

Initial Assessment - ESL – Reading**(Grades 1-3)****Student Name:** _____**Note:** When using this Grades 1–3 continuum, it is important for the assessor to view the student's performance through the appropriate grade literacy skills/developmental lens

ELEMENT	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Meaning Understand and respond to texts, using strategies	Demonstrate understanding by responding to a highly visual text with simple language, using a combination of visuals, drawings, L1, English words, and gestures Read and follow simply worded instructions with visual support Recognize simple patterns in text, directionality of print, and the letters of the alphabet	Demonstrate understanding by responding to a simple text with visual support, using drawings, L1, and high-frequency words Read and follow short, simply worded instructions Recognize simple patterns in text and upper and lower case letters of the alphabet	Demonstrate understanding by responding to simple or adapted text supported by visuals Read and follow instructions consisting of a few simple steps	Demonstrate understanding by responding to authentic texts with linguistic complexity approaching grade level Read and follow instructions for multi-step tasks	Demonstrate understanding by responding to authentic texts, with linguistic complexity of early grade-level Read and follow complex instructions	Demonstrate understanding by responding to grade appropriate text
Form and Style Understand the role of text features and text forms to construct meaning	Locate information in a highly visual text, using visual cues	Locate information in a text, using visual cues	Identify and use common text features to locate information	Identify and use a variety of text features to locate information	Identify text features and explain how they help readers understand text	Identify different text forms and features and explain how they help readers understand the text
Fluency Read and understand familiar and unfamiliar words and phrases, and expand vocabulary	Read and understand some high-frequency words in a highly visual text	Read and understand high-frequency words in context	Read and understand some academic words	Read and understand academic words and high-frequency words and phrases	Read and understand academic words and low-frequency words in early grade-level texts	Read and understand most vocabulary in grade-appropriate texts

Initial Assessment for English Language Learners – Writing**(Grades 1-3)****Note:** When using this Grades 1–3 continuum, it is important for the assessor to view the student's performance through the appropriate grade literacy skills/developmental lens.

ELEMENT	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Developing and Organizing Content Uses a process for writing to convey ideas and information	Write the English alphabet in correct order	Organize words in a simple sentence	Organize ideas in simple and simple compound sentences	Organize ideas in simple and compound sentences	Organize ideas into linked simple and compound sentences	Organize ideas into a variety of sentences
Language Conventions Applies language conventions to writing	Produce the English alphabet in legible form Copy English words and phrases Write some personally relevant words Write patterned sentences	Write using a combination of pictures and words Use common and personally relevant words Write simple sentences	Use vocabulary relevant to a familiar topic Write simple compound sentences	Use a variety of vocabulary Write a variety of simple and compound sentences	Use a wide variety of vocabulary and low frequency words Write a variety of linked simple and compound sentences	Select vocabulary that is expressive and engages the reader Use a variety of sentence structures to elaborate ideas and enhance meaning