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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 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—Grades 3–10
- FCAT Writing+—Grades 4, 8, and 10
- FCAT SSS Science—Grades 5, 8, and 11
- FCAT NRT Reading and Mathematics—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 determine a numeric answer and bubble it in on a 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 provided in this booklet.

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 one of two randomly assigned topics. 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 available and 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 the next page provides a list of reports included in this booklet, the grade levels at which they apply, and the page number on which each report is described. Keep in mind that although this booklet does not contain samples of all reports, the Grade 10 or Grade 11 samples provided are similar in content and layout to other reports. Information about FCAT scores and reports is also available on the FCAT home page of the DOE website at www.fldoe.org.

FCAT Reports Chart

	FCAT Report Title	Grades	Page of Report Description
S	Certificate of Achievement	3–11	5
eport	SSS Grade 10 Pass/Fail Student Label	10–Adult	6*
	SSS Reading & Mathematics Retake Student and Parent Report	10–Adult	7
	SSS Reading & Mathematics Student and Parent Report	3–10	9*
~	Science Student and Parent Report	5, 8, and 11	10*
ent	Writing+ Student and Parent Report	4, 8, and 10	11*
<u>o</u>	Reading & Mathematics NRT Student Report	3–10	14*
2	SSS Reading Performance Task Student and Parent Report	4, 8, and 10	15*
Stud	SSS Mathematics Performance Task Student and Parent Report	5, 8, and 10	15
U)	Science Performance Task Student and Parent Report	5, 8, and 11	15
ts	Reading SSS School Report of Students	3–Adult	26
	Mathematics SSS School Report of Students	3–Adult	26*
eports	Science School Report of Students	5, 8, and 11	26
e	Reading & Mathematics NRT School Report of Students	3–10	28
~	Writing+ School Report of Students	4, 8, and 10	29
0	Reading & Mathematics SSS School Demographic Report	3–10	30*
chool	Science School Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	30
C	Writing+ School Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	31
S	Reading & Mathematics NRT School Demographic Report	3–10	32
	Reading SSS District Report of Schools	3–Adult	27*
	Mathematics SSS District Report of Schools	3–Adult	27
S	Science District Report of Schools	5, 8, and 11	27
	Reading SSS District Summary	3–Adult	27
12	Mathematics SSS District Summary	3–Adult	27
eport	Science District Summary	5, 8, and 11	27
	Reading & Mathematics NRT District Report of Schools	3–10	28*
1 7	Reading & Mathematics NRT District Report of Scores	3–10	28
District	Writing+ District Report of Schools	4, 8, and 10	29*
St	Writing+ District Summary	4, 8, and 10	29
	Reading & Mathematics SSS District Demographic Report	3–10	30
	Science District Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	30
	Writing+ District Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	31*
	Reading & Mathematics NRT District Demographic Report	3–10	32*
	Reading SSS State Report of Districts	3–Adult	27
	Mathematics SSS State Report of Districts	3–Adult	27
	Science State Report of Districts	5, 8, and 11	27
ts	Reading SSS State Summary	3–Adult	27
J O	Mathematics SSS State Summary	3–Adult	27
d	Science SSS State Summary	5, 8, and 11	27
Reports	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Report of Districts	3–10	28
	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Report of Scores Writing State Report of Districts	3–10	28
State	Writing+ State Report of Districts	4, 8, and 10	29 20
ta	Writing+ State Summary Positing & Mothematics SSS State Demographic Pencut	4, 8, and 10	29
S	Reading & Mathematics SSS State Demographic Report	3–10	30
	Science State Demographic Report	5, 8, and 11	30
	Writing+ State Demographic Report	4, 8, and 10	31
	Reading & Mathematics NRT State Demographic Report	3–10	32

^{*}Reports printed in bold are displayed in this booklet.

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.

- Level 5 This student has success with the most challenging content of the Sunshine State Standards. A student scoring in Level 5 answers most of the test questions correctly, including the most challenging questions.
- Level 4 This student has success with the challenging content of the Sunshine State Standards. A student scoring in Level 4 answers most of the test questions correctly, but may have only some success with questions that reflect the most challenging content.
- Level 3 This student has partial success with the challenging content of the Sunshine State Standards, but performance is inconsistent. A student scoring in Level 3 answers many of the test questions correctly, but is generally less successful with questions that are the most challenging.
- Level 2 This student has limited success with the challenging content of the Sunshine State Standards.
- Level 1 This student has little success with the challenging content of the Sunshine State Standards.

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)										
	I	Reading	3		Grade		Мс	ıthema	tics	
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Grade	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		Мс	ıthemat	ics	
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Grade	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	10 100-249 250-299 300-341 342-402 403-500					
*Pendin	g approval	by the Stat	e Board of I	Education		

Graduation Requirement

Students who expect to graduate from high school in the 2006–2007 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 and Reading Retake Test

1926 (Scale Score of 300) or above

FCAT SSS Mathematics 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.

