



Understanding FCAT Reports 2008



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INTRODUCTION

This booklet has been prepared to help you understand the reports for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® (FCAT). It includes samples of the reports, explanations of the reports, a glossary of the terms used in these reports, and the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) and norm-referenced test (NRT) content assessed on the FCAT. Data in the reports are fictional but show the type of information reported. Although most of the sample reports in this booklet are for Grade 10 or 11, the explanations provided apply to all grade levels except where otherwise noted.

Purpose of the FCAT

The purpose of the FCAT is to assess student achievement of the SSS benchmarks in reading, mathematics, science, and writing. The FCAT also includes norm-referenced tests (NRT) in reading comprehension and mathematics problem solving, which allow for comparing the performance of Florida students with students across the nation.

Grade Levels Tested

- FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics tests are administered to students in Grades 3–10.
- FCAT Writing+ tests are administered to students in Grades 4, 8, and 10.
- FCAT SSS Science tests are administered to students in Grades 5, 8, and 11.
- FCAT NRT Reading and Mathematics tests are administered to students in Grades 3–10.

Question Formats

- **Multiple-choice questions** are worth 1 point each and appear at all grade levels on all FCAT SSS and FCAT NRT tests. For FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science tests, students choose the best answer from four answer choices. For the multiple-choice portion of FCAT Writing+, students choose the best answer from either three or four possible answer choices.
- **Gridded-response questions** are worth 1 point each and appear on the FCAT SSS Mathematics test in Grades 5–10 and the FCAT SSS Science test in Grades 8 and 11. These questions require students to print a numeric answer and fill in the corresponding bubbles in the response grid.
- **Performance tasks** are part of the FCAT SSS for students in Grades 4, 5, 8, 10, and 11. Answers to performance tasks are scored using holistic scoring rubrics which are available on the Florida Department of Education’s FCAT website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/rubrcpag.asp>.

FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science performance tasks require students to answer questions in their own words, show their solutions to questions, or complete a graph. There are two types of performance tasks: **short-response tasks** which take about 5 minutes to answer and receive 0, 1, or 2 points and **extended-response tasks** which take 10–15 minutes to complete and receive 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 points. A minimum of two trained scorers independently score each answer. The final score is the result of these multiple evaluations.

FCAT Writing+ **prompt performance tasks** require students to apply their writing skills by writing a draft response to an assigned topic. Grade 4 students respond to a prompt that asks them either to explain (expository writing) or to tell a story (narrative writing); Grade 8 and 10 students respond to a prompt that asks them to either explain (expository writing) or to persuade (persuasive writing). The highest score a student can receive is a 6. Two trained scorers independently score each student response. The score reported is the average of both scorers’ scores.

Who Is Tested?

Most students, including English Language Learner (ELL) and exceptional student education (ESE) students, enrolled in the tested grade levels participate in the FCAT administration. Administration accommodations are provided to eligible ELL and ESE students.

FCAT Reports

FCAT results are reported in several formats. Reports are distributed to students, schools, and districts. The table on page 5 provides a list of FCAT reports, the grade levels at which they apply, and the page number on which each report is described. Although this booklet does not contain samples of all reports, the examples provided are similar in content and layout to other reports. Information about FCAT scores and reports is also available on the FCAT website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org>.

Appropriate Use of FCAT Content Subscores

Given educators' desire to glean reliable information from any test that is administered to their students (including the FCAT), it is important to identify the comparisons at the content subscore level that yield valid interpretations of student performance. The comparisons that are described in the following paragraphs can be applied in school- and district-level evaluations. The state data in the tables are real; however, the school and district data are not. For illustration purposes, mock data are provided for the fictitious schools and district in the tables.

One valid comparison is performance on a given subscore between schools, districts, and the state. For example, a school's subscore-level results can be compared to other schools', districts', or the state subscore-level results. District results can be compared to other district results and state results. The reasoning for this is simple: students in any group (school, district, or state) will take the same set of test items in a given year. This means that, regardless of varying item difficulty at the subscore level, students are assessed using the same items; subsequently, their results are comparable.

In Table 1 below, students in two schools (Sunshine and Evergreen) and students in the district (Coastal) can be compared to students in the state, based on their performance on FCAT Reading Cluster 1.

Table 1: Mean Percent Correct for Grade 3 FCAT Reading, Cluster 1 2005 School Year (mock data)			
Sunshine Elementary (mock data)	Evergreen Elementary (mock data)	Coastal District (mock data)	State of Florida (real data)
48%	62%	64%	57%

Another type of valid comparison is the trend of any of the aforementioned comparisons (e.g., school to school, school to district). For example, educators in a low-performing school may be interested in tracking the gap between their students' performance on Cluster 1, students' performance in their district, and students' performance in the state. Evaluating trend data for such a comparison is valid and potentially very enlightening.

Table 2: Mean Percent Correct for Grade 3 FCAT Reading, Cluster 1 2001 through 2005 (mock data)			
Year	Sunshine Elementary (mock data)	State of Florida (real data)	Difference
2001	37%	70%	-33%
2002	33%	62%	-29%
2003	44%	64%	-20%
2004	52%	68%	-16%
2005	48%	57%	-9%

In Table 2, the trend results from 2001 to 2005 provide important evaluative information to the educators in Sunshine Elementary. While student performance in Sunshine Elementary was consistently lower on Cluster 1 than the performance of all Grade 3 students in Florida, the progress that has been made over the five-year period is substantial enough to warrant another look at program initiatives (e.g., the school may have introduced an after-school tutoring program that can be linked to an improvement in performance).

**Table 3: Mean Percent Correct for Grade 3 FCAT Reading, 2005 School Year
Comparison of School to District and School to State (mock data)**

Cluster	Evergreen Elementary (mock data)	Coastal District (mock data)	Difference	Evergreen Elementary (mock data)	State of Florida (real data)	Difference
Cluster 1	62%	64%	-2%	62%	57%	5%
Cluster 2	64%	57%	7%	64%	63%	1%
Cluster 3	57%	60%	-3%	57%	72%	-15%
Cluster 4	70%	72%	-2%	70%	64%	6%

In Table 3, 2005 mock results for Evergreen Elementary are compared to both the district (Coastal) and the state. This presentation of data provides yet another perspective of student performance and program effectiveness. For example, in Cluster 2, Evergreen Elementary had a higher mean percent correct statistic than the Coastal District (64% versus 57%, respectively); however, Evergreen Elementary results were comparable to the state (64% versus 63%, respectively). If this variance was consistent over the five years, there would be good reason to identify and share best practices in Evergreen Elementary with the rest of the district.

Another meaningful finding from Table 3 is illustrated in Cluster 4 results. In this cluster, Evergreen Elementary had a slightly lower mean percent correct than Coastal District (70% versus 72%, respectively); however, this same statistic was higher than that of the state (70% versus 64%, respectively). It would be easy to miss the fact that, while Evergreen Elementary's performance on Cluster 4 was lower than that of the district, the performances of both were substantially higher than the state. Subsequently, it is possible that targeting additional resources to improve performance in Cluster 4 would be a lower priority.

The Florida Department of Education encourages educators to use FCAT results in any way that is statistically appropriate. The comparisons that have been described in this section provide possibilities for evaluation at the school and district levels.

FCAT Reports Chart

	FCAT Report Title	Grades	Page of Report Description
Student Reports	Certificate of Achievement	3–11	9
	SSS Grade 10 Pass/Fail Student Label	10–Adult	9*
	SSS Reading & Mathematics Retake Student and Parent Report	10–Adult	10*
	SSS Reading & Mathematics Student and Parent Report	3–10	12*
	Science Student and Parent Report	5, 8, and 11	13*
	Writing+ Student and Parent Report	4, 8, and 10	14*
	Reading & Mathematics NRT Student Report	3–10	17*
School Reports	Reading SSS School Report of Students	3–Adult	18
	Mathematics SSS School Report of Students	3–Adult	18*
	Science School Report of Students	5, 8, and 11	18
	Reading & Mathematics NRT School Report of Students	3–10	20
	Writing+ School Report of Students	4, 8, and 10	21
	Reading & Mathematics SSS School Demographic Report	3–10	22*
	Science School Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	22
	Writing+ School Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	23
Reading & Mathematics NRT School Demographic Report	3–10	24	
District Reports	Reading SSS District Report of Schools	3–Adult	19*
	Mathematics SSS District Report of Schools	3–Adult	19
	Science District Report of Schools	5, 8, and 11	19
	Reading SSS District Summary	3–Adult	19
	Mathematics SSS District Summary	3–Adult	19
	Science District Summary	5, 8, and 11	19
	Reading & Mathematics NRT District Report of Schools	3–10	20*
	Reading & Mathematics NRT District Report of Scores	3–10	20
	Writing+ District Report of Schools	4, 8, and 10	21*
	Writing+ District Summary	4, 8, and 10	21
	Reading & Mathematics SSS District Demographic Report	3–10	22
	Science District Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	22
	Writing+ District Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	23*
Reading & Mathematics NRT District Demographic Report	3–10	24*	
State Reports	Reading SSS State Report of Districts	3–Adult	19
	Mathematics SSS State Report of Districts	3–Adult	19
	Science State Report of Districts	5, 8, and 11	19
	Reading SSS State Summary	3–Adult	19
	Mathematics SSS State Summary	3–Adult	19
	Science State Summary	5, 8, and 11	19
	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Report of Districts	3–10	20
	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Report of Scores	3–10	20
	Writing+ State Report of Districts	4, 8, and 10	21
	Writing+ State Summary	4, 8, and 10	21
	Reading & Mathematics SSS State Demographic Report	3–10	22
	Science State Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	22
	Writing+ State Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	23
	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Demographic Report	3–10	24

*Reports printed in bold are displayed in this booklet.

Note: In 2008, the Department of Education will **not** provide SSS Reading, SSS Mathematics, or Science Performance Task Student and Parent Reports.

Achievement Levels

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the Florida Sunshine State Standards tested on the FCAT. Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest. To be considered on grade level, students must achieve Level 3 or higher.

- Level 5** indicates success with the content on the FCAT by answering most questions correctly.
- Level 4** indicates success with the content on the FCAT by answering most questions correctly, except for the most challenging questions.
- Level 3** indicates partial success with the content on the FCAT.
- Level 2** indicates limited success with the content on the FCAT.
- Level 1** indicates little success with the content on the FCAT.

The following tables list the achievement levels for FCAT SSS Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing+, by grade level, along with the scale score ranges associated with each achievement level.

FCAT Reading and Mathematics Achievement Levels for the FCAT Score (Developmental Scale Score)										
Reading					Grade	Mathematics				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
86-1045	1046-1197	1198-1488	1489-1865	1866-2514	3	375-1078	1079-1268	1269-1508	1509-1749	1750-2225
295-1314	1315-1455	1456-1689	1690-1964	1965-2638	4	581-1276	1277-1443	1444-1657	1658-1862	1863-2330
474-1341	1342-1509	1510-1761	1762-2058	2059-2713	5	569-1451	1452-1631	1632-1768	1769-1956	1957-2456
539-1449	1450-1621	1622-1859	1860-2125	2126-2758	6	770-1553	1554-1691	1692-1859	1860-2018	2019-2492
671-1541	1542-1714	1715-1944	1945-2180	2181-2767	7	958-1660	1661-1785	1786-1938	1939-2079	2080-2572
886-1695	1696-1881	1882-2072	2073-2281	2282-2790	8	1025-1732	1733-1850	1851-1997	1998-2091	2092-2605
772-1771	1772-1971	1972-2145	2146-2297	2298-2943	9	1238-1781	1782-1900	1901-2022	2023-2141	2142-2596
844-1851	1852-2067	2068-2218	2219-2310	2311-3008	10	1068-1831	1832-1946	1947-2049	2050-2192	2193-2709

FCAT Reading and Mathematics Achievement Levels										
Reading					Grade	Mathematics				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
100-258	259-283	284-331	332-393	394-500	3	100-252	253-293	294-345	346-397	398-500
100-274	275-298	299-338	339-385	386-500	4	100-259	260-297	298-346	347-393	394-500
100-255	256-285	286-330	331-383	384-500	5	100-287	288-325	326-354	355-394	395-500
100-264	265-295	296-338	339-386	387-500	6	100-282	283-314	315-353	354-390	391-500
100-266	267-299	300-343	344-388	389-500	7	100-274	275-305	306-343	344-378	379-500
100-270	271-309	310-349	350-393	394-500	8	100-279	280-309	310-346	347-370	371-500
100-284	285-321	322-353	354-381	382-500	9	100-260	261-295	296-331	332-366	367-500
100-286	287-326	327-354	355-371	372-500	10	100-286	287-314	315-339	340-374	375-500

FCAT Science Achievement Levels					
Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
5	100-272	273-322	323-376	377-416	417-500
8	100-269	270-324	325-386	387-431	432-500
11	100-278	279-323	324-379	380-424	425-500

FCAT Writing+ Achievement Levels					
Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
4	100-239	240-289	290-364	365-426	427-500
8	100-249	250-298	299-355	356-415	416-500
10	100-249	250-299	300-341	342-402	403-500

Graduation Requirement

Students who expect to graduate from high school in the 2007–2008 school year and beyond must earn passing scores on the Reading and Mathematics Sunshine State Standards portions of the Grade 10 FCAT. After Grade 10, there will be additional opportunities to earn passing scores by taking the Reading and Mathematics Sunshine State Standards Retake tests if students are not successful on the first attempt.

