CELLA Interpretive Guide

The Purpose of the CELLA

Florida uses the Comprehensive English Language Learning Assessment (CELLA) as a tool to measure the progress of English Language Learners' (ELLs) proficiency in English; thus, ensuring the skills needed in school to achieve at high levels, academically. For more information about the CELLA, read the CELLA Parent Information Brochure distributed by the school. Visit the Florida CELLA website at http://www.fldoe.org/aala/cella.asp to download the Interpretive Guide in the following languages:

- English
- Spanish
- Arabic
- Chinese/Zhongwen
- French
- Haitian Creole
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Tagalog
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

Uses of the CELLA Scores

The CELLA provides individual student information to parents and teachers. It also provides information to schools, districts, and the state on how well a school's programs are working.

The CELLA provides evidence of program accountability in accordance with Title I and Title III of No Child Left Behind (NCLB). NCLB mandates schools and districts to meet state accountability objectives for increasing the English language proficiency of English language learners. These accountability requirements are called Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs).

States are required to report on the achievement of three AMAOs:

1. Progress towards acquiring English language proficiency

2. Attainment of English language proficiency

3. Adequate yearly progress in academic reading and mathematics by ELLs

Annual goals must be set for each objective. Districts that do not meet the goals for all three AMAOs must inform the parents of all ELLs about the district's performance. This notice must be provided, if possible, in a language the parent understands. For additional information regarding NCLB, go to http://www.fldoe.org/nclb.

QAI09726

The CELLA Individual Student Report (ISR)

Every student who takes the CELLA will receive an ISR containing information about his or her performance on the test. A sample of the front page of an ISR is below. The letters A, B, C, and D match the descriptions of the information provided.

Florida Comprehensive English Language Learning Assessment
2012 Student Report

(A)

Student Name: **FIRST NAME MI LAST NAME**
Student ID#: **0123456789**   Date of Birth: **mm/dd/yyyy**
Home Language: **Spanish**   Test Date: **mm/dd/2012**
Grade: **12**   Test Level: **D**
School: **(1234) SCHOOL NAME - MAX 40 CHARACTERS**
District: **(12) DISTRICT NAME - MAX 40 CHARACTERS**

Students are assigned a scale score for each subject. This scale score is a conversion of the points scored for a subject to a common scale that allows for a comparison between students and summarizes the overall level of performance attained by each student.

(B)

LISTENING/SPEAKING

Proficient
739–835

High Intermediate
714–738   ◄ 715

Low Intermediate
682–713

Beginning
580–681

Listening
Points Scored   16
Possible Points   22
Speaking
Points Scored   17
Possible Points   24

Scale Score   **715**

High Intermediate

READING

Proficient
778–820

High Intermediate
762–777   ◄ 759

Low Intermediate
744–761

Beginning
605–743

Reading
Points Scored   18
Possible Points   26

Scale Score   **759**

Low Intermediate

WRITING

Proficient
746–850

High Intermediate
721–745

Low Intermediate
690–720   ◄ 697

Beginning
600–689

Writing
Points Scored   21
Possible Points   39

Scale Score   **697**

Low Intermediate

(C)

Listening/Speaking Sub-Scores	Points	
	Scored	Possible
Listening - Sentences This score measures the student's ability to understand a single sentence that describes a picture.	6	8
Listening Comprehension - Short Talks This score measures the student's ability to understand short listening passages.	5	8
Listening Comprehension - Extended Speech This score measures the student's ability to understand extended listening passages, including passages that present academic information.	5	6
Speaking Vocabulary This score measures the student's knowledge of oral vocabulary.	3	6
Speaking - Asking Questions This score measures the student's ability to ask questions accurately and appropriately.	6	8
Speaking - Extended Speech This score measures the student's ability to express an opinion, retell a story, and talk about information shown in a graph.	8	10

Reading/Writing Sub-Scores	Points	
	Scored	Possible
Reading Vocabulary This score measures the student's ability to read and understand vocabulary words.	6	9
Reading Comprehension This score measures the student's ability to understand reading passages, including passages that present academic information	12	17
Writing - Grammar This score measures the student's ability to answer questions related to English grammar, sentence structure, and word choice.	5	9
Writing - Sentences This score measures the student's ability to write descriptive sentences and to write questions.	6	12
Writing - Paragraphs This score measures the student's ability to write paragraphs.	7	12
Writing - Editing This score measures the student's ability to identify errors in grammar, mechanics, and word choice.	3	6

(D)

NT (Not Tested) – Student answered too few items to receive a score or student not tested for the subject.