The State Board of Education will approve a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT Writing+ test. This graduation requirement will affect students who expect to graduate from high school in the 2009–2010 school year and beyond.

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 will not result in a certificate.

Student Reports

No Data Reported

The following abbreviations may appear on some 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.

NA (Data 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 are reported from the prior year.

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

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%.

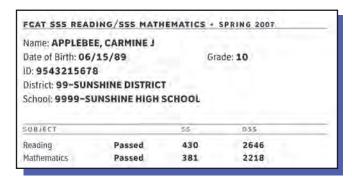
A double asterisk (**) on the reports indicates that no students in this grade met the criteria for reporting.

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

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.



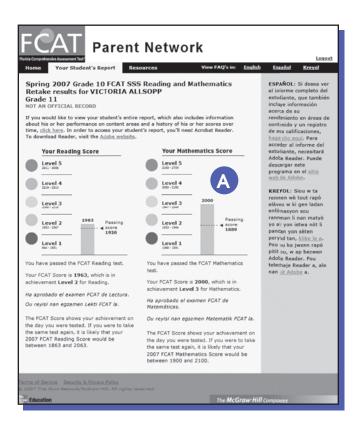
Sunshine State Standards Reading and Mathematics Retake Student and Parent Report

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.

The student, school, and district are identified in the upper right corner of page 1 of the report. 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 took the test again without additional instruction. Students who received additional instruction would likely improve their scores.

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 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 "Points Possible" column within the table provides the total number of points possible per subcategory. 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 33–35 of this booklet describe the content assessed on the Reading and Mathematics SSS portions of the FCAT.

FCAT Parent Network



The FCAT Parent Network, www.FCATParentNetwork.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 pre-enrolled students with a match to 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. The **Home Page** contains a login screen, information regarding which results are currently available, and expected timing for the posting of future results.



The **Results Page** displays secure information regarding the student's FCAT Score (the Reading and Mathematics 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 took the test again without additional instruction. Students who received 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 results page for Reading and Mathematics Retake tests is included above.

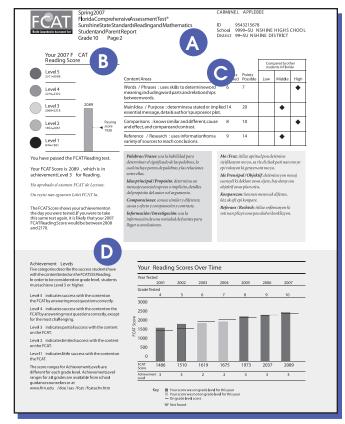
The site also includes a page with links to FCAT **Resources** as well as **Frequently Asked Questions** pages in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. These pages include technical assistance for using the site as well as information on the FCAT and which results are included on the *FCAT Parent Network*.

Sunshine State Standards 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 2007 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.

- The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- 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 took the test again, without additional instruction. Students who received additional instruction would likely improve their scores.

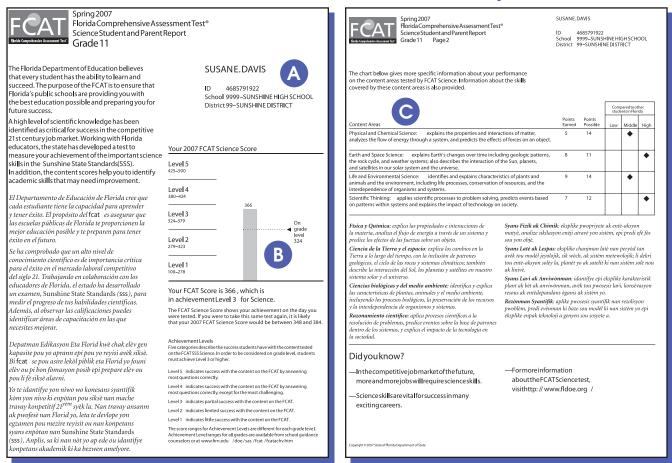
In this section, the Reading (or Mathematics) content subcategories are listed, along with a description of the content assessed within that subcategory. Spanish and Haitian Creole translations of this information are also provided. The titles of the content subcategories are the same across all grade levels; however, the actual content varies by grade level based on the benchmarks at each grade. Pages 33–35 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 comparison in thirds is also provided. A diamond will indicate whether the student's points earned fell in the Low, Middle, or High third of scores across the state for each content subcategory.

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 is used to determine a student's annual progress from grade to grade. Developmental scores range 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.