The passing scores for the Grade 10 FCAT Reading and Mathematics SSS and Retake tests are determined by the State Board of Education and are as follows:

FCAT SSS Reading Test and Reading Retake Test **1926 (Scale Score of 300) or above**

FCAT SSS Mathematics Test and Mathematics Retake Test **1889 (Scale Score of 300) or above**

Students who were originally scheduled to graduate in 2003 are still eligible for a lower passing score of 1856 (scale score of 287) or higher on the SSS Reading test and 1868 (scale score of 295) or higher on the SSS Mathematics test.

No Data Reported

The following abbreviations may appear on some student and educator reports.

NT (Not Tested) indicates that no data are reported for the student because he or she was not tested for that subject.

NR (Not Reported) indicates that no data are reported for the student because he or she answered too few questions for that subject or the test was invalidated. NRT reports use this notation.

NR2, NR3, NR6, NR8 (Not Reported) indicates that no data are reported for the student because he or she answered too few questions for that subject or the test was invalidated. SSS reports use this notation (NR2—Did not meet attemptedness; NR3—Marked as Do Not Score; NR6—Duplicate Record; NR8—DOE Hold).

NA (Not Available) indicates that data are not reported for the student because no data were available, or that the data do not apply at that grade level.

NM (Not Matched) indicates that no data were reported from the prior year.

NF (Not Found) indicates that no prior data were available for the student for that year, or that student’s record for 2008 was not matched to the student’s record for 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and/or 2007.

U (Unscorable) indicates that the student's score does not meet the criteria for being considered valid and is considered "Unscorable." (A—Blank Document; B—Off-topic; C—Illegible, Incomprehensible, Insufficient; D—Foreign Language)

A double asterisk (**) on the reports indicates that no students in this grade met the criteria for reporting.

A triple asterisk (***) on the writing reports indicates that percentages are rounded to the nearest percent and that the percentage is less than 0.5%.

A dash (-) on the reports indicates that no data are reported because fewer than ten students were tested, or any percentage equals 100.

Certificates of Achievement

The *Certificate of Achievement* is awarded **only** to students who demonstrate outstanding or notable performance on the Sunshine State Standards Reading, Mathematics, Science, and/or Writing+ tests. Students taking the FCAT Retake tests are not eligible to receive *Certificates of Achievement*. If a student is being recognized for more than one subject, the student will receive one certificate listing his/her achievement in all subjects. Certificates are not awarded based on the FCAT NRT scores.

Students may earn a *Certificate of Achievement* for “Outstanding Performance” in FCAT SSS Reading, Mathematics, Science, and/or Writing+. In order to earn recognition for “Outstanding Performance,” students must earn an achievement level score of 5 on the SSS Reading, Mathematics, Science, or Writing+ tests. In FCAT Writing+, students may also earn a *Certificate of Achievement* for “Outstanding Performance” by scoring 6.0 on the prompt portion. Students in Grade 4 may earn a certificate for “Notable Performance” by scoring 5.0 or 5.5 on the prompt portion. Students in Grades 8 and 10 may earn a certificate for “Notable Performance” by scoring 5.5 on the prompt portion. A high performance level on the multiple-choice portion only of the Writing+ test will not result in a certificate.

SSS Grade 10 Pass/Fail Student Label


To the right is a sample of the *Grade 10 Pass/Fail Student Label*. This label is provided for all Grades 10–13 and Adult students taking the Grade 10 Reading SSS and/or Mathematics SSS tests and the Grade 10 Retake tests. The label displays the student’s scale score (SS) and developmental scale score (DSS) in each subject tested, and whether the student passed or failed the test.

FCAT SSS READING/SSS MATHEMATICS • SPRING 2008			
Name: APPLEBEE, CARMINE J			
Date of Birth: 06/15/89		Grade: 10	
ID: 9543215678			
District: 99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT			
School: 9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL			
SUBJECT		SS	DSS
Reading	Passed	430	2646
Mathematics	Passed	381	2218

Reports Not Provided in 2008

In 2008, the Department of Education will **not** provide the SSS Reading, SSS Mathematics, or Science Performance Task Student and Parent Reports, though information about the released short-response tasks will be provided on the 2008 Florida Reads, Writes, Solves, Inquires CD. The CD will be sent to school districts in Summer 2008 and will include the anchor sets and qualifying sets used to train the scorers for the 2008 test administration. Helpful information about scoring performance tasks is also available in *Florida Reads!*, *Florida Solves!*, and *Florida Inquires!* on the FCAT website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcatflwrites.asp>.

SSS Reading and Mathematics Retake Student and Parent Report



Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
Sunshine State Standards Reading and Mathematics Retake
Student and Parent Report
Grade 11

NATHANIEL HUNTINGTON

ID **XXXXX1234X**
School **9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL**
District **99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT**

This report shows your results from the retake of the Grade 10 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test(s). Passing both the Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics tests is a requirement for a standard Florida high school diploma. The FCAT measures your performance on selected benchmarks in Reading and Mathematics as defined by the *Sunshine State Standards*. Scores on this test are one indication of your achievement on the challenging content that Florida students are expected to know.

Your Scores and Performance Levels

Reading

Level 5	2311-3008
Level 4	2219-2310
Level 3	2068-2218
Level 2	1852-2067
Level 1	844-1851

2047

Passing score **1926**

You have passed the FCAT Reading Retake test.
Your FCAT Score is **2047**, which is in achievement **Level 2** for Reading.

The FCAT Score shows your achievement on the day you were tested. If you were to take this same test again, it is likely that your Spring 2008 FCAT Reading Score would be between 1947 and 2147.

Litho code: 123456789

Mathematics

Level 5	2193-2709
Level 4	2050-2192
Level 3	1947-2049
Level 2	1832-1946
Level 1	1068-1831


1550

Passing score **1889**

You have not passed the FCAT Mathematics Retake test.
Your FCAT Score is **1550**, which is in achievement **Level 1** for Mathematics.

The FCAT Score shows your achievement on the day you were tested. If you were to take this same test again, it is likely that your Spring 2008 FCAT Mathematics Score would be between 1450 and 1650.

Litho code: 123456789



Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
Sunshine State Standards Reading and Mathematics Retake
Student and Parent Report
Grade 11 Page 2

NATHANIEL HUNTINGTON

ID **XXXXX1234X**
School **9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL**
District **99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT**

Your Reading Content Scores

You have passed the Reading section of the FCAT

Content Areas	Points you earned	Points possible
Words / Phrases	8	13
Main Idea / Purpose	14	18
Comparisons	8	14
Reference / Research	6	10

The chart to the left gives more specific information about your performance on the content areas tested by the FCAT. For each content area, students should be able to do the following:

Words and Phrases in Context: Selects and uses strategies to understand words and text; makes and confirms inferences from a reading text; interprets data presentations (e.g. maps, diagrams, graphs, and statistical illustrations).

Main Idea, Plot, and Purpose: Determines stated or implied main idea; identifies relevant details; identifies methods of development; determines author's purpose and point of view; identifies devices of persuasion and methods of appeal; identifies and analyzes complex elements of plot (e.g. setting, tone, major events, and conflicts and resolutions).

Comparisons and Cause / Effect: Recognizes the use of comparison and contrast; recognizes cause-and-effect relationships.

Reference / Research: Locates, gathers, analyzes, and evaluates information for a variety of purposes; selects and uses appropriate study and research skills and tools according to the type of information being gathered or organized; analyzes the validity and reliability of primary source information and uses the information appropriately; synthesizes information from multiple sources to draw conclusions.

Your Mathematics Content Scores

You have not passed the Mathematics section of the FCAT

Content Areas	Points you earned	Points possible
Number Sense	8	13
Measurement	14	18
Geometry	8	14
Algebraic Thinking	8	9
Data Analysis and Probability	9	10

The chart to the left gives more specific information about your performance on the content areas tested by the FCAT. For each content area, students should be able to do the following:

Number Sense, Concepts, and Operations: Identifies operations (+, -, ×, ÷) and the effects of operations; determines estimates; knows how numbers are represented and used.

Measurement: Recognizes measurements and units of measurement; compares, contrasts, and converts measurements.

Geometry and Spatial Sense: Describes, draws, identifies, and analyzes two-and three-dimensional shapes; visualizes and illustrates changes in shapes; uses coordinate geometry.

Algebraic Thinking: Describes, analyzes, and generalizes patterns, relations, and functions; writes and uses expressions, equations, inequalities, graphs, and formulas.

Data Analysis and Probability: Analyzes, organizes, and interprets data; identifies patterns and makes predictions, inferences, and valid conclusions; uses probability and statistics.

If you need to retake the FCAT

Talk to your guidance counselor. Many school districts have specialized programs to help students in earning passing scores on the FCAT, including before and after school programs, Spring school, tutoring, intensive reading or mathematics classes, and computer-assisted instruction.

Sign up for an intensive reading or mathematics class to sharpen your skills with extra instruction to strengthen your weak areas. These classes count as electives to help you meet your minimum credit requirement for graduation.

Visit **FCAT Explorer** at www.fcatexplorer.com. This site offers FCAT-like practice in reading and mathematics to help you prepare for retaking the FCAT. Log in using your sign-in name and password or call 1.888.750.FCAT.

Stay in the Loop Make sure you receive a copy of the Stay in the Loop flyer distributed by your school to all students who have not passed the FCAT. Stay in the Loop contains tips, ideas, and recommendations for retaking the FCAT and earning your high school degree. You can also access the flyer online at www.firn.edu/doe/commhome/12grade/twelhome.htm

Facts.org Provided free to students by the Florida Department of Education, www.facts.org is Florida's official online student advising system. You can start thinking about careers, evaluate your progress through high school, learn about higher education opportunities in Florida, and more.

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The *Sunshine State Standards Reading and Mathematics Retake Student and Parent Report* provides results for Grades 10–13 and Adult students who took the Reading and/or Mathematics Sunshine State Standards Retake tests.

- A** The student, school, and district are identified in the upper right corner of page 1 of the report.
- B** The area labeled **Your Scores and Performance Levels** provides the student's FCAT Score (developmental scale score) and achievement level and indicates whether or not the student earned a passing score for Reading (on the left) and Mathematics (on the right). If the student did not test for a subject, "NT" (Not Tested) will appear in place of the FCAT Score and achievement level. If the student took the test but the score was not reported, "NR" (Not Reported) will appear in place of the FCAT Score and achievement level. The graph depicts the student's score and the passing score. Underneath the graph, a statement indicates whether the student earned a passing score, followed by a statement that indicates the student's FCAT Score and achievement level. The footnote below these statements describes the range within which a student's FCAT Score would likely fall if the student were to take the test again without additional instruction. Students who receive additional instruction would likely improve their scores. A unique identifying number for each subject is provided at the bottom of the page.
- C** On the left side of page 2 of the report, the Content Scores for Reading (on the top) and Mathematics (on the bottom) are broken down into content subcategories. The "Points Possible" column within the table provides the total number of points possible per subcategory. The "Points You Earned" column in the table labeled **Your Reading** (or **Mathematics**) **Content Scores** provides the actual number of points earned in each of the content subcategories (clusters or strands). The **Reading** (or **Mathematics**) **Content Areas** are described to the right of the table. The subcategories are listed, along with a description of the content assessed within that subcategory. Pages 25–27 of this booklet describe the content assessed on the Reading and Mathematics SSS portions of the FCAT.

FCAT Parent Network

View FAQ's in: English Español Kreyòl

Home Reading & Mathematics Results Science Results Writing+ Results Resources

Victoria Allsopp
Spring 2008 FCAT SSS Reading & Mathematics Results
Grade 8
NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD

If you would like to view your student's entire Reading and Mathematics report, which also includes information about his or her performance on content areas and a history of his or her scores over time, [click here](#). In order to access your student's report, you'll need Adobe Reader. To download Reader, visit the [Adobe website](#).

Your Student's 2008 FCAT Reading Score

Level 5	2010-2019
Level 4	2013-2281
Level 3	1882-2002
Level 2	1733-1881
Level 1	1500-1732

On grade level 1882

Your Student's 2008 FCAT Mathematics Score

Level 5	2010-2019
Level 4	1998-2091
Level 3	1853-1997
Level 2	1733-1852
Level 1	1500-1732

On grade level 1851

Your student's FCAT Score is **2000**, which is in achievement **Level 3** for Reading.

La calificación del examen FCAT del estudiante es **2000**, lo cual lo ubica en el nivel **3** de Lectura.

Nòt FCAT el vou a se **2000**, li nan Nivo **3** reyit pou Lektik.

The FCAT Score shows your student's achievement on the day he or she was tested. If your student were to take this same test again, it is likely that his or her Spring 2008 FCAT Reading Score would be between 1900 and 2100.

Your student's FCAT Score is **2000**, which is in achievement **Level 4** for Mathematics.