ET (Exempt from Test) – Student was not tested due to being exempted from the subject

NS (No Score) – Test was invalidated.

OLT (Off Level Test) – Test level not appropriate for student's grade level.

* For information regarding performance, please see the information provided on the back of this report.

* For information regarding preformance, please see the back of this report.

(A) Student Information

This section displays the student's name, identification number, date of birth, home language, test date, grade, and test level. In addition, this section includes information of the school and district that administered the CELLA to the student.

(B) Scale Scores

This section summarizes the student's performance within each section (Listening/Speaking, Reading, and Writing) of the CELLA. The following information is shown in the blue boxes:

Performance Level is indicated by a black arrow that points to the rank of the student's Performance Level (Beginning, Low Intermediate, High Intermediate, and Proficient) and shows how the student's score compares to all possible scores on that section of the test. The rank of the Performance Level within each section is listed again at the bottom of the blue boxes.

Points Scored is the number of points the student earned on that section of the test.

Possible Points is the number of points the student would receive if he or she answered every question correctly.

Scale Scores show the student's performance on each section of the test.

Note:

NT (Not Tested) displayed in any Scale Score box means that the student did not complete enough test questions to provide a valid test score.

ET (Exempted from Test) displayed in any Scale Score box means that the student was not given that section of the test.

For additional information on why the student did not receive a score or was exempted, contact the student's teacher.

Ⓒ Sub-Scores

This section of the Student Report displays the sub-scores. Sub-scores are given for Listening/ Speaking and Reading/Writing. These sub-scores give more detailed information about the student's academic strengths and weaknesses.

Sub-scores are considered "raw scores," which include the number of points the student scored correctly on that section of the test. As a result, sub-scores are only valuable in relation to the test and cannot be compared from year to year.

For students taking Level A, the number of points possible in the sub-scores for a section may not add up to the total number of possible points in that section of the test as a whole. That is because some test items are included in the overall score, but are not included in the sub-scores.

Ⓓ Footnotes

Footnotes define the abbreviations that might appear on the Student Report.

NT (Not Tested) – The student answered too few items to receive a score, or the student was not tested for that section.

ET (Exempted from Test) – The student was not tested due to being exempted from that section. Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students are the only students that may be exempted from a test section.

NS (No Score) – The student's test for the section was invalidated.

OLT (Off Level Test) – The test level was not appropriate for the student's grade level.

How to Understand the CELLA Scale Scores

The Proficiency Level Descriptors explain each Scale Score by describing what the student knows and is able to do in English. The range of the Scale Scores, from the lowest possible score to the highest possible score, is shown below for each section of the test:

Scale Score Ranges

LISTENING & SPEAKING SKILLS					
Grades	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Proficiency Level Descriptors
Beginning	495-632	560-675	565-680	580-681	Student speaks and understands spoken English that is below grade level.
Low Intermediate	633-649	676-697	681-712	682-713	Student speaks in English and understands spoken English that is at or below grade level.
High Intermediate	650-672	698-719	713-732	714-738	Student, with minimal support, speaks in English and understands spoken English that is at grade level.
Proficient	673-755	720-805	733-830	739-835	Student speaks in English and understands spoken English at grade level in a manner similar to non-ELL students.

READING					
Grades	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Proficiency Level Descriptors
Beginning	345-545	590-689	600-713	605-743	Student reads in English below grade level text.
Low Intermediate	546-628	690-714	714-741	744-761	Student reads in English at or below grade level text.
High Intermediate	629-689	715-733	742-758	762-777	Student reads in English at grade level text with minimal support.
Proficient	690-800	734-810	759-815	778-820	Student reads in English grade level text in a manner similar to non-ELL students.

WRITING					
Grades	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Proficiency Level Descriptors
Beginning	515-636	575-674	580-687	600-689	Student writes in English below grade level and requires continuous support.
Low Intermediate	637-657	675-702	688-719	690-720	Student writes in English at or below grade level and requires some support.
High Intermediate	658-689	703-726	720-745	721-745	Student writes in English at grade level with minimal support
Proficient	690-775	727-825	746-845	746-850	Student writes in English at grade level in a manner similar to non-ELL students.

The score ranges and descriptions of the English proficiency levels are also located on the back page of the Student Report.