Science Student and Parent Report

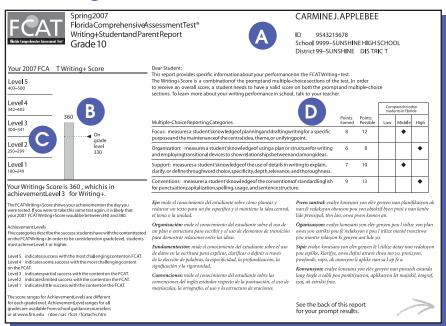


The *Science Student and Parent Report* is a one-page, two-sided document. The information on both of these pages is translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole.

- A The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- 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 took the test again, without additional instruction. Students who received additional instruction would likely improve their scores.
- 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 36 and 37 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 students for each subcategory. The state comparison in thirds is also provided. A diamond indicates whether the student's points earned fell in the Low, Middle, or High third of scores across the state for each content subcategory.

Writing+ Student and Parent Report



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.
- 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 student to be On Grade Level (Level 3). The footnote below this table describes the range within which a student's FCAT Writing+ Score would likely fall if the student took the test again, without additional instruction. Students who received 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.
- The FCAT achievement level cut scores shown here are pending approval by the State Board of Education.
- 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 Earned" column shows the actual number of points the student earned in each Reporting Category, and the "Points Possible" column shows the total number of points possible for each of the Reporting Categories. In the last three columns, the diamond shows if the student's score is in the Low, Middle, or High third for each Reporting Category, as compared to the scores of other students in Florida.

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 38 and 39 of this booklet. The FCAT Writing+ Holistic Rubrics (example on page 13) appears 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+, see *Florida Writes! Report on the 2007 FCAT Writing+ Assessment* (individual booklets for Grade 4, Grade 8, and Grade 10).

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			
Rubric score of 1-6	Points earned/possible	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 the 2007 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

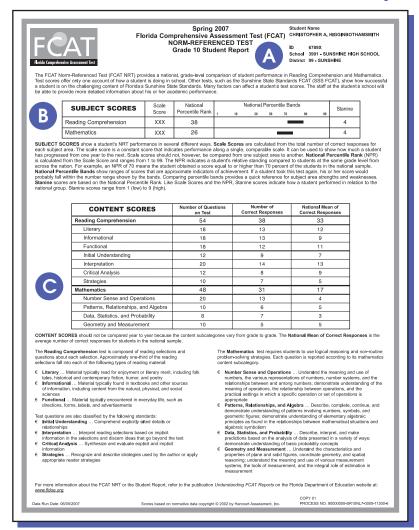
- 6.0: The writing focuses on the topic, is logically organized, and includes substantial development of supporting ideas or examples. It demonstrates a mature command of language, including precision in word choice. Sentences vary in structure. Conventions are generally correct.
- **5.5:** The writing 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
- 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.

ISD1406

Norm-Referenced Test Student Report



- The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- 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).
- 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 40 of this booklet describes the content assessed on the NRT portion of the FCAT.

Performance Task Student and Parent Report— Reading, Mathematics, and Science



Spring 2007 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® Sunshine State Standards Reading Performance Task Student and Parent Report

Grade 10

This report shows your results on the FCAT Reading performance tasks. Each performance task on the FCAT requires either a short response or a longer, more detailed response. Short-response tasks are worth up to 2 points and extended-response tasks are worth up to 4 points.

One of the short-response tasks is shown below with a copy of your answer. The number of points you earned on all performance task items is also included.



CARMINE J. APPLEBEE

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



This task required the student to read a story about a man who travels through the woods and then to describe the man's favorite pattern of tracks which he encounters twice on his journey.



Your Score

2 out of 2 points	On this performance task		
	On all Reading performance		
8 out of 10 points	task responses		



[An image of the student's response will appear on the lower half of the report.]

Separate FCAT performance task reports are provided for Reading, Mathematics, and Science, as appropriate, by grade level. This booklet contains a sample of the *Reading Sunshine State Standards Performance Task Student and Parent Report*. The *Mathematics Sunshine State Standards Performance Task Student and Parent Report* and the *Science Sunshine State Standards Performance Task Student and Parent Report* are organized in an identical manner.

- The student, school, and district are identified in this area.
- B This area describes what the FCAT 2007 Reading performance task requires. For Reading, this area provides a summary of the passage the student read and a summary of the task. For Mathematics and Science, an image of the question or the exact wording of the question is provided.
- This table displays the student's score on the task. The first row shows the number of points earned out of the number of points possible for the response shown in the lower section of the report (Section D). The second row shows the total points earned out of the total points possible on all of the performance tasks included in the test. The total points earned by the student can be compared to the points possible to determine the amount of success a student has demonstrated on the performance tasks.
- This area displays a copy of the student's actual response to this question. Student answer documents are scanned using imaging technology so that the responses can be scored and this report can be prepared. On rare occasions, student responses are transcribed so they can be scanned and converted to images. Therefore, if the writing doesn't appear to be that of the student, it is likely that it has been transcribed. Correct answers to the performance tasks displayed on the student reports and the holistic rubrics used to evaluate student work are found on pages 16 and 17 (FCAT Reading), pages 18–21 (FCAT Mathematics), and pages 22–25 (FCAT Science).