La calificación del examen FCAT del estudiante es **2000**, lo cual lo ubica en el nivel **4** de Matemáticas.

Nòt FCAT el vou a se **2000**, li nan Nivo **4** reyit pou Matematik.

The FCAT Score shows your student's achievement on the day he or she was tested. If your student were to take this same test again, it is likely that his or her Spring 2008 FCAT Mathematics Score would be between 1900 and 2100.

Lectura y Matemáticas
Si desea ver el informe completo del estudiante correspondiente a lectura y matemáticas, que también incluye información acerca de su rendimiento en áreas de contenido y un registro de sus calificaciones, [haga clic aquí](#). Para acceder al informe del estudiante, necesitará Adobe Reader. Puede descargar este programa en el [sitio web de Adobe](#).

Lektik ak Matematik
Si w ta renmen wè tout rapò elèv ou w ki gen ladan enfòmasyon sou ramman li nan matyè yo ak yon lisans eòl ò pandan yan sèten peryòd tan, [klike la a](#). Pou ou ka jwenn rapò pitit ou, w ap bezwen Adobe Reader. Pou telechaje Reader a, ale nan [sit Adobe a](#).

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The *FCAT Parent Network*, <http://www.fcaptoparentnetwork.com> provides secure online access to the Sunshine State Standards Student and Parent Reports for the Reading, Mathematics, Writing+, and Science tests, as well as the Reading and Mathematics Retake tests. Information on the site is translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole. Results for the FCAT Reading and Mathematics NRT tests are **not** provided on the site.

The Parent Network provides early access to scores from the FCAT SSS tests as soon as results are available for all students with reportable results. The Home Page login screen requires a new login and password for each test administration, so each student included in the pre-enrollment process for that test receives a letter with a unique login and password that can only be used for that particular administration. Students who do not receive login information in their letter will receive their unique login and password directly from their school during the week that results are released on the website, and it will be specific to that subject area only. The **Home Page** contains a login screen, information regarding which results are currently available, and expected timing for the posting of future results.

A The **Results Page** displays secure information regarding the student's FCAT Score (the Reading and Mathematics DSS Score or the Science and Writing+ Scale Score) and Achievement Level, as well as passing status for Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics (and Retakes) or On Grade Level status (Level 3 or above) for all other grades and subjects. This page also describes the range within which the student's score would likely fall if the student were to take the test again without additional instruction. Students who receive additional instruction would likely improve their scores. In addition, parents can access a link to a PDF of the student's entire Individual Student Report in all applicable subjects. This report will match the report that students receive in print. An example of the Reading and Mathematics results page for a Grade 8 student is included above.

The site also includes a page with links to FCAT **Resources** as well as **Frequently Asked Questions** pages in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. These pages include technical assistance for using the site as well as information on the FCAT and which results are included on the *FCAT Parent Network*.

SSS Reading and Mathematics Student and Parent Report

The *Sunshine State Standards Reading and Mathematics Student and Parent Report* is a four-page color folder. The first page includes a letter to parents, guardians, or students. The fourth page provides general information about the FCAT program, definitions of key FCAT terms, and resources for students. The information on both of these pages is translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Inside the report, pages 2 and 3 provide the student's 2008 FCAT SSS results. Page 2 displays the Reading results and page 3 displays the Mathematics results. The description of the information provided on the sample Reading report on this page applies to the Mathematics report as well.

A The student, school, and district are identified in this area.

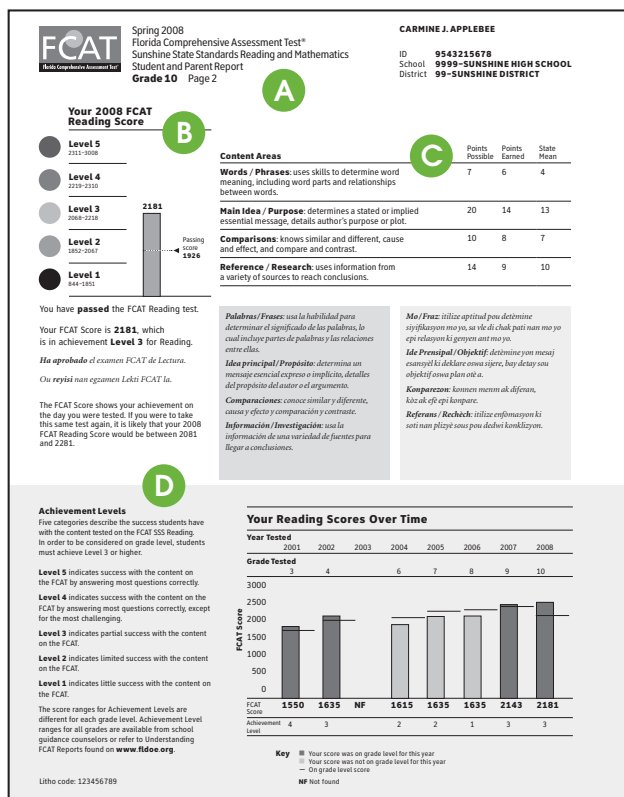
B This table displays the student's FCAT Score and achievement level. On the Grade 10 report, it also shows whether the student passed or did not pass the test. The table also displays the score ranges for achievement levels 1 through 5. Underneath the graph, a statement indicates whether the student earned a passing score (for Grade 10 only), followed by a statement that indicates the student's FCAT Score and achievement level. This information is translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole. The footnote below this table describes the range within which a student's FCAT Score would likely fall if the student were to take the test again without additional instruction. Students who receive additional instruction would likely improve their scores.

C In this section, the Reading (or Mathematics) content subcategories are listed, along with a description of the content assessed within that subcategory. Spanish and Haitian Creole translations of this information are also provided. The titles of the content subcategories are the same across all grade levels; however, the actual content varies by grade level based on the benchmarks at each grade. Pages 25–27 of this booklet describe the content assessed on the Reading and Mathematics SSS portions of the FCAT.

The “Points Possible” column provides the total number of points possible for each of the content subcategories (clusters or strands) and the “Points Earned” shows the actual number of points earned in each of the content subcategories. The state mean is provided on the far right for comparison. The state mean shows the mean earned by students across the state.

D This area provides information on the student's score history in Reading (or Mathematics). The chart to the right shows the student's FCAT Score and achievement level, as well as the necessary on-grade-level score, for each year the student was tested (if the student's scores were available). A dark gray bar indicates that the student scored in Level 3 or higher for that year; a light gray bar indicates that the student scored below Level 3 for that year. Achievement level descriptions are given to the left of the student's history chart.

The FCAT Score (developmental scale score) is used to determine a student's annual progress from grade to grade and ranges from 86 to 3008. FCAT Scores are equated to the base year so scores from year to year can be compared. For example, for Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics, the base year is 1998. Equating means that even though a grade-level test may contain different questions each year, students who perform at the same skill level in different years will earn the same FCAT Score. A unique identifying number for each subject is provided at the bottom of the page.



Science Student and Parent Report

FCAT Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
Science Student and Parent Report
Grade 11

The Florida Department of Education believes that every student has the ability to learn and succeed. The purpose of the FCAT is to ensure that Florida's public schools are providing you with the best education possible and preparing you for future success.

A high level of scientific knowledge has been identified as critical for success in the competitive 21st century job market. Working with Florida educators, the state has developed a test to measure your achievement of the important science skills in the *Sunshine State Standards (SSS)*. In addition, the content scores help you to identify academic skills that may need improvement.

El Departamento de Educación de Florida cree que cada estudiante tiene la capacidad para aprender y tener éxito. El propósito del FCAT es asegurar que las escuelas públicas de Florida te proporcionen la mejor educación posible y te preparen para tener éxito en el futuro.

Se ha comprobado que un alto nivel de conocimiento científico es de importancia crítica para el éxito en el mercado laboral competitivo del siglo 21. Trabajando en colaboración con los educadores de Florida, el estado ha desarrollado un examen, Sunshine State Standards (SSS), para medir el progreso de tus habilidades científicas. Además, al observar las calificaciones puedes identificar áreas de capacitación en las que necesitas mejorar.

Depatman Edikasyon Eta Florid kwè chak elèv gen kapasite pou yo aprann epi pou yo reyisi avèk siksè. Bi FCAT se pou asire lekòl piblik eta Florid yo founi elèv ou pi bon fòmasyon posib epi prepare elèv ou pou li fè siksè alavni.

Yo te idantifye yon niwo wo konesans syantifik kòm yon niwo ki enpòtan pou siksè nan mache travay kompetitif 21^{èm} syèk la. Nan travay ansanm ak pwofèsè nan Florid yo, leta te devlope yon egzamen pou mezire reyisite ou nan konpetans syans enpòtan nan Sunshine State Standards (sss). Anplis, sa ki nan nòt yo ap ede ou idantifye konpetans akademik ki ka bezwen amelyore.

SUSANE DAVIS **A**

ID **4685791922**
School **9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL**
District **99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT**

Your 2008 FCAT Science Score

Level 5	425-500
Level 4	380-424
Level 3	324-379
Level 2	279-323
Level 1	100-278

366
On grade level 324

B

Your FCAT Science Score is **366**, which is in achievement **Level 3** for Science.

The FCAT Science Score shows your achievement on the day you were tested. If you were to take this same test again, it is likely that your 2008 FCAT Science Score would be between 348 and 384.

Achievement Levels
Five categories describe the success students have with the content tested on the FCAT SSS Science. In order to be considered on grade level, students must achieve Level 3 or higher.

Level 5 indicates success with the content on the FCAT by answering most questions correctly.

Level 4 indicates success with the content on the FCAT by answering most questions correctly, except for the most challenging.

Level 3 indicates partial success with the content on the FCAT.

Level 2 indicates limited success with the content on the FCAT.

Level 1 indicates little success with the content on the FCAT.

The score ranges for Achievement Levels are different for each grade level. Achievement Level ranges for all grades are available from school guidance counselors or refer to Understanding FCAT Reports found on www.fldoe.org.

Litho code: 123456789

FCAT Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
Science Student and Parent Report
Grade 11 Page 2

SUSANE DAVIS
ID **4685791922**
School **9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL**
District **99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT**

The chart below gives more specific information about your performance on the content areas tested by FCAT Science. Information about the skills covered by these content areas is also provided.

C

Content Areas	Points Possible	Points Earned	State Mean
Physical and Chemical Science: explains the properties and interactions of matter, analyzes the flow of energy through a system, and predicts the effects of forces on an object.	14	5	10
Earth and Space Science: explains Earth's changes over time including geologic patterns, the rock cycle, and weather systems; also describes the interaction of the Sun, planets, and satellites in our solar system and the universe.	11	8	7
Life and Environmental Science: identifies and explains characteristics of plants and animals and the environment, including life processes, conservation of resources, and the interdependence of organisms and systems.	14	9	11
Scientific Thinking: applies scientific processes to problem solving, predicts events based on patterns within systems and explains the impact of technology on society.	12	7	9

Física y Química: explica las propiedades e interacciones de la materia, analiza el flujo de energía a través de un sistema y predice los efectos de las fuerzas sobre un objeto.

Ciencia de la Tierra y el espacio: explica los cambios en la Tierra a lo largo del tiempo, con la inclusión de patrones geológicos, el ciclo de las rocas y sistemas climáticos; también describe la interacción del Sol, los planetas y satélites en nuestro sistema solar y el universo.

Ciencias biológicas y del medio ambiente: identifica y explica las características de plantas, animales y el medio ambiente, incluyendo los procesos biológicos, la preservación de los recursos y la interdependencia de organismos y sistemas.

Razonamiento científico: aplica procesos científicos a la resolución de problemas, predice eventos sobre la base de patrones dentro de los sistemas, y explica el impacto de la tecnología en la sociedad.

Syans Fizik ak Chimik: eksplike pwopriyete ak entè-aksyon matyè, analize sikilasyon enèji atravè yon sistèm, epi predi efè fòs sou yon objè.

Syans Latè ak Lepas: eksplike chanjman latè nan peryòd tan avèk tou model jeyolojik, sik wòch, ak sistèm metewolojik; li dekri tou entè-aksyon solèy-la, planèt yo ak satelit ki nan sistèm solè nou ak livni.

Syans Lavi ak Anviwònman: idantifye epi eksplike karakteristik plant ak bèt ak anviwònman, avèk tou pwosesis lavi, konsèvasyon rezous ak entèdepandanngan òganis ak sistèm yo.

Rezonan Syantifik: aplike pwosesis syantifik nan rezolisyon pwoblèm, predi evènman ki baze sou model ki nan sistèm yo epi eksplike enpak teknoloji a genyen sou sosyete a.

Did you know?

- In the competitive job market of the future, more and more jobs will require science skills.
- Science skills are vital for success in many exciting careers.
- For more information about the FCAT Science test, visit <http://www.fldoe.org>

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STUDENT REPORTS

The *Science Student and Parent Report* is a one-page, two-sided document. The information on both of these pages is translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole.

