

Preparing for ACCESS:
Formative Assessment
Samples from the Classroom

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Features of Formative Assessment

From Gottlieb (2016), Assessing ELLs: Bridges to educational equity

- Monitors student progress
- Occurs internal to instruction
- Provides ongoing feedback
- Co-occurs with learning
- Process-oriented
- Informs instruction

Requirements of Formative Assessment

- *Students' baseline*: ELP level, independent reading level, NL proficiency, writing sample
- *Classroom assessment mirrors instructional practice* (no surprises at assessment). Shows consistency from unit to unit.
- *Assess over four skills*: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- *Student portfolios [of all work, not just paper]* demonstrate growth over time, by marking period and the year.

(from Gottlieb 2016)

Sources of Content-area Instruction

- NJ Model Curriculum Framework & Exemplar Units
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/frameworks/ela/>
- Pearson Longman Cornerstone & Keystone textbook series
- Leveled informational text by reading level (for grades 3 and above): Passageways (Curriculum Associates)

Sample Listening Assessment

From Unit 1: Helping Others

Speaking and Listening: Asking for Help

Tell you problem and listen to your partner's advice.

- You've tried three times, but your locker won't open.
- You forgot to write down the homework in your agenda.
- You arrive late to school and have to go to the office.
- You don't understand the math word problem.
- You are confused about the science project.

Listening Tasks

- Videoscripts (Keystone, middle/high school).
- Notes from visual powerpoints: Listen and take notes.
- Follow with multiple-choice questions using notes.
- Reorder slides/images from listening.
- Strip stories from listening only (not read).
- Playposit/TED-Ed video quizzes.

Sample Speaking Assessment

Task:

- You are going to give a presentation about a hobby or interest.

Prepare:

- You will interview a partner to help them take notes about their hobby.
- Follow the three paragraph sample essay for your presentation. It is on the back of this page.
- Use the regular and irregular past tense forms of verbs in your writing.
- Write and type your own three paragraph presentation.

Present:

- Bring in a prop or photos of you doing your hobby. Speak slowly in a loud, clear voice. Look at your audience. Show your prop or photos. Answer your classmates' questions.

Speaking Tasks

- Explain a process with an image
- Garageband podcast
- Video-a-worksheet-explain/or analyze stills
- iMovie a simulation
- Make a commercial
- Talk show
- Perform a play/puppet show
- Reader's Theater
- Scholastic Debates

Sample Reading Assessments

- Class novels: Black Cat Green Apple readers
- Cloze passages – teach & assess reading strategies simultaneously. Also demonstrates vocabulary in context as well as comprehension strategies.
- Oral retelling, retell by sequencing events (strip story or picture story).
- Cornerstone/Keystone Running Records
- Reading infographics (kidsdiscover.com)

Sample Writing Assessments

- Differentiate by ELP
- Picture writing
- Cloze paragraphs
- Comparison writing with Venn diagram
- Forms of writing: Letters, email, composition

Multiple Measures

Districts need to set criteria & scoring scale

- ACCESS 2.0
- District ESL test
- Independent reading level
- ESL report card
- Content area progress report
- Two teacher recommendations (ESL & mainstream)
- PARCC scores (after 2017)
- Establish scale that weights each category