FCAT Reading Performance Tasks and Examples of Top-Score Responses

For additional information about the following FCAT Reading performance tasks, see *Florida Reads! Report on the 2007 FCAT Reading Released Items*.

Grade 4 Reading Short-Response Task



The poem says that bees are good helpers. Describe ways in which bees are helpful to people and plants. Use details and information from the poem to support your answer.

Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

An explanation similar to the following:

Bees are helpful to people because they are the only insect that makes something we eat—honey. They are helpful to flowers and plants by mixing the pollen from blossoms. The pollen helps to make new seeds. Bees help make it possible for orchards to grow apples and peaches.

Grade 8 Reading Short-Response Task



When the State Birds and Flowers stamp set was first issued, the Postmaster General said, "I have never been more proud of any stamps than the ones we are issuing today." Why was the Postmaster General so proud of these stamps? Use details and information from the article to support your answer.

Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

An explanation similar to the following:

The stamps were difficult to produce because of the multicolor complexity and minute detail. The artistic work on the individual stamps had to be unique to each state's bird and flower, and all information had to be verified by each state's governor. This high-quality stamp set was the result of a lot of time and hard work by many people.

Grade 10 Reading Short-Response Task



Twice on his journey the author encounters his favorite pattern of tracks. Describe the track patterns he sees and the animals that make them. Use details and information from the passage to support your answer.

Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

An explanation similar to the following:

One of the author's favorite sights in the woods is a track triangle made by three sets of tracks that intersect to form a triangle in the snow. The first triangle the author saw was made by the tracks of a fox, a snowshoe hare, and a red squirrel. The second, smaller track triangle the author found was made by a small snowshoe hare, a ruffed grouse, and a white-footed mouse. Because these two track triangles were each made by three different kinds of animal footprints, they were even more special to the author.

FCAT Reading Holistic Rubrics

Short-Response Tasks

2 Points: The response indicates that the student has a complete understanding of the reading

concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that is accurate, complete, and fulfills all the requirements of the task. Necessary support and/or examples are included, and the information given is clearly text-based.

1 Point: The response indicates that the student has a partial understanding of the reading

concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that includes information that is essentially correct and text-based, but the information is too general or too simplistic. Some of the support and/or examples may be incomplete or

omitted.

O Points: The response indicates that the student does not demonstrate an understanding of the

reading concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that is inaccurate; the response has an insufficient amount of information to determine the student's understanding of the task; or the student has failed to respond to the task.

Extended-Response Tasks

4 Points: The response indicates that the student has a thorough understanding of the reading

concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that is accurate, complete, and fulfills all the requirements of the task. Necessary support and/or examples are included, and the information given is clearly text-based.

3 Points: The response indicates that the student has an understanding of the reading concept

embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that is accurate and fulfills all the requirements of the task, but the required support and/or details are not

complete or clearly text-based.

2 Points: The response indicates that the student has a partial understanding of the reading

concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that includes information that is essentially correct and text-based, but the information is too general or too simplistic. Some of the support and/or examples and requirements of

the task may be incomplete or omitted.

1 Point: The response indicates that the student has very limited understanding of the reading

concept embodied in the task. The response is incomplete, may exhibit many flaws,

and may not address all requirements of the task.

O Points: The response indicates that the student does not demonstrate an understanding of the reading concept embodied in the task. The student has provided a response that is

inaccurate; the response has an insufficient amount of information to determine the student's understanding of the task; or the student has failed to respond to the task.

FCAT Mathematics Performance Tasks and Examples of Top-Score Responses

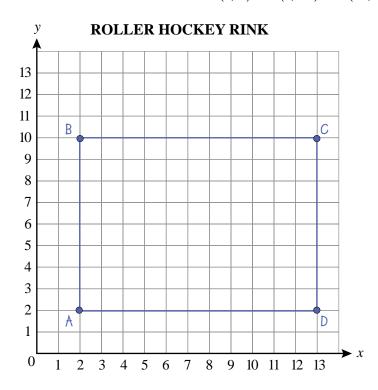
For additional information about the following FCAT Mathematics performance tasks, see *Florida Solves! Report* on the 2007 FCAT Mathematics Released Items.

Grade 5 Mathematics Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

THINK SOLVE EXPLAIN Tim and his friends want to play roller hockey on the school playground after school. Tim will draw a rectangle to mark the boundaries of the roller hockey rink.

Part A Draw a rectangle to represent the outline of the rink on the coordinate grid below. The rectangle should have the following **labeled** vertices: A(2, 2) B(2, 10) C(13, 10) D(13, 2)



SCALE = 1 yard

Part B What is the actual perimeter, in yards, of the roller hockey rink? Use the space below to show your work.