- A** The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- B** This table displays the student's FCAT Science Scale Score and achievement level. The table also displays the score ranges for achievement levels 1 through 5, and the minimum score necessary for the student to be On Grade Level (Level 3). The footnote below this table describes the range within which a student's FCAT Score would likely fall if the student were to take the test again without additional instruction. Students who receive additional instruction would likely improve their scores.
- C** The Science Content is described in this section. The titles of the content subcategories are the same across Grades 5, 8, and 11; however, the actual content varies by grade level based on the benchmarks at each grade. Each of the four content subcategories is listed, along with a description of the content assessed within that subcategory. Spanish and Haitian Creole translations of this information are also provided. The content assessed on the Science test is described on pages 28 and 29 of this booklet.

The "Points Possible" column provides the total number of points possible for each of the four content subcategories (clusters), while the "Points Earned" shows the number of points earned by the student for each subcategory. The state mean is provided on the far right for comparison. The state mean shows the mean earned by students across the state. A unique identifying number for each subject is provided at the bottom of the page.

Writing+ Student and Parent Report

Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
Writing+ Student and Parent Report
Grade 10

CARMINE J. APPLEBEE

ID **9543215678**
School **9999-SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL**
District **99-SUNSHINE DISTRICT**

A

Your 2008 FCAT Writing+ Score

Level 5	403-500
Level 4	342-402
Level 3	300-341
Level 2	250-299
Level 1	100-249

320 **B**

On grade level
300

Your FCAT Writing+ Score is **320**, which is in achievement **Level 3** for Writing+.

The FCAT Writing+ Score shows your achievement on the day you were tested. If you were to take this same test again, it is likely that your 2008 FCAT Writing+ Score would be between 300 and 340.

Achievement Levels
Five categories describe the success students have with the content tested on the FCAT Writing+. In order to be considered on grade level, students must achieve Level 3 or higher.

Level 5 indicates success with the most challenging content on FCAT.
Level 4 indicates some success with the most challenging content on the FCAT.
Level 3 indicates limited success with the content on the FCAT.
Level 2 indicates little success with the content on the FCAT.

The score ranges for Achievement Levels are different for each grade level. Achievement Level ranges for all grades are available from school guidance counselors or refer to Understanding FCAT Reports found on www.fldoe.org.

Dear Student:
This report provides specific information about your performance on the FCAT Writing+ test. The Writing+ Score is a combination of the prompt and multiple-choice sections of the test. In order to receive an overall score, a student needs to have a valid score on both the prompt and multiple-choice sections. To learn more about your writing performance in school, talk to your teacher.

Multiple-Choice Reporting Categories

	Points Possible	Points Earned	State Mean
Focus: measures a student's knowledge of planning and drafting writing for a specific purpose and the maintenance of the central idea, theme, or unifying point.	12	8	9
Organization: measures a student's knowledge of using a plan or structure for writing and employing transitional devices to show relationships between and among ideas.	8	6	7
Support: measures a student's knowledge of the use of details in writing to explain, clarify, or define through word choice, specificity, depth, relevance, and thoroughness.	10	7	7
Conventions: measures a student's knowledge of the conventions of standard English for punctuation, capitalization, spelling, usage, and sentence structure.	13	9	8

C

Eje: mide el conocimiento del estudiante sobre cómo planear y redactar un texto para un fin específico y si mantiene la idea central, el tema o la unidad.
Organización: mide el conocimiento del estudiante sobre el uso de un plan o estructura para escribir y el uso de elementos de transición para demostrar relaciones entre las ideas.
Fundamentación: mide el conocimiento del estudiante sobre el uso de datos en la escritura para explicar, clarificar o definir a través de la elección de palabras, la especificidad, la profundización, la significación y la rigurosidad.
Convenciones: mide el conocimiento del estudiante sobre las convenciones del inglés estándar respecto de la puntuación, el uso de mayúsculas, la ortografía, el uso y la estructura de oraciones.
Pwen santral: evalye konseans yoñ elev genyen nan planifikasyon ak nan fe redaksyon obanyon pou yoñ objektif byen presi e nan kenbe lidè prensipal, tem lan, ansa pwen komen an.
Organizasyon: evalye konseans yoñ elev genyen pou li itilize yoñ plan ansa yoñ estrati pou fe redaksyon e pou li itilize metòd tranzisiva pou montre relasyon li genyen ant lidè yo.
Sipò: evalye konseans yoñ elev genyen li itilize detay nan redaksyon pou explike, klarifye, ansa defini atwè chwa mo yo, presizyon, pwofondè, rapò, ak atansyon li aplike nan sa li ap fe a.
Konvansyon: evalye konseans yoñ elev genyen nan pwosedi estanda lang Angle a tabli pou ponktasyon, aplikasyon let majiskil, ityograf, itaj, ak estrik fin.

See the back of this report for your prompt results.

The *Writing+ Student and Parent Report* is a one-page, two-sided document. The front of the report is displayed on this page and will be described in detail below. The back of this report provides information about the student's prompt score, including the topic to which the student was asked to respond; how the final score was determined; the criteria on which the prompt scores are based; the writing circumstances; and how the score should be interpreted.

- A** The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- B** This table displays the student's FCAT Writing+ Scale Score and achievement level. The table also displays the score ranges for Achievement Levels 1 through 5, and the minimum score necessary for the students to be On Grade Level (Level 3). Underneath the graph, a statement indicates the student's FCAT Score and achievement level. The footnote below this table describes the range within which a student's FCAT Writing+ Score would likely fall if the student were to take the test again without additional instruction. Students who receive additional instruction would likely improve their scores. FCAT Writing+ tests include a prompt section and a multiple-choice section. Both the prompt score and the multiple-choice score combine to give an overall Writing+ score (the FCAT Writing+ Score). If either the prompt score or the multiple-choice score is missing, no overall FCAT Writing+ Score is given.
- C** This table displays the Reporting Categories on which the student was tested in the multiple-choice section of the test, and a description of the content assessed within each Reporting Category. The "Points Possible" column shows the total number of points possible for each of the Reporting Categories, and the "Points Earned" column shows the actual number of points the student earned in each Reporting Category. In the last column, the state mean is provided for comparison. A unique identifying number for each subject is provided at the bottom of the page.

The student's prompt score is displayed on the back page of the report. The highest possible score is a 6. Student responses are scored using a holistic scoring rubric. Two trained scorers independently score each response. The score reported is the average of both scorers' scores. This area also indicates the type of writing assignment given to the student: Grade 4—Writing to Explain (Expository) or Writing to Tell a Story (Narrative) and Grades 8 and 10—Writing to Explain (Expository) or Writing to Convince (Persuasive). The SSS content assessed by FCAT Writing+ is described on pages 30 and 31 of this booklet. The FCAT Writing+ Holistic Rubrics (example on page 16) appear on the back of the FCAT Writing+ reports. A separate sheet is distributed to districts, which includes the Spanish translation of the FCAT Writing+ Holistic Rubrics on one side and the Haitian Creole translation on the other.

For more information about FCAT Writing+ prompts, see previous years' *Florida Writes!* publications on the FCAT website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcatflwrites.asp>.

How FCAT Writing+ Scores Are Calculated

Students in Grades 4, 8, and 10 receive a scale score (100–500) for the entire FCAT Writing+ test. The scale score is determined by combining the score of the writing prompt section and the score of the multiple-choice section. As indicated in the chart below, each section is given equal weight in this combined scale score.

Students also receive scores for the prompt section and the multiple-choice section.

- The Writing+ prompt score is based on the scoring rubric, with 6 as the highest score.
- For the multiple-choice score, the number of points earned in each of the four reporting categories is provided. The four subscores are based on the writing elements of *focus*, *organization*, *support*, and *conventions*.

FCAT Writing+ Scores Reported		
Writing+ Scale Score (100–500)		
Weight: 50%	Weight: 50%	Focus
Prompt Score	Multiple-Choice Content Subscores	Organization
<i>Rubric score of 1–6</i>	<i>Points earned/possible</i>	Support
		Conventions

To receive an FCAT Writing+ Scale Score, a student must complete both sections of the test. If both sections are not completed, the student only receives a score for the completed section (a rubric score for the prompt section or content subscores for the multiple-choice section).

The FCAT Writing+ Score is reported as a scale score on a 100–500 scale. Achievement levels based on the 100–500 scale will be reported for each administration of FCAT Writing+.

FCAT Writing+ Holistic Rubrics

Description of Grade 4 Writing Scores

- 6.0:** The writing focuses on the topic, is logically organized, and includes ample development of supporting ideas or examples. It demonstrates a mature command of language, including precision in word choice. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- 5.5:** The writing was given a 5 by one reader and a 6 by the other reader.
- 5.0:** The writing focuses on the topic with adequate development of supporting ideas or examples. It has an organizational pattern, but lapses may occur. Word choice is adequate. Sentences vary in structure. Punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are generally correct.
- 4.5:** The writing was given a 4 by one reader and a 5 by the other reader.
- 4.0:** The writing generally focuses on the topic, but it may contain extraneous information. An organizational pattern is evident, but lapses may occur. Some supporting ideas contain specifics and details, but others are not developed. Word choice is adequate. Sentences vary somewhat in structure, though many are simple. Knowledge of conventions is demonstrated, and commonly used words are usually spelled correctly.
- 3.5:** The writing was given a 3 by one reader and a 4 by the other reader.
- 3.0:** The writing generally focuses on the topic, but it may contain extraneous information. An organizational pattern has been attempted, but lapses may occur. Some of the supporting ideas or examples may not be developed. Word choice is adequate but limited. Sentences vary somewhat in structure, though many are simple. Knowledge of conventions is demonstrated, and commonly used words are usually spelled correctly.
- 2.5:** The writing was given a 2 by one reader and a 3 by the other reader.
- 2.0:** The writing may be slightly related to the topic or offer little relevant information and few supporting ideas or examples. There is little evidence of an organizational pattern. Word choice may be limited or immature. Sentences may be limited to simple constructions. Frequent errors may occur in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
- 1.5:** The writing was given a 1 by one reader and a 2 by the other reader.
- 1.0:** The writing may only minimally address the topic because there is little or no development of supporting ideas or examples. Unrelated information may be included. No organizational pattern is evident. Ideas are usually provided through lists, and word choice is limited or immature. Frequent errors in punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and sentence structure may impede communication.
- U:** The writing is unrelated to the assigned topic or cannot be read.


Description of Grade 8 Writing Scores

- 6.0:** The writing focuses on the topic, is logically organized, and includes substantial development of supporting ideas or examples. It demonstrates a mature command of language, including precision in word choice. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- 5.5:** The writing was given a 5 by one reader and a 6 by the other reader.
- 5.0:** The writing focuses on the topic with ample development of supporting ideas or examples. It has an organizational pattern, though lapses may occur. Word choice is mature and precise. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- 4.5:** The writing was given a 4 by one reader and a 5 by the other reader.
- 4.0:** The writing generally focuses on the topic, but it may contain extraneous information. An organizational pattern is evident, but lapses may occur. Support is adequate, but development may be uneven. Sentences sometimes vary in structure, though many are simple. Conventions are generally followed.
- 3.5:** The writing was given a 3 by one reader and a 4 by the other reader.
- 3.0:** The writing generally focuses on the topic, though it may contain extraneous information. An organizational pattern has been attempted, but lapses may occur. Some of the supporting ideas or examples may not be developed. Word choice is adequate. Sentence structure may vary, though many sentences have simple constructions. Knowledge of conventions is usually demonstrated.
- 2.5:** The writing was given a 2 by one reader and a 3 by the other reader.
- 2.0:** The writing is related to the topic but offers little relevant information and few supporting ideas or examples. There is little evidence of an organizational pattern. Word choice is limited or immature. Sentences may be limited to simple constructions. Frequent errors may occur in conventions.
- 1.5:** The writing was given a 1 by one reader and a 2 by the other reader.
- 1.0:** The writing may only minimally address the topic because there is little or no development of supporting ideas. Unrelated information may be included. An organizational pattern may not be evident. Ideas are provided through lists, and word choice is limited or immature. Frequent errors in sentence structure and conventions impede communication.
- U:** The writing is unrelated to the assigned topic or cannot be read.

Description of Grade 10 Writing Scores

- 6.0:** The writing focuses on the topic, is logically organized, and includes substantial development of supporting ideas or examples. It demonstrates a mature command of language with freshness of expression. Sentences vary in structure. Few, if any, errors occur in conventions.
- 5.5:** The writing was given a 5 by one reader and a 6 by the other reader.
- 5.0:** The writing focuses on the topic, is logically organized, and includes ample development of supporting ideas or examples. It demonstrates a mature command of language. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- 4.5:** The writing was given a 4 by one reader and a 5 by the other reader.
- 4.0:** The writing focuses on the topic, though it may contain loosely related information. An organizational pattern is apparent. Support is consistently developed, but it may lack specificity. Word choice is adequate. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- 3.5:** The writing was given a 3 by one reader and a 4 by the other reader.
- 3.0:** The writing generally focuses on the topic, though it may contain loosely related information. An organizational pattern is demonstrated. Development of the supporting ideas may be uneven. Word choice is adequate. There is some variation in sentence structure. Usage, punctuation, and spelling are generally correct.
- 2.5:** The writing was given a 2 by one reader and a 3 by the other reader.
- 2.0:** The writing addresses the topic, but it may lose focus by including extraneous information. An organizational pattern is demonstrated. Development of the supporting ideas may be nonspecific. Word choice may be limited. Errors may occur in the basic conventions.
- 1.5:** The writing was given a 1 by one reader and a 2 by the other reader.
- 1.0:** The writing addresses the topic, but it may lose focus by including extraneous and loosely related ideas. The organizational pattern is weak. Ideas are presented through lists and limited or inappropriate word choice. Frequent errors may occur in sentence construction, usage, punctuation, and spelling.
- U:** The writing is unrelated to the assigned topic or cannot be read.

