

2016–17 FSA English Language Arts and Mathematics Fact Sheet for Grades 3-5

Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Overview

This fact sheet provides information regarding grades 3–5 ELA and grades 3–5 mathematics assessments that measure student achievement of the Florida Standards.

Students to Be Tested in 2016–17

- Students enrolled in grades 3–5 will participate in FSA ELA assessments.
 - * All students will participate in ELA Reading.
 - * Students enrolled in grades 4–5 will also participate in ELA Writing.
- Students enrolled in grades 3–8 will participate in FSA Mathematics assessments.

Test Administration Schedule

For a full schedule of all statewide assessments, see the 2016-17 Statewide Assessment Schedule. The 2016–17 FSA ELA and Mathematics assessments will be administered during the following windows:

• February 27–March 3, 2017

Grades 4–5 FSA ELA Writing

• March 27–April 7, 2017

Grade 3 FSA ELA Reading

• April 10–May 12, 2017

Grades 4–5 FSA ELA Reading

Grades 3–5 FSA Mathematics

Test Administration Information

- In 2016–17, the following FSA assessments are delivered in a paper-based format:

Grade 3 ELA Reading

Grades 4–5 ELA Writing

- In 2016–17, the following FSA assessments are delivered in a computer-based format:

Grades 4–5 ELA Reading

Grades 3–5 Mathematics

* Paper-based versions (regular print, large print, one-item-per-page and braille) of computer-based tests (CBT) are provided for students with disabilities who cannot access assessments on the computer, as specified in their Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) or Section 504 plans.

* CBT accommodations (e.g., text-to-speech) are available for students whose IEPs indicate these accommodations.

• ELA Writing

The ELA Writing test consists of one text-based constructed-response item (students read a variety of texts and respond to a prompt).

Grades 4–5 ELA Writing tests are administered in one 120-minute session.

All students (PBT and CBT) are provided with a planning sheet to plan their writing. A sample of the Writing Planning Sheet is available on the FSA Portal.

• ELA Reading and Mathematics

ELA Reading and Mathematics assessments contain 56–66 items.

More information, including the number-of-items range for each assessment, can be found in the Test Design Summary located on the FSA Portal.

FSA ELA and Mathematics sessions are administered over two days. Test session lengths are as follows:

- ELA Reading Grades 3–5—Two 80-minute sessions
- ELA Mathematics Grades 3–5—Two 80-minute sessions

CBT Work Folders are provided for each mathematics session. A sample of the work folder is available on the FSA Portal.

CBT Worksheets are provided for each reading session for note-taking. A sample of the worksheet is available on the FSA Portal.

For ELA Reading tests, students will respond to some items associated with listening passages. Students must have headphones or earbuds to access the passages.

For information about the types of accommodations available for ELA Reading listening items for students with the appropriate IEP or Section 504 plan, see the Assessment Accommodations Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on the FSA portal.

Practice Tests

- Computer-based and paper-based **practice tests**, as well as paper-based **test item practice** handouts, for each assessment are available on the FSA Portal. Practice tests allow teachers, parents/guardians, and students to become familiar with the system, functionality, tools, and item types that will be encountered on the FSA. For resources to help students better understand the Florida Standards to which the assessments are aligned, please visit CPALMS.
- Students are required to participate in a practice test session at their school prior to testing.

Achievement Levels and FSA Scale Scores

Student performance on Florida’s statewide assessments is categorized into five achievement levels. Table 1 provides information regarding student performance at each achievement level; this information is provided on student reports so that students, parents, and educators may interpret student results in a meaningful way.

TABLE 1. Achievement Levels

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Inadequate: Highly likely to need substantial support for the next grade	Below Satisfactory: Likely to need substantial support for the next grade	Satisfactory: May need additional support for the next grade	Proficient: Likely to excel in the next grade	Mastery: Highly likely to excel in the next grade

Achievement Level Descriptions (ALDs) further specify what students should know and be able to do in each grade level and subject as indicated in the Florida Standards. The FSA ALDs are available on the FSA Portal.

Achievement level cut scores for FSA assessments were adopted in State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.09422, Florida Administrative Code, in January 2016. The lowest score in Level 3 is the passing score for each grade level and subject. The table below shows the score ranges for each achievement level on the FSA score scale. For grades 4-10 ELA, a combined score is reported that includes student performance on both the Writing and Reading components.

Table 2. FSA Scale Scores for Each Achievement Level

Assessment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Grade 3 ELA	240-284	285-299	300-314	315-329	330-360
Grade 4 ELA	251-296	297-310	311-324	325-339	340-372
Grade 5 ELA	257-303	304-320	321-335	336-351	352-385

Assessment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Grade 3 Math	240-284	285-296	297-310	311-326	327-360
Grade 4 Math	251-298	299-309	310-324	325-339	340-376
Grade 5 Math	256-305	306-319	320-333	334-349	350-388

Additional Information

- Students in grade 3 must achieve a Level 2 or higher on the FSA ELA Reading Assessment for promotion purposes. For more information on this requirement, as well as good cause exemption information for students who score in Level 1, please see the Third Grade Guidance page on the FDOE website.
- Achievement level cut scores for FSA ELA and Mathematics assessments were established in January 2016(see Table 2). For more information on these scores, please see *Understanding FSA Reports*. For more information on the standard-setting process, please visit the Standard Setting page on the FDOE website.
- Students with IEPs or Section 504 plans, as well as English Language Learners (ELLs), may be eligible for allowable accommodations on statewide assessments. For more information about accommodations, see the Assessment Accommodations FAQ document on the FSA Portal.

Please visit the FDOE website and the FSA Portal for more information about the statewide assessment program.