Perimeter = distance around a figure

An explanation or work similar to the following:

Perimeter =
$$8 + 8 + 11 + 11$$

 $8 \times 2 = 16$ $11 \times 2 = 22$
 $16 + 22 = 38$ yards

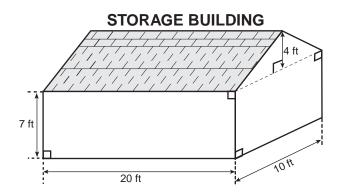
Perimeter 38 yards

Grade 8 Mathematics Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

Paolo and Fred need to paint the 4 outside faces of a storage building. Before they can purchase the paint, they must calculate the surface area of the faces to be painted. A diagram of the building with 2 outside faces showing is given below.





Assuming that opposite sides of the building are congruent to each other, what is the total outside surface area, in square feet, of the 4 faces to be painted? Show all work necessary to justify your answer.

An explanation or work similar to the following:

Surface area of the front and back faces:

$$2(20 \times 7) = 280$$

Surface area of the two end faces:

$$2(10 \times 7) = 140$$

Surface area of the two triangular sections:

$$2(\frac{1}{2})(10 \times 4) = 40$$

Total Surface Area of the Outside Faces 460 square feet

Grade 10 Mathematics Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

Mr. Adler invested a total of \$12,000 in two bank accounts, Account L and Account M. The simple interest rate on Account L was 6% per year.



Part A Mr. Adler invested \$4000 in Account L. How much interest did he earn from that account after 1 year? Show work or write an explanation to support your answer.

Work or an explanation similar to the following:

I = (*p*)(*r*)(*t*) *I* = (4000)(0.06)(1) *I* = \$240.00

Amount of Interest Earned After 1 Year ____\$240.00

Part B The remainder of Mr. Adler's \$12,000 was invested in Account M. After 1 year, the combined total of principal and interest in both of his accounts was \$12,920. What was the simple interest rate of Account M? Show work or write an explanation to support your answer.

Work or an explanation similar to the following:

The work below leads to the amount of interest earned for Account ${\sf M}.$

12,920 - 12,000 = 920920 - 240 = 680 The work below leads to finding the interest rate of Account M.

12,000 - 4,000 = 8,000 I = (p)(r)(f) 680 = (8,000)(r)(1) 680 = 8,000r 0.085 = r

8.5% = r

Interest Rate of Account M _____0.085 or 8.5%

FCAT Mathematics Holistic Rubrics

Short-Response Tasks

2 Points: A score of two indicates that the student has demonstrated a thorough understanding of

the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student has completed the task correctly, in a mathematically sound manner. When required, a student's explanations and/or interpretations are clear and complete. The response may contain minor flaws that do not detract from the demonstration of a thorough understanding.

1 Point: A score of one indicates that the student has provided a response that is only partially

> correct. For example, the student may provide a correct solution, but may demonstrate some misunderstanding of the underlying mathematical concepts or procedures. Conversely, a student may provide a computationally incorrect solution but could have applied appropriate and mathematically sound procedure, or the student's explanation

could indicate an understanding of the task, despite the error.

O Points: A score of zero indicates that the student has provided no response at all, or a completely

incorrect or uninterpretable response, or demonstrated insufficient understanding of the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. For example, a student may provide some work that is mathematically correct, but the work does not demonstrate

even a rudimentary understanding of the primary focus of the task.

Extended-Response Tasks

4 Points: A score of four is a response in which the student demonstrates a thorough understanding

of the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student has responded correctly to the task, used mathematically sound procedures, and provided clear and complete explanations and interpretations. The response may contain minor

flaws that do not detract from the demonstration of a thorough understanding.

3 Points: A score of three is a response in which the student demonstrates an understanding of the

mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student's response to the task is essentially correct with the mathematical procedure used and the explanations and interpretations provided demonstrate an essential, but less than thorough, understanding. The response may contain minor flaws that reflect inattentive execution of

mathematical procedures or indications of some misunderstanding of the underlying

mathematics concepts and/or procedures.

2 Points: A score of two indicates that the student has demonstrated only a partial understanding of

the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. Although the student may have used the correct approach to obtaining a solution or may have provided a correct solution, the student's work lacks the essential understanding of the underlying mathematical concept. The response contains errors related to misunderstanding important aspects of the task, misuse of mathematical procedures, or faulty

interpretations of results.

A score of one indicates that the student has demonstrated a very limited understanding

of the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student's response is incomplete and exhibits many flaws. Although the student's response has addressed some of the conditions of the task, the student reached an inadequate conclusion and/or provided reasoning that was faulty or incomplete. The response

exhibits many flaws or may be incomplete.