NRT Student Report



FCAT
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)
NORM-REFERENCED TEST
Grade 10 Student Report

Student Name
CHRISTOPHER A. HIGGINBOTHAMSMITH

ID 67892
School 3991 - Sunshine High
District 99 - Sunshine

A

The FCAT Norm-Referenced Test (FCAT NRT) provides a national, grade-level comparison of student performance in Reading Comprehension and Mathematics. Test scores offer only one account of how a student is doing in school. Other tests, such as the Sunshine State Standards FCAT (SSS FCAT), show how successful a student is on the challenging content of Florida's Sunshine State Standards. Many factors can affect a student's test scores. The staff at the student's school will be able to provide more detailed information about his or her academic performance.

B

SUBJECT SCORES	Scale Score	National Percentile Rank	National Percentile Bands					Stanine	
			1	10	30	50	70		90
Reading Comprehension	XXX	38							4
Mathematics	XXX	26							4

SUBJECT SCORES show a student's NRT performance in several different ways. **Scale Scores** are calculated from the total number of correct responses for each subject area. The scale score is a constant score that indicates performance along a single, comparable scale. It can be used to show how much a student has progressed from one year to the next. Scale scores should not, however, be compared from one subject area to another. **National Percentile Rank (NPR)** is calculated from the Scale Score and ranges from 1 to 99. The NPR indicates a student's relative standing compared to students at the same grade level from across the nation. For example, an NPR of 70 means the student obtained a score equal to or higher than 70 percent of the students in the national sample. **National Percentile Bands** show ranges of scores that are approximate indicators of achievement. If a student took this test again, his or her score would probably fall within the number range shown by the bands. Comparing percentile bands provides a quick reference for subject area strengths and weaknesses. **Stanine** scores are based on the National Percentile Rank. Like Scale Scores and the NPR, Stanine scores indicate how a student performed in relation to the national group. Stanine scores range from 1 (low) to 9 (high).

C

CONTENT SCORES	Number of Questions on Test	Number of Correct Responses	National Mean of Correct Responses
Reading Comprehension	54	38	37
Literary	18	13	13
Informational	18	13	11
Functional	18	12	12
Initial Understanding	12	9	7
Interpretation	20	14	13
Critical Analysis	12	8	9
Strategies	10	7	7
Mathematics	48	31	18
Number Sense and Operations	20	13	4
Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra	10	6	6
Data, Statistics, and Probability	8	7	4
Geometry and Measurement	10	5	4

CONTENT SCORES should not be compared year to year because the content subcategories vary from grade to grade. The **National Mean of Correct Responses** is the average number of correct responses for students in the national sample.

The **Reading Comprehension** test is composed of reading selections and questions about each selection. Approximately one-third of the reading selections fall into each of the following types of reading material:

- **Literary** – Material typically read for enjoyment or literary merit, including folk tales, historical and contemporary fiction, humor, and poetry
- **Informational** – Material typically found in textbooks and other sources of information, including content from the natural, physical, and social sciences
- **Functional** – Material typically encountered in everyday life, such as directions, forms, labels, and advertisements

Test questions are also classified by the following standards:

- **Initial Understanding** – Comprehend explicitly stated details or relationships
- **Interpretation** – Interpret reading selections based on implicit information in the selections and discern ideas that go beyond the text
- **Critical Analysis** – Synthesize and evaluate explicit and implicit information
- **Strategies** – Recognize and describe strategies used by the author or apply appropriate reader strategies

The **Mathematics** test requires students to use logical reasoning and non-routine problem-solving strategies. Each question is reported according to its mathematics content subcategory.

- **Number Sense and Operations** – Understand the meaning and use of numbers, the various representations of numbers, number systems, and the relationships between and among numbers; demonstrate understanding of the meaning of operations, the relationship between operations, and the practical settings in which a specific operation or set of operations is appropriate
- **Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra** – Describe, complete, continue, and demonstrate understanding of patterns involving numbers, symbols, and geometric figures; demonstrate understanding of elementary algebraic principles as found in the relationships between mathematical situations and algebraic symbolism
- **Data, Statistics, and Probability** – Describe, interpret, and make predictions based on the analysis of data presented in a variety of ways; demonstrate understanding of basic probability concepts
- **Geometry and Measurement** – Understand the characteristics and properties of plane and solid figures, coordinate geometry, and spatial reasoning; understand the meaning and use of various measurement systems, the tools of measurement, and the integral role of estimation in measurement

For more information about the FCAT NRT or the Student Report, refer to the publication *Understanding FCAT Reports* on the Florida Department of Education website at www.flde.org.

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STUDENT REPORTS

- A

The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- B

This area shows the student's norm-referenced test (NRT) scores in several different ways for each subject area tested. **Scale scores** are calculated from the total number of correct responses for each subject area. The scale score is a constant score that indicates performance along a single, comparable scale. It can be used to show how much a student has progressed from one year to the next. Scale scores should not, however, be compared from one subject area to another. **National Percentile Rank (NPR)** is calculated from the scale score and ranges from 1 to 99. The NPR indicates a student's relative standing compared to students at the same grade level from across the nation. For example, an NPR of 70 means the student obtained a score equal to or higher than 70 percent of the students in the national sample. **National Percentile Bands** show ranges of scores that are approximate indicators of achievement. If a student took this test again, his or her score would probably fall within the number range shown by the bands. Comparing percentile bands provides a quick reference for subject area strengths and weaknesses. **Stanine** scores are based on the National Percentile Rank. Like scale scores and the NPR, Stanine scores indicate how a student performed in relation to the national group. Stanine scores range from 1 (low) to 9 (high).
- C

The **Content Scores** shown in this area are the actual number of points a student earned. The "Number of Questions on Test" can be compared to the "Number of Correct Responses" to determine a student's success in each area. Content scores should not be compared year to year because the content subcategories vary from grade to grade. The **National Mean of Correct Responses** is the average number of correct responses for students in the national sample. Page 32 of this booklet describes the content assessed on the NRT portion of the FCAT.

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SCHOOL, DISTRICT, AND STATE REPORTS

SSS School Reports of Results Reading, Mathematics, and Science

FCAT Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®		Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® School Report of Students Mathematics SSS: Grade 10					School SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL School ID 9999 District SUNSHINE DISTRICT District ID 99									
		Achievement Level					Points Earned by Content Area					Results for Students Matched to Previous Year				
Student Name	Student ID	Developmental Scale Score (0-3000)	Scale Score (100-500)	Passed (1089 or above)	Achievement Level	Points Possible	Number Sense	Measurement	Geometry	Algebraic Thinking	Data Analysis	Performance Task Points Earned	Achievement Level 2007	Developmental Scale Score (2007)	DSS Change 2008-2007	
ABDOU, JERE E	6598100111	2278	365	Y	D	5	10	7	15	8	15	10	C	5	2263	15
APPLEBEE, CARMINE J	9543215678	NR3														

End of Report

- Content area results are not intended for comparison across administrations.
- NR - Not Reported for one of these reasons: NR2 - Did not meet attemptedness criteria, NR3 - Marked Do Not Score, NR6 - Duplicate Record, NR8 - FDDE Hold

The report format shown above is used for the FCAT Sunshine State Standards Reading, Mathematics, and Science *School Report of Students*. The sample report is the *Grade 10 Mathematics SSS School Report of Students*. Similar formats are used for each subject and grade level.

- A** The title of the report is printed here. It identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the district and school are also printed in this area.
- B** Section B contains column headings that describe the scores included on this report. The name and student ID for all students whose tests were submitted for scoring appear in the first two columns. The Reading and Mathematics *School Report of Students* have columns describing the developmental scale score (DSS) and scale score. The Science reports have only scale scores. The “Passing” columns only appear on the Reading and Mathematics reports for Grades 10–Adult. The *School Report of Students* indicates with a “Y” (Yes) or “N” (No) whether or not a student earned a passing score. The report also indicates the student’s achievement level. The remaining columns in Section B report the points earned in each of the content subcategories. For students receiving “NR,” the footnote at the bottom of the report details reasons why the score is not reported (i.e., NR2—Did not meet attemptedness; NR3—Marked as Do Not Score; NR6—Duplicate Record; NR8—DOE Hold).
- C** Section C provides information on the results matched to the previous year for each student. This section does not appear on Science reports or Grade 3 Reading and Mathematics reports because there is no prior year’s data match. This section includes the previous year’s achievement level and DSS as well as the DSS Change for each student with a record that matched to the previous year. When a student does not have a match to the previous year, an “NM” (Not Matched) will appear in this column.
- D** The first row of information shown in Section D is the “Points Possible,” which varies by subject and grade level. The other information found in Section D is a listing of scores for all students whose tests were submitted for scoring. The *School Report of Students* does not contain summary information.

SSS State and District Reports of Results Reading, Mathematics, and Science

FCAT Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test [®]		Spring 2008 District Report of Schools				District SUNSHINE DISTRICT District ID 99									
		Reading SSS: Grade 10				A									
B	Number of Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score (0–3000)	Mean Scale Score (100–500)	Percent Passing (% 1926 or above)	Percent in Each Achievement Level					Mean Points Earned by Content Area					
					Level 1 844–1851	Level 2 1852–2067	Level 3 2068–2218	Level 4 2219–2310	Level 5 2311–3008	Levels 3–5	Words/Phrases	Main Idea/Purpose	Comparisons	Reference/Research	
C					Points Possible					9	20	8	14		
GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	0291	219	1959	305	64	33	31	20	8	9	72	5	9	6	10
SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL	9999	119	1905	293	55	44	21	19	7	10	68	4	9	7	11

End of Report

- To provide meaningful results and to protect the privacy of individual students, data are printed only when the total number of students in a group is at least 10 and when the performance of individuals would not be disclosed. This presentation of data is shown with a dash (-).
- Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.
- Achievement Levels 3–5 are grouped together for comparison since the percentage “at or above grade level” is necessary for federal AYP reporting.
- Content area results are not intended for comparison across administrations.

The report format shown above is used for several different FCAT Sunshine State Standards Reading, Mathematics, and Science reports. The sample report is the *Grade 10 Reading SSS District Report of Schools*. Similar formats are used for each subject area and grade level. The reports listed below are formatted similarly.

- *District Report of Schools* (shown)
- *State Report of Districts*
- *District Summary*
- *State Summary*

- A** The title of the report is printed here. It identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the district (or of the district and school) are also printed in this area.
- B** Section B contains column headings that describe the scores included on the report. The number of students appears in the first column of all reports. Reading and Mathematics reports of results have columns describing developmental scale scores (DSS) and scale scores. The Science reports of results have only scale scores. The “Percent Passing” column only appears on the Reading and Mathematics reports of results for Grades 10–Adult and indicates the percent of students who earned a passing score in that subject. Achievement level data are also reported in Section B, indicating the percentage of students who scored within each achievement level. The remaining columns in Section B report mean points earned by content subcategory.
- C** The first row of information shown in Section C is the “Points Possible,” which varies by subject and grade level. The other information found in Section C varies depending on the report.
- The *District Report of Schools* displays scores by school.
 - The *State Report of Districts* displays scores by district.
 - The *State Summary* displays state-level scores, grouped by student grade level.
 - The *District Summary* displays district- and state-level scores, grouped by student grade level.

State Reports of Results

The *State Report of Districts* and *State Summary* also include a “Percent Matched” column on the far right. This column indicates the portion of students whose results were able to be matched to the previous year. This column no longer appears on the district reports of results.

NRT Reports of Results Reading and Mathematics

FCAT Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test		Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) NORM-REFERENCED TEST District Report of Schools Grade 10										District Number and Name 99 - SUNSHINE							
		READING										MATHEMATICS							
		Total Test Scores			Mean Points Earned by Content							Total Test Scores			Mean Points Earned by Content				
B			C							C			C						
D			Number of Students	Mean Scale Score	Median NPR	Literary	Informational	Functional	Initial Understanding	Interpretation	Critical Analysis	Strategies	Number of Students	Mean Scale Score	Median NPR	Number Sense and Operations	Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra	Data, Statistics, and Probability	Geometry and Measurement
Number of Points Possible						18	18	18	12	20	12	10				20	10	8	10
National Mean of Correct Responses						13	11	12	7	13	9	7				4	6	4	4
	0001		370	708	61	14	13	14	10	15	11	8	112	705	59	14	7	6	7
	0002		290	704	57	12	11	17	11	18	10	4	204	708	62	13	6	5	6

*No data are reported when fewer than ten students were tested.

