



Understanding *Your Student's Results* from California's New Testing System

Last spring students in Grades 3-8, and 11 took online tests in English-Language Arts and Math using a computer. These tests are called Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, and they are part of California's new testing system called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress or CAASPP. This Guide is provided to help parents and guardians understand their child's enclosed CAASPP Student Score Report.

Test Results Set *New Starting Point* for Student Achievement

The Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments are fundamentally different from the old tests. Because of those differences, we can't make any comparisons between new and old scores. This year's results set a new starting point for schools across California; a baseline for the progress we expect students to make over time. The bar has been raised for California students who are now being held to a higher standard in order to help ensure they are prepared to succeed in the future. This year's results are best thought of as a tool to help guide discussions between parents and teachers as well as help teachers and schools understand where their students are succeeding and where to focus their efforts toward meeting this higher standard of education.

Test Results Are *Only One Measure* of Student Achievement

You receive information about how your child is doing in school through grades on tests and classroom assignments, as well as by talking with your child's teacher. The new test results will give you another piece of information about how well your child is learning the expected curriculum for his or her grade. Think of the test results as one part of an academic "wellness" check for your child – similar to when you take your child to the doctor for their annual checkups. The test results, combined with all the other information you have about your child, give you a good sense of how your child is doing and can help when setting goals for improvement.

Individual Student Reports Are *Customized* for Each Child

Each child who took the online tests will receive a Student Report with information about how he or she did in English-Language Arts and Math, and Science if your child was in Grades 5, 8, or 10 last year.

Results Show *Overall Student Achievement* for English-Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics

• Overall Score

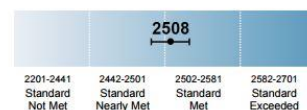
In each subject area, your child receives a four-digit score that ranges from 2,000 to 3,000 points. This overall score range is the same for all grade levels. It is important to understand that your child's information is for *his or her grade level only*.

• Achievement Levels

Overall scores are grouped into categories called achievement levels. Each child receives an overall achievement level for both English-Language Arts/Literacy and for Math. There are four achievement levels for the overall score: *Standard Exceeded*, *Standard Met*, *Standard Nearly Met*, and *Standard Not Met*. The range of overall scores for each achievement level is also printed on the Student Report.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

Emily's overall score is: **2508**



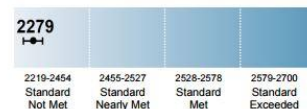
YOUR OVERALL SCORE

Emily met the achievement standard and demonstrated the knowledge and skills in English language arts/literacy needed for success in future coursework.

Emily's performance on the four areas that comprise this overall score can be seen on the back of this report.

MATHEMATICS

Emily's overall score is: **2279**



YOUR OVERALL SCORE

Emily did not meet the achievement standard and needs substantial improvement to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in mathematics needed for success in future coursework.

Emily's performance on the three areas that comprise this overall score can be seen on the back of this report.

Results Also Show *Critical Skills/Areas* within English-Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics

Within each subject area there is additional information for each critical skill that was measured. There are four critical skills in English-Language Arts/Literacy and three in Math. Your child will receive one of three possible achievement levels for each critical skill: *Above Standard*, *At or Near Standard*, or *Below Standard*. The image to the right shows each critical skill, the description of that skill, and the achievement level.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

Emily's overall score is: **2508**

AREA	PERFORMANCE
Reading <i>Demonstrating understanding of literary and non-fiction texts</i>	Above Standard
Writing <i>Producing clear and purposeful writing</i>	Above Standard
Listening <i>Demonstrating effective communication skills</i>	At or Near Standard
Research/Inquiry <i>Investigating, analyzing and presenting information</i>	Above Standard

MATHEMATICS

Emily's overall score is: **2279**

AREA	PERFORMANCE
Problem Solving & Modeling/Data Analysis <i>Using appropriate tools and strategies to solve real world and mathematical problems</i>	Below Standard
Concepts & Procedures <i>Applying mathematical concepts and procedures</i>	Below Standard
Communicating Reasoning <i>Demonstrating ability to support mathematical conclusions</i>	Below Standard

For Grade 11 Students: Important Information for *College Preparation*

Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment results were also used for the Early Assessment Program (EAP). The EAP is used by the California State University (CSU) and some community colleges to determine whether a student is ready for college level English and Math courses. A score of Level 3 or 4 is evident of a student's readiness for entry-level college English and Math courses if they continue their progress in 12th grade. A score of Level 1 or 2 does not mean the student should not attend college. It only indicates colleges may require the student to take a placement test when determining whether the student will first need a non-credit course prior to progressing to the entry-level course. More information about the EAP can be found on the CSU's website at <https://www.calstate.edu/eap/> or on the California Community Colleges website at www.cccco.edu/eap.