O Points: A score of zero indicates that the student has provided no response at all, or a completely

incorrect or uninterpretable response, or demonstrated insufficient understanding of the mathematics concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. For example, a student may provide some work that is mathematically correct, but the work does not

demonstrate even a rudimentary understanding of the primary focus of the task.

FCAT Science Performance Tasks and Examples of Top-Score Responses

For additional information about the following FCAT Science performance tasks, see *Florida Inquires! Report on the 2007 FCAT Science Released Items*.

Grade 5 Science Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

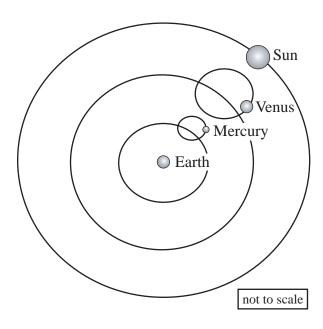
EAD QUIRE (PLAIN	Many animals live on the African plain and compete for the limited food supply. Each type of animal, including the lion, the zebra, the antelope, and the giraffe, has become adapted to a different niche within this environment. Select one of these animals and describe a specialized trait. Explain how this trait helps it to survive. <i>An explanation similar to the following:</i>
	The zebra's stripes are a trait that helps it to survive. Its stripes help the zebra blend in with
	other zebras in the herd making it confusing for predators to pick one zebra to attack.

Grade 8 Science Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

Hipparchus, an astronomer in ancient Greece, proposed an Earth-centered model of the solar system. In this model, the Sun, Earth's moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn not only traveled around Earth, but also traveled in small circles called "epicycles." A simplified illustration of Hipparchus's solar system is shown below.





Explain how our current understanding of the solar system differs from Hipparchus's Earth-centered solar system.

An explanation similar to the following:

around the Sun.

We now know	that the Sun is	at the center	of the solar	system instead	of Earth. We also know

that the planets do not travel in epicycles; instead, they rotate on their axes as they revolve

Grade 11 Science Short-Response Task

Task with an Example of a Top-Score Response for This Task

	During normal human metabolism, waste products are produced. One of the waste products produced is carbon dioxide (CO ₂). Explain how carbon dioxide is removed
AD QUIRE PLAIN	from the human body.
(PLAIN	An explanation similar to the following:
	Carbon dioxide is a product of cellular respiration and passes from cells into the bloodstream.
	The bloodstream carries the $\mathrm{CO_2}$ to the lungs. $\mathrm{CO_2}$ then moves from the bloodstream to the
	alveoli and is removed from the body when a person exhales.

FCAT Science Holistic Rubrics

Short-Response Tasks

2 Points: A score of two indicates that the student has demonstrated a thorough understanding of

the scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student has completed the task correctly, in a scientifically sound manner. When required, student explanations and/or interpretations are clear and complete. The response may contain minor flaws that do not detract from the demonstration of a thorough understanding.

1 Point: A score of one indicates that the student has provided a response that is only partially

correct. For example, the student may arrive at an acceptable conclusion or provide an adequate interpretation, but may demonstrate some misunderstanding of the underlying scientific concepts and/or procedures. Conversely, a student may arrive at an unacceptable conclusion or provide a faulty interpretation, but could have applied

appropriate and scientifically sound concepts and/or procedures.

O Points: A score of zero indicates that the student has not provided a response or has provided a response that does not demonstrate an understanding of the scientific concepts and/or

procedures embodied in the task. The student's explanation may be uninterpretable, lack sufficient information to determine the student's understanding, contain clear misunderstandings of the underlying scientific concepts and/or procedures, or may be

incorrect.

Extended-Response Tasks

4 Points: A score of four indicates that the student has demonstrated a thorough understanding

of the scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student has completed the task correctly, used scientifically sound procedures, and provided clear and complete explanations and interpretations. The response may contain minor flaws

that do not detract from a demonstration of a thorough understanding.

3 Points: A score of three indicates that the student has demonstrated an understanding of the

scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student's response to the task is essentially correct, but the scientific procedures, explanations, and/or interpretations provided are not thorough. The response may contain minor flaws that reflect inattentiveness or indicate some misunderstanding of the underlying scientific

concepts and/or procedures.

2 Points: A score of two indicates that the student has demonstrated only a partial understanding

of the scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. Although the student may have arrived at an acceptable conclusion or provided an adequate interpretation of the task, the student's work lacks an essential understanding of the underlying scientific concepts and/or procedures. The response may contain errors related to misunderstanding important aspects of the task, misuse of scientific

procedures/processes, or faulty interpretations of results.