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The report format shown above is used for several different FCAT Norm-Referenced Test Reading and Mathematics reports. The sample report is the *Grade 10 District Report of Schools*, but a similar format is used for Grades 3–9. Grades 11–Adult students will not be reported on the *Norm-Referenced Test Reports of Results* because they do not take the Reading or Mathematics NRT tests. The reports listed below are formatted similarly.

- *School Report of Students*
- *District Report of Schools* (shown)
- *State Report of Districts*
- *District Report of Scores*
- *State Report of Scores*

- A** The title of the report is printed here. It identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the school or district are also printed in this area.
- B & C** Sections B (**Reading**) and C (**Mathematics**) contain column headings that describe the scores included on the report. The number of students appears in the first column of all reports except the *School Report of Students*, which displays the student’s scale score, National Percentile Rank (NPR), and total points earned by content subcategory. The remaining reports provide the mean scale score, median NPR, and the mean points earned by content subcategory.
- D** The first row of information shown in Section D is the “Number of Points Possible,” which varies by subject and grade level. The second row of information shown in Section D is the “National Mean of Correct Responses.” This row shows the average number of correct responses for students in the national sample. The other information found in Section D varies depending on the report. The *School Report of Students* lists scores by student, the *District Report of Schools* displays scores by school, and the *State Report of Districts* provides scores by district. The *District Report of Scores* displays district-level scores separated by student grade level. The *State Report of Scores* displays state-level scores separated by student grade level. The “Number of Points Possible” and “National Mean of Correct Responses” lines are printed before the data for the appropriate grade level on the *District Report of Scores* and the *State Report of Scores*.

Reports of Results—Writing+

FCAT Spring 2008
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test®
District Report of Schools
Writing+ Grade 10

District: SUNSHINE DISTRICT
District ID: 99

Section B: Column Headings

- Public Profile
- Mean Writing+ Score (1000-1500)
- Percent in Each Achievement Level
- Mean Points Earned by Multiple-Choice Reporting Category
- Percent and Number of Students Earning Each Score Point on the Prompt

Section C: Prompt Score Distribution

Score	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	P 3.5	P 4.0
Alonzo Senior High School	2%	3%	5%	11%	16%	24%	18%	7%	3%	2%	79%	63%	
Brandon High School	4%	8%	17%	31%	15%	23%	6%				40%	25%	

Section F: District and State Summary

Category	Mean Score	Percent 3.5+	Percent 4.0+
District	3.8	2%	3%
State	3.8	2%	3%

The report format shown above is used for the Writing+ reports listed below. These reports are provided for all three grades tested (Grades 4, 8, and 10).


- District Report of Schools (shown)
- State Report of Districts
- District Summary
- State Summary

- A** The title of the report found in Section A identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the district (or of the district and school) are also printed in this area.
- B** Section B contains column headings that describe the scores included on the report. The number of students appears in the first column of all reports except the *School Report of Students*. This is followed by the Mean Writing+ Score. The remaining columns in Section B report the percentage in each achievement level or mean points earned in each multiple-choice Reporting Category, the Mean prompt score, and the Percent and Number of Students Earning Each Score Point on the Prompt.
- C** Section C contains column headings that show the score point distribution that is based on the final prompt score for each student. Two trained scorers score each paper using the FCAT Writing+ holistic rubric. Although only whole number scores (1 through 6) are assigned, scores from two scorers are averaged and half points can occur. For example, when a paper receives scores of 3 and 4, the final score is 3.5. Very few papers (less than one percent) are identified as unscorable on this report. Section C is not on the *School Report of Students*.
- D** The rows labeled D contain the list of schools (or districts or grades) included in the report. In addition to the types of prompts used at the grade level, there is a summary for all students with an overall score. In order to receive an overall Writing+ Score, students must have a valid score on both the prompt and multiple-choice sections of the test.
- E** Section E contains the percentage and number of students in each category for each prompt type and “Combined.” Note that the “Combined” row includes only students with a Writing+ Score, indicating that valid scores were reported for both the prompt and multiple-choice sections of the test. Each section contributes 50% to the overall score. This section also includes the percentage and number of students receiving a score of 3.5 or above and 4.0 or above.
- F** In all reports except the District Report of Schools, Section F contains district and state summary data, which are printed at the bottom of the last page of the report.

Writing+ School Report of Students (Not Shown)

The *Writing+ School Report of Students* report is not shown in this booklet. This report is an alphabetical list of students who participated in the test. It is presented in a two-column format. The students given one prompt are listed in one of the columns, and the students given the other prompt are listed in the other column. Each student’s scale score, achievement level, points earned in each multiple-choice Reporting Category, and prompt score are listed. The *School Report of Students* does not contain summary data.

SSS Demographic Reports Reading, Mathematics, and Science

 Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® School Demographic Report		School SUNSHINE HIGH SCHOOL School ID 9999 District SUNSHINE DISTRICT District ID 99																													
Reading SSS: Grade 10 B										Mathematics SSS: Grade 10 C																					
Points Possible	Total Test Scores				Percent in Each Achievement Level					Mean Points Earned by Content Area				Total Test Scores				Percent in Each Achievement Level					Mean Points Earned by Content Area								
	Number of Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score (0-3000)	Mean Scale Score (100-500)	Percent Passing (75, 180 or above)	Level 1 844-1851	Level 2 1852-2067	Level 3 2068-2218	Level 4 2219-2310	Level 5 2311-3008	Levels 3-5	Worship/Prayers	Main Idea/Purpose	Comparisons	Reference/Research	Number of Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score (0-3000)	Mean Scale Score (100-500)	Percent Passing (75, 180 or above)	Level 1 1068-1831	Level 2 1832-1946	Level 3 1947-2049	Level 4 2050-2152	Level 5 2153-2709	Levels 3-5	Number Sense	Measurement	Geometry	Algebraic Thinking	Data Analysis		
9	280	1936	302	58	31	35	21	8	5	34	7	19	10	15	8	283	2005	328	82	9	22	25	37	7	69	7	4	5	7	5	
9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Summary																															
School	303	1930	301	57	32	35	20	8	5	33	5	11	7	8	303	1999	327	81	9	23	24	36	8	68	7	4	5	7	5		
District	100,084	1928	300	54	34	34	16	7	7	32	5	11	7	8	100,085	1999	327	81	10	22	29	31	8	67	7	4	5	6	5		
State	100,477	1880	291	48	41	34	15	5	5	25	4	10	6	8	100,471	1972	320	77	14	26	29	25	6	61	7	4	4	6	5		

* To provide meaningful results and to protect the privacy of individual students, data are printed only when the total number of students in a group is at least 10 and when the performance of individuals would not be disclosed. This presentation of data is shown with a dash (-).

* Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.
 * Achievement Levels 3-5 are grouped together for comparison since the percentage "at or above grade level" is necessary for federal AYP reporting.
 * Content area results are not intended for comparison across administrations.

SCHOOL, DISTRICT, AND STATE REPORTS

The report format shown on this page is used for the FCAT Sunshine State Standards Reading, Mathematics, and Science school, district, and state reports of demographic results. A sample of the *Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics School Demographic Report* is shown above. A similar format is used for the Reading and Mathematics reports at Grades 3–9 and the Science reports at Grades 5, 8, and 11.

A The title of the report is printed here. It identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the district (or of the district and school) are also printed in this area.

B & C Sections B (**Reading**) and C (**Mathematics**) contain column headings that describe the scores included on the report. The “Number of Students” appears in the first column. The “Mean Developmental Scale Score” is provided in the second column. The “Mean Scale Score” is provided in the third column. There is no “Mean Developmental Scale Score” on the Science reports. The “Percent Passing” is in the fourth column and indicates the percentage of students who earned a passing score in that subject. This column appears only on the Reading and Mathematics reports for Grade 10. The percent of students who scored in each of the five achievement levels and the “Mean Points Earned” in each content subcategory are also provided.

D The first row of information shown in Section D is the “Points Possible” in each content area. The number of points possible may vary by grade level. The other categories listed in Section D are the demographic groups for which FCAT data are disaggregated. The disaggregated data included in these reports are based on information gathered from the FTE survey. Data on the demographic reports are disaggregated for racial/ethnic categories, gender, and other special categories, including standard curriculum, English Language Learner (ELL), migrant, Section 504, free or reduced lunch, not free or reduced lunch, exceptional student education classifications (ESE), total ESE other than gifted, not ESE plus gifted, and students not matched to the enrollment file.

E Section E contains school, district, and/or state summary data.

Demographic Reports Writing+

FCAT Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test [®]		Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test [®] District Demographic Report Writing+: Grade 10											District SUNSHINE DISTRICT District ID 99																										
Points Possible	Number of Students	Mean Writing+ Score (100-500)	Percent in Each Achievement Level										Mean Points Earned by Multiple-Choice Reporting Category				Percent of Students Earning Each Score Point on the Prompt																						
			Percent Reporting (% 300 or above)										Focus	Organization	Support	Conventions	Mean Prompt Score	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	≥3.5	≥4.0									
			Level 1 (100-249)	Level 2 (250-299)	Level 3 (300-341)	Level 4 (342-402)	Level 5 (403-500)	Levels 3-5																															
White	39	287	NA	17	31	46	3	3	52	6	5	4	5	3.4	3	3	13	10	21	23	23	***	3	3	***	51	28												
Black	10	313	NA	10	20	60	10	***	70	7	6	5	5	3.0	10	***	***	***	20	50	10	10	***	***	***	70	20												
Hispanic	8	—	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	33	187	NA	12	21	45	18	4	67	7	6	5	6	3.5	6	3	3	6	15	12	33	9	9	3	***	67	55												
American Indian/Alaskan	10	219	NA	***	20	40	40	***	80	7	7	5	6	4.0	***	***	10	10	20	30	10	***	***	***	80	60													
Mutiracial/Ethnic	3	—	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreported Race/Ethnicity	2	—	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	53	321	NA	15	27	53	4	1	58	6	5	5	5	3.0	4	2	9	8	19	30	23	2	2	2	***	58	28												
Male	51	320	NA	7	26	43	22	2	67	7	6	5	6	3.0	4	2	2	8	18	16	27	14	8	2	***	67	51												
Unreported Gender	1	—	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Summary																																							
District	1,207	302	NA	4	22	47	31	7	85	6	10	5	8	3.7	1	1	2	12	10	12	35	17	14	4	3	85	73												
State	71,253	302	NA	5	25	49	28	5	82	6	10	5	8	4.0	1	1	3	13	12	12	37	15	13	3	2	82	70												

* To provide meaningful results and to protect the privacy of individual students, data are printed only when the total number of students in a group is at least 10 and when the performance of individuals would not be disclosed. This presentation of data is shown with a dash (-).
 • Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.
 • Achievement Levels 3-5 are grouped together for comparison.
 • Reporting category results are not intended for comparison across administrations.

* Only students with a Writing+ Score are included, indicating that valid scores were reported for both the prompt and multiple-choice sections of the test. Each section contributes 50% to the overall score.
 *** Percentage is <0.5%.

The report format shown on this page is used for school, district, and state reports of the FCAT Writing+ demographic results. The report shown is the *Grade 10 District Demographic Report*. A similar format is used for Grades 4 and 8 where data represent combined results from both prompts.

- A** The title of the report found in Section A identifies the content of the report and the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the school and/or district are also printed in Section A.
- B** Section B contains column headings that describe the scores included in the report. The “Number of Students” appears in the first column of all reports. This is followed by the Mean Writing+ Score. The remaining columns in Section B report the percentage in each achievement level or mean points earned in each multiple-choice Reporting Category, the Mean prompt score, and the Percent and Number of Students Earning Each Score Point on the Prompt.
- C** Section C contains the Mean Prompt Score and the score point distribution based on the final score for each student. Two trained scorers score each paper using the FCAT Writing+ holistic rubric. The score reported is the average of scores from two scorers and half points can occur. For example, when a paper receives scores of 3 and 4, the final score is 3.5. Very few papers (less than one percent) are identified as unscorable on this report. For Grades 4 and 8, these data represent combined results from both prompts. For Grade 10, all students with a Writing+ Score are indicated.
- D** The categories listed in Section D are the demographic groups for which FCAT data are disaggregated. The disaggregated data included in these reports are based on information gathered from the FTE survey. Data on the demographic reports are disaggregated for racial/ethnic categories, gender, and other special categories, including standard curriculum, English Language Learner (ELL), migrant, Section 504, free or reduced lunch, not free or reduced lunch, exceptional student education classifications (ESE), total ESE other than gifted, not ESE plus gifted, and students not matched to the enrollment file.
- E** Section E contains summary data for the school, district, and/or state.

