



# UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENT SCORE REPORT GRADES 5 & 8

English language arts/literacy and Mathematics (California Alternate Assessments)  
and Science (California Alternate Performance Assessment)

This guide will explain your child's score report and provide additional resources to help you understand his/her scores. Please speak to your child's teacher(s) if you have more questions.

## A message from the State Superintendent, Tom Torlakson

This report shows how your child scored on the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for English language arts/literacy and mathematics. These tests are based on alternate achievement standards, which make them more accessible for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. These new tests are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System.

Your child also took a science test, results on California's science assessment can be found on the bottom of his/her report.

While tests are just one way to measure your child's progress, the results can help teachers and the school focus on areas in which students may need more help. I encourage you to be involved in your child's learning, and discuss these results with your child's teacher(s).

## Your child's results on the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs)

The new California Alternate Assessments are based on alternate achievement standards and give students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning by taking a test commensurate with their abilities. Working with a teacher, your child was encouraged to complete items as independently as possible. Your child had an opportunity to answer questions representing different levels of complexity, which helps all students demonstrate what they know and can do.

These results are one measure of your child's academic performance and provide limited information. Like any important measure of your child's performance, they should be viewed with other available information—such as progress on individualized education programs (IEPs) goals, assignments, and teacher conferences—and they can be used to help inform a conversation with your child's teachers about how to help him/her progress in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics.

### 1 Your child's name and date of the report

Here you find your child's name and the date of the report.

### 2 Overall score for ELA and mathematics

The left side of the score report provides your child's overall score and performance level by subject.

### 3 Graph of this year's scores for ELA and mathematics

The graph on the left side shows your child's score and performance level. The gray shades on the bar graph represent the three performance levels, with the darkest gray color representing Level 1–Alternate to the lightest gray representing Level 3–Alternate.

### 4 Performance level of this year's scores for ELA and mathematics

The right side of the score report offers a summary of your child's performance by subject. For a detailed description of performance level descriptors (PLDs), please visit the CAA PLD Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caapld.asp>. We encourage you to review the results of this assessment with your child's teacher and other members of the IEP team. Please note that this is a new assessment and should not be compared with prior assessment results.

**STUDENT SCORE REPORT | 2016**  
1 Matthew Martin  
Creation Date: September 28, 2016

**MATTHEW'S RESULTS ON THE  
California Alternate Assessments (CAAs)**

The new California Alternate Assessments are based on alternate achievement standards and give students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning by taking a test commensurate with their abilities. Working with a teacher, Matthew was encouraged to complete items as independently as possible. Matthew had an opportunity to answer questions representing different levels of complexity, which helps all students demonstrate what they know and can do.

These results are one measure of Matthew's academic performance and provide limited information. Like any important measure of your child's performance, they should be viewed with other available information—such as progress on Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) goals, assignments, and teacher conferences—and they can be used to help inform a conversation with Matthew's teachers about how to help him progress in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics.

**CAA ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY**

2 Matthew's overall score for 2016 is:  
550 | Level 2—Alternate

3

Level 3—Alternate (303-509)	Level 2—Alternate (243-529)	Level 1—Alternate (303-544)
	550	

4 Matthew showed **foundational understanding** of core concepts in English language arts/literacy, such as identifying the main idea of a story. For a detailed description of performance level descriptors (PLDs), please visit the CAA PLD Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caapld.asp>. We encourage you to review the results of this assessment with your child's teacher and other members of the IEP team. Please note that this is a new assessment and should not be compared with prior assessment results.

**5TH GRADE\*\***

**CAA MATHEMATICS**

2 Matthew's overall score for 2016 is:  
565 | Level 3—Alternate

3

Level 3—Alternate (303-509)	Level 2—Alternate (243-529)	Level 1—Alternate (303-544)
	565	

4 Matthew showed **understanding** of core concepts in mathematics, such as solving addition, subtraction of decimals and division with whole numbers. For a detailed description of performance level descriptors (PLDs), please visit the CAA PLD Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caapld.asp>. We encourage you to review the results of this assessment with your child's teacher and other members of the IEP team. Please note that this is a new assessment and should not be compared with prior assessment results.

**5TH GRADE\*\***

\*\*Students in ungraded programs are assigned a grade for testing purposes based on the student's date of birth. To see score ranges for all grades or for complete results for schools, districts, or across the state, visit the CDE CAASPP Results Web pages at <http://www.cde.ca.gov>.

## What are the California Alternate Assessments?

The California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) are online tests for students with individualized education programs (IEPs) that designate the use of an alternate assessment to measure student progress on alternate achievement standards. This alternate assessment is part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) system, and replaces the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) for English language arts and mathematics. In the coming year, a new component aligned with new science standards will be incorporated into CAASPP and will replace the current CAPA for science.

The CAAs give students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning by taking a test commensurate with their abilities. The CAAs use alternate achievement standards, called Core Content Connectors (“Connectors”), to make the test more accessible for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Visit the CDE CAASPP System Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/altassessment.asp> for more information and resources intended for parents about the CAAs, including sample questions and a parent brochure.

The CAAs are administered to each student individually. CAA items and tasks represent three different levels of complexity, and students' responses to the first set of test questions determine the complexity of the items that follow.

Students who take CAAs are encouraged to complete items as independently as possible. If they are able, students can respond to test questions by using a mouse or keyboard. If needed, a test examiner will select a response indicated by the student by gesture, eye gaze, alternative communication device, or other means.

## What are the score ranges for each level?

There are three levels of scores for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics:

### Score Ranges—ELA

Grade	Level 1—Alternate	Level 2—Alternate	Level 3—Alternate
3	300–344	345–359	360–399
4	400–444	445–459	460–499
5	500–544	545–559	560–599
6	600–644	645–659	660–699
7	700–744	745–759	760–799
8	800–844	845–859	860–899
11	900–944	945–959	960–999

### Score Ranges—Mathematics

Grade	Level 1—Alternate	Level 2—Alternate	Level 3—Alternate
3	300–344	345–359	360–399
4	400–444	445–459	460–499
5	500–544	545–559	560–599
6	600–644	645–659	660–699
7	700–744	745–759	760–799
8	800–844	845–859	860–899
11	900–944	945–959	960–999

## What were my child’s results on the science assessment?

The score report provides your child’s score and performance level. There are five performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, below basic, and far below basic. California is transitioning to recently adopted California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) to meet both state and federal test requirements. As part of California’s transition to these new standards, tests aligned to the CA NGSS are under development and will be pilot tested in the spring of 2017.

## What resources are available to help me understand my child’s score?

Visit the CDE CAASPP System Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/altassessment.asp> for more information and resources intended for parents about the CAAs, including sample questions and a parent/guardian brochure.