1 Point: A score of one indicates that the student has demonstrated a very limited understanding

of the scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student's response is incomplete and exhibits many flaws. Although the student's response has addressed some of the conditions of the task, the student has reached an inadequate conclusion and/or provided reasoning that is faulty or incomplete. The response

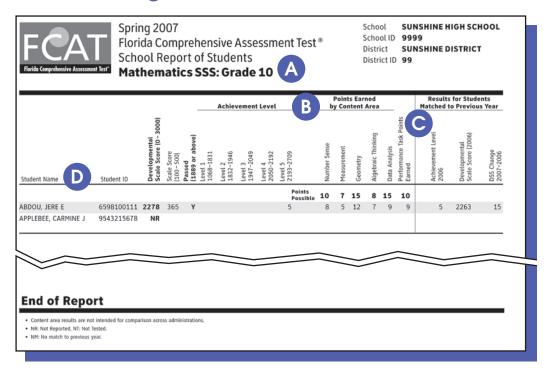
exhibits many flaws or may be incomplete.

O Points: A score of zero indicates that the student has not provided a response or has provided

a response that does not demonstrate an understanding of the scientific concepts and/or procedures embodied in the task. The student's explanation may be uninterpretable, lack sufficient information to determine the student's understanding, contain clear misunderstandings of the underlying scientific concepts and/or procedures, or may be

incorrect.

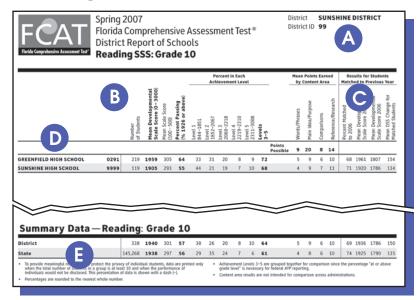
Sunshine State Standards School Report of Results— Reading, Mathematics, and Science



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. If a student does not have a reportable score, this is indicated with an "NR" (Not Reported) or "NT" (Not Tested) in the DSS column.
- 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.
- 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.

Sunshine State Standards State and District Reports of Results— Reading, Mathematics, and Science



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
- 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.
- Section C provides information on the "Results for Students Matched to Previous Year." This section does not appear on the Science report of results because there is no prior year's data match for FCAT Science. The reports display the percent matched and the mean DSS for both the current and previous years and the "Mean DSS Change."
- 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 varies depending on the report. The *District Report of Schools* displays scores by school, and the *State Report of Districts* provides scores by district. The *State Summary* displays state-level scores, grouped by student grade level, and the *District Summary* displays district- and state-level scores, grouped by student grade level.
- Section E contains school, district, and state summary data, which are printed at the bottom of the last page of the report.

Norm-Referenced Test Reports of Results— **Reading and Mathematics**

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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 Serise and Operations	Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra	Date, Statistics, and Probability	Geometry
			18	18	18	12	20	12	10				20	10	8	1
			12	9	11	7	13	9	5				4	7	4	
370	70	ד מ	14	13	14	10	15	11	8	112	705	59	14	7	6	
	100		12	11	17	11	18	10	4	727	1000	62	13	6	5	
										$\widetilde{}$				\sim		
660	691	46	15	14	8	10	15	11	6	316	729	81	12	5	5	
142.812	4	50	13	14	11	10	17	11	8			68	14	7	6	1
	Total Te B supprise of Sinder of Si	Total Test Sc B siuaphis Siu	Total Test Scores B augg electron and an angel an angel and an angel a	RI	READ	READING READ	NORM-REFERENCED District Report of Sc Grade 10 READING	READING READ	READING READ	READING READING READING READING READING READING Required by Content Requ	READING READING READING READING READING Respectively Respectively	READING	READING	READING MATHEMA Total Test Scores Mean Points Earned by Content Points P	READING MATHEMATICS Total Test Scores Mean Points Earned by Content Principle Principle	READING

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



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.





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.

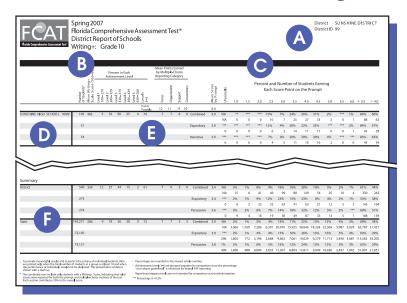


The first row of information shown in Section D is the "Number of Points Possible," which varies by subject and grade level. The second row of information shown in Section D is the "National Mean of Correct Responses." This row shows the average number of correct responses for students in the national 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.



Section E contains school, district, and state summary data, as applicable. Summary data are printed at the bottom of the last page of the report. The School Report of Students does not contain summary data.

Reports of Results—Writing+



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).

