"/>			Not tested
Interactive Whiteboard	<input type="checkbox"/>			

	Operating System
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Browser		Apple		Windows				
	Check if browser is compatible	Oldest version supported	Newest version supported	Oldest version supported	Newest version supported	Linux	Chrome OS	N/A
Chrome	x	21	93	21	93	x	x	x
Firefox	x	28	90	28	90	x	n/a	x
Safari	x	7	14.5	5.1.7	5.1.7	n/a	n/a	x
Edge (formerly Internet Explorer)	x	n/a	n/a	12	90		n/a	x
Internet Explorer	x	n/a	n/a	11	11	n/a	n/a	x
Other:____	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Additional Notes:								

Accessibility

Curricula with digital capabilities integrate accessible supports in a variety of ways. Accessibility questions pertain specifically to diverse learners who may need specific supports to be able to successfully interact with materials.

Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Screen Readers		x			All accessibility supports are provided by built-in browser and OS capabilities or

					plugins.
Screen Magnification Software		x			
Text Readers		x			
Adjustable Print Size		x			
Speech Input Software		x			
Header Point Devices		x			
Motion/Eye Tracking Devices		x			
Single Switch Entry Devices		x			
Braille Readers/ Display Devices		x			
Closed Captioning		x			
Alternative Input Devices		x			
High Color Contrast Display Options		x			
Translation of Text to Other Languages		x			
Bilingual Dictionaries available for students		x			
Are there required accessories (headsets, speakers)?			x		
Multiple Playback of audio/video	x				Currently there are no included videos or audio; but any future videos will use OS/browser functionality.
Can students adjust the speed of audio/video playback?	x				Currently there are no included videos or audio; but any future videos will use OS/browser functionality.

Are these accessibility supports able to be turned on/off?	x				Currently there are no included videos or audio; but any future videos will use OS/browser functionality.
Does all browser-based technology satisfy the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines or VPAT ?	x				WAVE by WebAIM

Additional Technology Specifications

Data Security and Privacy

Data Security and Privacy questions address how student data storage, disposal, and adherence to privacy laws are addressed. If applicable, privacy reports and/or certificates can be found next to the respective indicator.

Questions	Check Only One			Details
	Yes	No	Under Development	
Data Security: Are data elements encrypted at rest, i.e. in a database or file system?	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered users' passwords are stored encrypted and cannot be accessed by administrators. All web requests are encrypted via https.
Data Security: Do the materials refer students to video, content, and other online sources that are not native to the materials?	x			There are a handful of external links in the materials, which are all optional resources. All external links appear as internal links—i.e. they point at the same domain as the web materials—but they redirect to the external sites.
Data Security: Does the end-user licensing agreement allow customers to scrape data from the product?	x			The student materials are hosted on a website without any authentication requirement, so they can be scraped by anyone. But no user data can be accessed or scraped, even by registered users.
Privacy: Is personally-identifying student data provided to, generated by, or stored in any systems used by the product?		x		

Privacy: Does the product/vendor make their student privacy policy publicly available?	x			https://access.openupresources.org/privacy_policy
Privacy: Does the product conform with FERPA regulations (e.g., allows districts to maintain direct control of the student record, implements permissions to prevent unnecessary disclosures, etc.)?	x			No student data is stored.
Privacy: Has a third-party evaluated the product for FERPA compliance?		x		Not applicable.
Privacy: Does the product allow registration or data collection from children under the age of 13?		x		

Installation

Feature/Requirement/Specification	Check Only One			Details
	Yes	No	Under Development	
Is the product downloaded to individual devices: one-time internet connection required?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Is the product installed on individual computers (from CD-ROM/DVD, flash drive, etc.): no internet connection required?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Is the product installed on LAN/WAN (school or district server): no internet connection required for teachers/students after installation?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Required server configuration. Do network admins need to ensure a specific set of domains are white listed to allow the internet traffic to those endpoints?		x		Website. Not applicable.

Does the product support deployment through Mobile Device Management (MDM) systems?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Does the product provide a detailed schedule of updates that minimizes access interruption?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Does the login authentication use district protocols to establish unique and memorable usernames and passwords?		x		Website. Not applicable.
Is there an option for concurrent user licensing?		x		Website. Not applicable.

Standards Compliance/Certification	Check all that apply	Details
SIF		Website. Not applicable.
CEDS		Website. Not applicable.
EDUPUB		Website. Not applicable.
Ed-Fi (SIS/ODS)		Website. Not applicable.
Ed-Fi (Assessments)		Website. Not applicable.
MS Global (Competencies and Academic Standards Exchange)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Comprehensive Learner Record)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Open Badges)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (One Roster)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Caliper Analytics)		Website. Not applicable.

IMS Global (Question and Test Interoperability (QTI))		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI))		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (LTI Advantage)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Common Cartridge)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Lite Common Cartridge)		Website. Not applicable.
IMS Global (Open Video)		Website. Not applicable.
Other:		

Implementation and Scalability	Yes/No or Value
What is the average page load time?	<1 sec
What is the required bandwidth per user?	0.25 Mbps
Are results of stress tests provided to customers?	No
Is a disaster recovery plan for data provided to customers?	No. No customer data is stored, except user login info.
Are customers provided with a standardized implementation plan to ensure a successful rollout?	No. It's a website.
Does the service level agreement include uptime guarantees of at least 95% excluding planned maintenance/down-times?	No.
Does the product require a VPN for off site access?	No.

Once this document is complete and ready to submit to EdReports, please fill-out a [Technology Information Document Submission Certification](#) to certify that the information is final and accurate. Please submit the document(s) as soon as possible and no later than Friday, June 19, 2020.