NRT Demographic Reports Reading and Mathematics

Spring 2008 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) NORM-REFERENCED TEST District Demographic Report Grade 10															District Number and Name 99 - SUNSHINE				
B READING										C MATHEMATICS									
Total Test Scores			Mean Points Earned by Content							Total Test Scores			Mean Points Earned by Content						
Number of Students	Mean Scale Score	Median NPR	Literary	Informational	Functional	Initial Understanding	Interpretation	Critical Analysis	Strategies	Number of Students	Mean Scale Score	Median NPR	Number, Sense and Operations	Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra	Data, Statistics, and Probability	Geometry and Measurement			
Number of Points Possible			18	18	18	12	20	12	10				20	10	8	10			
National Mean of Correct Responses			13	11	12	7	13	9	7				4	6	4	4			
RACIAL/ETHNIC/GENDER																			
White			370	707	71	16	13	14	8	13	10	10	370	724	76	10	8	6	5
Black			290	698	56	14	14	12	6	16	13	4	290	713	68	12	4	4	4
Hispanic			359	693	69	15	17	12	7	14	11	5	359	714	69	10	6	5	4
SUMMARY																			
District			1,256	700	71	13	14	14	10	11	11	9	1,314	704	58	10	6	6	5
State			144,776	695	62	12	11	13	9	9	9	10	144,596	710	65	10	4	5	5

The report format shown on this page is used for the FCAT Reading and Mathematics Norm-Referenced Test school, district, and state reports of demographic results. A sample of the *Grade 10 Reading and Mathematics NRT District Demographic Report* is shown above. A similar format is used for Grades 3–9. NRT demographic reports for Grades 11–Adult students are not produced because they do not take this portion of the test.

- A** The title of the report is printed here. It identifies the grade level of the data included in the report. The name and number of the school or district are also printed here.
- B & C** Sections B (**Reading**) and C (**Mathematics**) contain column headings that describe the scores included on the report. The “Number of Students” appears in the first column. The “Mean Scale Score” is provided, followed by the “Median National Percentile Rank” (NPR) instead of the mean, because the arithmetic operations required to obtain the mean are inappropriate with NPR scores. These scores are followed by the “Mean Points Earned by Content.” The content subcategories vary by grade level. There are two grade-level groupings for the NRT content subcategories: 3–8 and 9–10. For a description of the content subcategories for each grade-level grouping, see page 32.
- D** The first row of information shown in Section D is the “Number of Points Possible” in each content area. The second row of information shown in Section D is the “National Mean of Correct Responses.” This row shows the average number of correct responses for students in the national sample. The number of points possible may vary by grade level. The other categories listed in Section D are the demographic groups for which FCAT data are disaggregated. The disaggregated data included in these reports are based on information gathered from the FTE survey. Data on the demographic reports are disaggregated for racial/ethnic categories, gender, and other special categories, including standard curriculum, English Language Learner (ELL), migrant, Section 504, free or reduced lunch, not free or reduced lunch, exceptional student education classifications (ESE), total ESE other than gifted, not ESE plus gifted, and students not matched to the enrollment file.
- E** Section E contains school, district, and state summary data, as applicable.

SSS Reading Content Assessed

The Sunshine State Standards identify the reading comprehension processes and skills that students are expected to be able to apply, and the FCAT Reading test includes a wide variety of written material to assess students' reading comprehension. The FCAT Reading test includes informational and literary reading passages. Informational passages are written to provide readers with factual information. Examples of the types of informational passages used on the FCAT are magazine and newspaper articles, editorials, and biographies. Literary passages are written primarily for readers' enjoyment. Examples of the types of literary passages used on the FCAT are short stories, poems, folk tales, and selections from novels. The Sunshine State Standards Reading portions of the FCAT include the following reading comprehension skills and processes.

Grades 3–5

Words and Phrases in Context

- uses strategies to increase vocabulary through word structure clues (prefixes, suffixes, roots), word relationships (antonyms, synonyms), and words with multiple meanings
- uses context clues to determine word meanings

Main Idea, Plot, and Purpose

- determines the stated or implied main idea or essential message in a text
- identifies relevant details and facts
- recognizes and arranges events in chronological order
- identifies author's purpose in a text
- recognizes when a text is intended to persuade
- understands plot development and conflict resolution in a story

Comparisons and Cause/Effect

- recognizes the use of comparison and contrast
- recognizes cause-and-effect relationships
- identifies similarities and differences among characters, settings, and events in various texts

Reference and Research

- reads, organizes, and interprets written information for various purposes, such as making a report, conducting an interview, taking a test, or performing a task
- uses maps, charts, photos, or other multiple representations of information for research projects

Grades 6–8

Words and Phrases in Context

- uses various strategies, including contextual and word structure clues, to analyze words and text
- draws conclusions from a reading text
- recognizes organizational patterns

Main Idea, Plot, and Purpose

- determines the stated or implied main idea or essential message in a text
- identifies relevant details and facts
- recognizes how an organizational pattern supports the main idea
- identifies and uses the author's purpose and point of view to construct meaning from text
- recognizes persuasive text
- recognizes and understands how literary elements support text (e.g., character and plot development, point of view, tone, setting, and conflicts and resolutions)

Comparisons and Cause/Effect

- recognizes the use of comparison and contrast
- recognizes cause-and-effect relationships

Reference and Research

- locates, organizes, and interprets written information for a variety of purposes
- uses a variety of reference materials to gather information for research projects (e.g., indexes, magazines, newspapers, journals, and card and computer catalogs)
- checks validity and accuracy of research information (e.g., strong versus weak arguments, fact versus opinion, and how authors' personal values influence conclusions)
- synthesizes and separates collected information into useful components

Grades 9–10

Words and Phrases in Context

- selects and uses strategies to understand words and text
- makes and confirms inferences from a reading text
- interprets data presentations (e.g., maps, diagrams, graphs, and statistical illustrations)

Main Idea, Plot, and Purpose

- determines stated or implied main idea
- identifies relevant details
- identifies methods of development
- determines author's purpose and point of view
- identifies devices of persuasion and methods of appeal
- identifies and analyzes complex elements of plot (e.g., setting, tone, major events, and conflicts and resolutions)

Comparisons and Cause/Effect

- recognizes the use of comparison and contrast
- recognizes cause-and-effect relationships

Reference and Research

- locates, gathers, analyzes, and evaluates information for a variety of purposes
- selects and uses appropriate study and research skills and tools according to the type of information being gathered or organized
- analyzes the validity and reliability of primary source information and uses the information appropriately
- synthesizes information from multiple sources to draw conclusions

SSS Mathematics Content Assessed

The FCAT Mathematics test assesses the achievement of the Sunshine State Standards in mathematics. FCAT Mathematics tests for Grades 3 and 4 include only multiple-choice items. FCAT Mathematics tests for Grades 5–10 combine gridded-response items with multiple-choice items. Additionally, Grades 5, 8, and 10 mathematics tests include several performance tasks, scored on 2-point and 4-point rubrics. Approximately the same number of questions is used for each of the five strands in Grades 3 through 8. At Grades 9 and 10, the *Geometry and Spatial Sense* strand and the *Algebraic Thinking* strand have slightly more questions than the other three strands.

The FCAT Mathematics test for all grade levels assesses what students know and are able to do in the broad content strands listed below. The concept difficulty assessed on the FCAT progresses systematically from grade to grade, as does the complexity of the numerals and mathematical operations included at each grade level.

Number Sense, Concepts, and Operations

- identifies operations (+, −, ×, ÷) and the effects of operations
- determines estimates
- knows how numbers are represented and used

Measurement

- recognizes measurements and units of measurement
- compares, contrasts, and converts measurements

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- describes, draws, identifies, and analyzes two- and three-dimensional shapes
- visualizes and illustrates changes in shapes
- uses coordinate geometry

Algebraic Thinking

- describes, analyzes, and generalizes patterns, relations, and functions
- writes and uses expressions, equations, inequalities, graphs, and formulas

Data Analysis and Probability

- analyzes, organizes, and interprets data
- identifies patterns and makes predictions, inferences, and valid conclusions
- uses probability and statistics

SSS Science Content Assessed

The FCAT Science test assesses the achievement of the Sunshine State Standards in science. The FCAT Science test for Grade 5 includes multiple-choice items, and tests for Grades 8 and 11 combine multiple-choice items with gridded-response items. Additionally, each grade's test also includes performance tasks, scored on 2-point and 4-point rubrics. At each grade level, the FCAT Science test includes approximately the same number of questions from each of the four clusters.

Grade 5

Physical and Chemical Sciences

- understands that matter can be described, classified, and compared
- traces the flow of energy in a system
- identifies the differences between renewable and non-renewable energy sources
- describes, predicts, and measures the types of motion and effects of forces
- identifies the types of force that act upon an object

Earth and Space Sciences

- understands that changes in climate, geological activity, and life-forms can be traced and compared
- recognizes that Earth's systems change over time
- identifies the cause of the phases of the Moon and seasons
- recognizes the role of Earth in the vast universe

Life and Environmental Sciences

- understands that living things are different but share similar structures
- recognizes that many characteristics of an organism are inherited
- explains the relationship and interconnectedness of all living things to their environment
- understands that plants use carbon dioxide, minerals, and sunlight to produce food (photosynthesis)

Scientific Thinking

- uses scientific method and processes to solve problems
- recognizes that most natural events occur in consistent patterns
- understands the interdependence of science, technology, and society

Grade 8

Physical and Chemical Sciences

- recognizes the differences between solids, liquids, and gases
- contrasts physical and chemical changes
- identifies atomic structures
- recognizes properties of waves
- describes how energy flows through a system
- describes, measures, and predicts the types of motion and effects of force

Earth and Space Sciences

- recognizes that forces within and on Earth result in geologic structures, weather, erosion, and ocean currents
- explains the relationship between the Sun, Moon, and Earth
- understands that activities of humans affect ecosystems
- compares and contrasts characteristics of planets, stars, and satellites

Life and Environmental Sciences

- identifies the structure and function of cells
- compares and contrasts structures and functions of living things
- understands the importance of genetic diversity
- recognizes how living things interact with their environment

Scientific Thinking

- uses scientific method and processes to solve problems
- recognizes that most natural events occur in consistent patterns
- understands the interdependence of science, technology, and society

Grade 11

Physical and Chemical Sciences

- describes and explains the structure of an atom and its interactions with other atoms
- recognizes and explains chemical reactions
- describes how energy flows through a system
- describes, measures, and predicts the types of motion and effects of force

Earth and Space Sciences

- recognizes that forces within and on Earth result in geologic structures, weather, erosion, and ocean currents
- identifies and explains the interconnectedness of Earth's systems
- understands that activities of humans affect ecosystems
- compares and contrasts characteristics of planets, stars, and satellites

Life and Environmental Sciences

- contrasts and compares the structure and function of major body systems
- recognizes that structures, physiology, and behaviors of living things are adapted to their environment
- identifies and explains the role of DNA
- explains the relationship and interdependence of all living things and their environment

Scientific Thinking

- uses scientific method and processes to solve problems
- recognizes that most natural events occur in consistent patterns
- understands the interdependence of science, technology, and society

SSS Writing+ Content Assessed

The FCAT Writing+ tests measure the writing elements of **focus, organization, support, and conventions**, which are integral to the Sunshine State Standards. The tests include a prompt that presents a topic to which students must respond and multiple-choice questions. Students demonstrate their writing skills by producing, within 45 minutes, a written draft response to an assigned prompt. Grade 4 students respond to a prompt which asks them to tell a story (narrative writing) or to explain (expository writing). Students in Grades 8 and 10 respond to a prompt which asks them to persuade (persuasive writing) or to explain (expository writing). Students also respond to multiple-choice questions which assess prewriting, drafting and revising, and editing. The editing skills include capitalization, punctuation, spelling, usage, and sentence structure.

Grade 4

Writing Process

The student prepares for writing by recording thoughts, focusing on a central idea, grouping related ideas, and identifying the purpose for writing. The student drafts and revises writing in cursive* that

- focuses on the topic;
- provides a logical organizational pattern, including a beginning, middle, conclusion, and transitional devices;
- includes ample development of supporting ideas;
- demonstrates a sense of completeness or wholeness;
- demonstrates a command of language including precision in word choice;
- indicates a general knowledge of the correct use of subject/verb agreement and verb and noun forms;
- includes, with few exceptions, sentences that are complete except when fragments are used purposefully;
- uses a variety of sentence structures; and
- demonstrates a knowledge of the basic conventions of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

The student produces final documents that have been edited for correct spelling, correct use of punctuation, correct capitalization, correct usage, and effective sentence structure.

Grade 8

Writing Process

The student produces final documents that have been edited for correct spelling, correct use of punctuation, correct capitalization, correct usage, and effective sentence structure. The student drafts and revises writing that

- focuses on the topic, is purposeful, and reflects insight into the writing situation;
- conveys a sense of completeness and wholeness and adherence to the main idea;
- provides an organizational pattern with a logical progression of ideas;
- includes support that is substantial, specific, relevant, concrete, and/or illustrative;
- demonstrates a commitment to and an involvement with the subject;
- presents ideas with clarity;
- employs creative writing strategies appropriate to the purpose of the paper;
- demonstrates a command of language (word choice) with freshness of expression;
- includes sentences that are complete except when fragments are used purposefully;
- uses a variety of sentence structures; and
- contains few, if any, convention errors in mechanics, usage, and punctuation.

The student produces final documents that have been edited for correct spelling, correct use of punctuation, correct capitalization, correct usage, and effective sentence structure.

*Language Arts Writing Benchmark LA.B.1.2.2 for Grade 4 states that students should write in cursive. For FCAT Writing+, students may print or write in cursive.