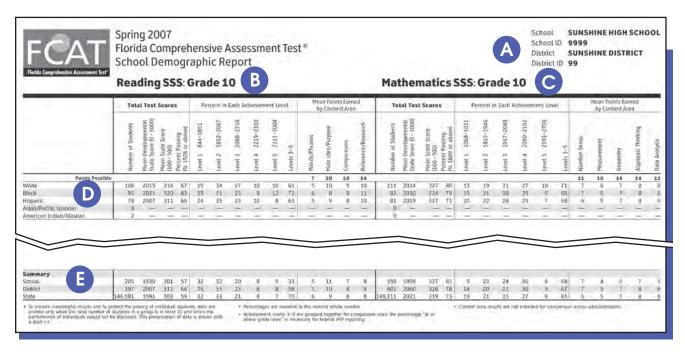
- District Report of Schools (shown)
- State Report of Districts

- District Summary
- State Summary
- 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 Writing+ Scale Score (as on the *School Report of Students*) or 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.
- 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*.
- 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.
- Section E contains the percentage and number of students in each category. For example, at Sunshine High School there were 27 students (26%) who received a score of 4.0. Eleven of these students wrote expository papers, and 16 wrote persuasive papers. There were 105 students tested who received an overall Writing+ Score, and about half responded to each prompt (51 for expository and 54 for persuasive). This section also includes the number and percentage of students receiving a score of 3.5 and 4.0 and above.
- Section F contains school, district, and state summary data, which are printed at the bottom of the last page of the report.

Report 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.

Sunshine State Standards Demographic Reports— Reading, Mathematics, and Science



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.



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.



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.

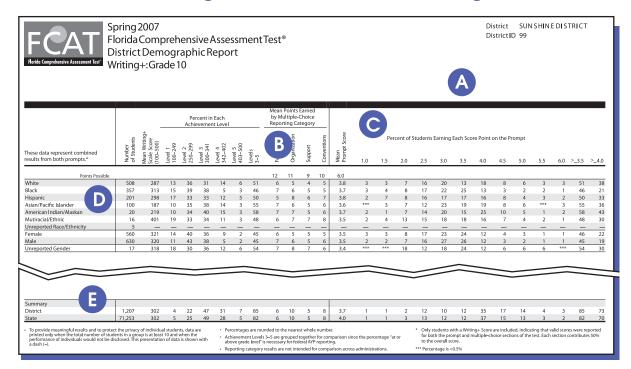


The first row of information shown in Section D is the "Points Possible" in each content area. The number of points possible may vary by grade level. The other categories listed in Section D are the demographic groups for which FCAT data are disaggregated. The disaggregated data included in these reports 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.



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

Demographic Reports—Writing+



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

- 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+ Scale Score." The remaining columns in Section B report the percentage in each of the five achievement levels and the Mean Points Earned in each multiple-choice Reporting Category.
- 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. These data represent combined results from both prompts.
- 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.

Norm-Referenced Test Demographic Reports— Reading and Mathematics

lorido Comprehensive Assessment Test	Florid		NOI	eher	nsive REFE Demo	REN	sess ICEI phic) TE	ST	st (F	CAT)			Numbe	er and N		A
			В	RI	EAD	ING					0		MAT	HEMA	ATICS		
	Total Test Scores			Mean Points Earned by Content						Total Test Scores Mean Points Earned by Content				ned			
	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				12	9	11	7	13	9	5				4	7.	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	1,261	700	71	13	14	14	10	11	_11	9	1,314	704	58	10	6	6	5
State	144,781	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 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.



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.



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 Area." 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 40.



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.



Section E contains school, district, and state summary data, as applicable.

Content Assessed on the FCAT Sunshine State Standards—Reading

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 (i.e., 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

Content Assessed on the FCAT Sunshine State Standards—Mathematics

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 $(+, -, \times, \div)$ 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

Content Assessed on the FCAT Sunshine State Standards—Science

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

Content Assessed on the FCAT Sunshine State Standards—Writing+

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 one of two randomly assigned prompts. 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.

Content Assessed on the FCAT Norm-Referenced Test—Reading and Mathematics

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 bold color.

Achievement Levels—Five categories of achievement that represent the success students demonstrate with the Sunshine State Standards 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 **Sunshine State Standards**.

Cluster—A grouping of related **benchmarks** from the **Sunshine State Standards**. Clusters are used to summarize and report achievement for FCAT 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 points earned by a student in each cluster or strand of the Sunshine State Standards portion of FCAT. Content subscores are reported for clusters in FCAT Reading and FCAT Science, for strands in FCAT Mathematics, and by reporting category in FCAT Writing+.

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., 2007 DSS – 2006 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 Learner (ELL)—Special education services for students whose primary language is not English. ELL students are permitted testing accommodations when taking the FCAT. Students who have been in ELL programs for more than one year are required to take the FCAT.

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 new 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 a multiple-choice 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 multiple-choice 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 multiple-choice 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 one of two randomly assigned topics.

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. Scale scores on the FCAT **Sunshine State Standards** tests are 100–500 for each grade level and **content area.** A computer program is used to analyze student responses and to compute the scale score.

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 **Sunshine State Standards**. For example, in the Language Arts Sunshine State Standards, there are seven strands (Reading, Writing, Listening, Viewing, Speaking, Language, and Literature).

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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