Grade 10

Writing Process

The student prepares for writing by recording thoughts, focusing on a central idea, grouping related ideas, and identifying the purpose for writing. The student drafts and revises writing that

- focuses on the topic, is purposeful, and reflects insight into the writing situation;
- provides an organizational pattern with a logical progression of ideas;
- includes effective use of transitional devices that contribute to a sense of completeness;
- includes support that is substantial, specific, relevant, and concrete;
- demonstrates a commitment to and an involvement with the subject;
- employs creative writing strategies appropriate to the purpose of the paper;
- demonstrates a mature command of language with freshness of expression;
- uses a variety of sentence structures; and
- contains few, if any, convention errors in mechanics, usage, punctuation, and spelling.

The student produces final documents that have been edited for correct spelling, correct use of punctuation, correct capitalization, correct usage, and effective sentence structure.

NRT Reading and Mathematics Content Assessed

Reading Comprehension Content Tested

The FCAT NRT (*Stanford 10*)* Reading Comprehension test is composed of reading selections accompanied by questions about each selection. The selections reflect the kinds of literature students read in school and are written to appeal to students of different backgrounds, experiences, and interests.

Students read and answer questions about the following types of literature:

- *Literary*—material typically read for enjoyment
- *Informational*—material typically found in grade-appropriate textbooks and other sources of information
- *Functional*—material typically encountered in everyday-life situations

The test questions are classified by these standards:

Initial Understanding—Demonstrates the ability to comprehend explicitly stated relationships in a variety of reading selections.

Interpretation—Demonstrates the ability to form an interpretation of a variety of reading selections based on explicit and implicit information in the selections.

Critical Analysis—Demonstrates the ability to synthesize and evaluate explicit and implicit information in a variety of reading selections.

Strategies—Demonstrates the ability to recognize and apply text factors and reading strategies in a variety of reading selections.

Mathematics Content Tested

Student proficiency in mathematics is tested by the FCAT NRT (*Stanford 10*)* at Grades 3–8 with the Mathematics Problem Solving test and with the Mathematics test at Grades 9–10. Test questions require the student to use logical reasoning and non-routine problem-solving strategies. Each test question is classified according to its mathematics content.

Mathematics Content

Number Sense and Operations—Demonstrates understanding of the meaning and use of numbers, the various representations of numbers, number systems, and the relationships between and among numbers. Demonstrates understanding of the meaning of operations, the relationship between operations, and the practical settings in which a specific operation or set of operations is appropriate.

Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra—Describes, completes, continues, and demonstrates understanding of patterns involving numbers, symbols, and geometric figures. Patterns with numbers include those found in lists, function tables, ratios and proportions, and matrices. Demonstrates understanding of elementary algebraic principles as found in the relationships between mathematical situations and algebraic symbolism.

Data, Statistics, and Probability—Describes, interprets, and makes predictions based on the analysis of data presented in a variety of ways, including graphs, plots, tables, and lists. Demonstrates understanding of basic probability concepts.

Geometry and Measurement—Demonstrates understanding of the characteristics and properties of plane and solid figures, coordinate geometry, and spatial reasoning. Demonstrates understanding of the meaning and use of various measurement systems, the tools of measurement, and the integral role of estimation in measurement.

*The FCAT NRT is part of the *Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition*, copyright © 2003 by Harcourt Assessment, Inc.

GLOSSARY

Note: Terms defined in this glossary that have been cross-referenced appear in **color**.

Achievement Levels—Five categories of achievement that represent the success students demonstrate with the **Sunshine State Standards (SSS)** content assessed on the FCAT. The achievement levels for FCAT Reading, FCAT Mathematics, FCAT Science, and **FCAT Writing+** were established using the input of classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, education administrators, and other interested citizens. These professionals helped the Department of Education identify the score ranges for each achievement level. The achievement levels are helpful in interpreting what a student’s **scale score** represents.

Benchmark—A specific statement that describes what students should know and be able to do. The benchmarks are part of the **SSS**.

Cluster—A grouping of related **benchmarks** from the **SSS**. Clusters are used to summarize and report achievement for FCAT **SSS** Reading and FCAT Science.

Content Area—The information or skills contained in an area of study. The content areas (or subject areas) assessed on the FCAT are reading, writing, mathematics, and science.

Content Subscores—The number of **raw score** points earned by a student in each sub-content area of FCAT **SSS** Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing+ (**multiple-choice** questions only). Content subscores are reported for **clusters** in FCAT Reading and FCAT Science, for **strands** in FCAT Mathematics, and by **reporting category** in **FCAT Writing+**. For example, in Mathematics, subscores are reported for number sense, measurement, geometry, algebra, and data analysis and probability.

Demographic Reports—Summary reports that represent the scores of various subgroups of the students tested. The information collected about students at the time they take the FCAT includes: name, student identification number, race/ethnicity, gender, and other demographic information. This demographic information and other information is verified from existing Florida Department of Education and school district databases before the reports are produced.

Developmental Scale Score (DSS)—A type of **scale score** used to determine a student’s annual progress from grade to grade. The FCAT Developmental Scale for Reading and Mathematics ranges from 86 to 3008 across Grades 3–10. On the **SSS Reading and Mathematics Student and Parent Report**, the developmental scale score is called the **FCAT Score**.

DSS Change—A calculation made by the subtraction of two years’ **developmental scale scores**, which yields the amount of change across the two years, e.g., 2008 DSS – 2007 DSS = DSS Change. This number can be large for students who move from a low Achievement Level 1 score to a low Achievement Level 2 score. It also can be small for a student who maintains a high score in Achievement Level 4. The DSS Change can be understood best when also considering the **achievement level** scores for the two years.

English Language Learners (ELLs)—Students that are classified as English language learners and are enrolled in an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program are permitted testing accommodations when taking the FCAT. All ELLs are required to take the FCAT. Students that have been in an approved ESOL program for 12 months or less may be exempted from taking the FCAT by majority decision of the ELL Committee. ELLs exempted from the FCAT must be tested using an approved alternative assessment.

Exceptional Student Education (ESE)—Special educational services that are provided to eligible students, e.g., visually impaired, hearing impaired. These services are required by Federal law and are provided to Florida students according to the State Board of Education Rule 6A-6.0331, FAC. Students demonstrate the conditions required for the services, and services are provided as described in an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The IEP also specifies the testing accommodations a student needs for classroom instruction and assessments.

Expository Writing—Writing that gives information, explains why or how, clarifies a process, or defines a concept. In **FCAT Writing+**, students in Grades 4, 8, and 10 are assigned **prompts** that are intended to result in expository writing.

FCAT Score—The FCAT Scores for Science and **Writing+** are **scale scores** which range from 100 to 500. The FCAT Scores for **SSS** Reading and **SSS** Mathematics are reported using the **developmental scale score (DSS)**. The DSS ranges from 86 to 3008 across Grades 3–10 and provides a way for parents to track their student’s annual academic progress from grade to grade.

FCAT Writing+—In 2006, the Florida Department of Education expanded the FCAT Writing assessment at Grades 4, 8, and 10 to include **multiple-choice (MC)** questions. To reflect this addition, the writing assessment is called FCAT Writing+ (**prompt** plus **MC** items). The test is composed of a **prompt** section, which requires students to write a response to an assigned topic, as well as an **MC** section. Students receive an overall score combining the **MC** portion and the **prompt** portion, with each section weighted 50%. In order to receive an FCAT Writing+ Score, students must have a valid score on both the **prompt** and the **MC** section of the test. The **rubric** score from the **prompt** and **MC content subscores** are also reported.

Gridded-Response (GR)—Test questions that require students to solve a problem for which the answer is numerical. Answers must be written and bubbled into a number grid. The gridded-response question format is used in FCAT Mathematics (Grades 5–10) and FCAT Science (Grades 8 and 11).

Holistic Scoring—A method of scoring written work that considers the overall quality of the entire work. Scores are assigned to student work using a pre-defined **rubric**.

Learning Gains—As part of the school grading system, annual learning gains can be shown three ways.

- (1) Improving an **achievement level**, e.g., from Achievement Level 1 to Achievement Level 2.
- (2) Maintaining an Achievement Level 3, 4, or 5. Maintaining high scores with harder content each year shows an increase in learning.
- (3) Showing adequate **DSS Change** if students stay in Achievement Levels 1 or 2.

Limited English Proficient (LEP)—See **English Language Learner (ELL)**.

Mean—An average of the individual scores that describes the performance of a group of students. The mean is computed by finding the sum of all scores and dividing by the number of students.

Median—A score that identifies the middle value of a group of data. The median is the point at which a group of numbers (scores) is divided in half (50% above and below).

Mode—The most frequently occurring score in a set of scores. If a distribution of scores is statistically normal, the **mean**, **median**, and mode are the same score.

Mode of Writing—The characteristics of written work that reveal the purpose of the writing. **FCAT Writing+** assesses three modes of writing: **narrative**, **expository**, and **persuasive**.

Multiple-Choice (MC)—Test questions that present students with several options from which to choose the correct answer. FCAT Reading, **FCAT Writing+**, FCAT Mathematics, and FCAT Science use items in which four choices are given, only one of which is correct. The three-option **MC** format is also used in **FCAT Writing+**.

Narrative Writing—Writing that recounts a personal or fictional experience or tells a story based on a real or imagined event. In **FCAT Writing+**, only students in Grade 4 are assigned a **prompt** that is intended to result in narrative writing.

National Mean of Correct Responses—The average number of correct responses for students in the national sample. A student's individual points earned can be compared to the national mean.

National Percentile Rank (NPR)—A score that shows the percent of students who earned the same or a lower score. NPRs are reported for the **norm-referenced test** and show the rank of an individual compared to a national sample of students or norm group. They do not compare an individual to the Florida students who took the test.

Norm-Referenced Test (NRT)—A test designed to compare the performance of one group of students to a national sample of students, called the norm group. The NRT portion of FCAT includes the Reading Comprehension and Mathematics Problem Solving subtests (Mathematics at Grades 9 and 10) from the *Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition*, published by Harcourt Assessment, Inc. The FCAT NRT uses a scale that in Reading Comprehension has a range from a low of 449 in Grade 3 to a high of 834 in Grade 10. In Mathematics Problem Solving/Mathematics, the range is from a low of 434 in Grade 3 to a high of 885 in Grade 10.

Performance Tasks—Test questions that require students to write their answers instead of choosing one from several choices or gridding their response. Two types of performance tasks, short- and extended-response, are used in FCAT Reading, FCAT Mathematics, and FCAT Science. Short-response (SR) questions ask for short answers like describing a character in a story, writing a mathematical equation, or explaining a scientific concept. Extended-response (ER) questions require longer answers, such as comparing two passages, constructing a graph, or describing the steps in an experiment. In **FCAT Writing+**, a **prompt** performance task requires students to apply their writing skills by writing a draft response to an assigned topic.

Persuasive Writing—Writing that attempts to convince the reader that a point of view is valid or that the reader should take a specific action. In **FCAT Writing+**, students in Grades 8 and 10 are assigned **prompts** that are intended to result in persuasive writing.

Points Possible—The number of “Points Possible” shows the total number of machine-scorable test questions and **performance task** points on a test. The number of “Points Earned” shows how many of these points the student earned. These types of scores are reported only for the **content subscores**, and the number of points possible in a subscore may change slightly each year.

Prompt—The topic a student is given on which to write in **FCAT Writing+**. The prompt has two parts: the *writing situation* (presents and clarifies the topic) and the *directions for writing* (guides the student to think about the topic and suggests an approach that may help the student begin writing).

Raw Score—A score that reports the number of points a student earned on each test question. Students earn one raw score point for each correctly answered **multiple-choice** item and **gridded-response** item, and up to four raw score points on **performance tasks**. Raw scores are reported by **content subscores**.

Reporting Category—The reporting category subscores for **FCAT Writing+** are similar to the **content subscores** in FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The **Writing+** reporting category **subscores** are based on the number of points the student earned for the writing elements of *focus*, *organization*, *support*, and *conventions*.

Rubric—The scoring guidelines or criteria used to evaluate all FCAT **performance tasks**. The rubric describes what is required for each possible score point.

Scale Score—The score used to report test results on the entire test. FCAT **SSS** scale scores range from 100 to 500 for each grade level and **content area**. A computer program is used to analyze student responses and to compute the scale score. The Reading and Mathematics scale score is not provided on the Student and Parent Report. FCAT **NRT** scale scores are solely determined by **raw score** point totals.

Section 504—A special classification of students as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Testing accommodations are permitted for students who meet the 504 criteria.

Stanine—Standard scores that divide a distribution of scores into nine parts. The word *stanine* comes from the fact that it is a STANDARD score on a scale of NINE units.

State Means—The average score for each grade used for comparison purposes. Individual student scores, school mean scores, or district mean scores can be compared to state averages.

Strands—The broad divisions of content in the **SSS**. For example, in the Language Arts **SSS**, there are seven strands (Reading, Writing, Listening, Viewing, Speaking, Language, and Literature).

Subcategories—See **Content Subscores**.

Subscores—See **Content Subscores**.

Sunshine State Standards (SSS)—Florida’s curriculum framework that includes curriculum **content areas**, **strands**, standards, and **benchmarks**. The Sunshine State Standards provide guidelines for the educational curriculum in Florida.



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