

UNDERSTANDING A “CSR” — CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT REPORT



PN-GISD

Spring
2010

The state has provided brochures labeled “Understanding the Confidential Student Report – A Guide for Parents”. There are brochures available for each grade level and test administration. Brochures are available in either English or Spanish.

A sample view of the guide is included below:

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills

TAKS The Test Objectives
(Continued)

MATHEMATICS

The TAKS mathematics test assesses how well your child understands mathematics and can apply this understanding to the real world. The knowledge and skills tested are grouped into six objectives.

**Objective 1
Numbers, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning**
Students must be able to show their understanding of numbers, operations (adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing), and quantitative reasoning (knowing when an answer makes sense).

**Objective 2
Patterns, Relationships, and Algebraic Reasoning**
Students must be able to show their understanding of patterns, relationships, and algebraic reasoning (understanding the use of symbols to represent real-world situations).

**Objective 3
Geometry and Spatial Reasoning**
Students must be able to show their understanding of geometry and spatial reasoning (understanding the location or position of an object and the amount of space it occupies in the real world).

**Objective 4
Concepts and Uses of Measurement**
Students must be able to show their understanding of the use of appropriate measurement. Students must also know how to apply measurement concepts.

**Objective 5
Probability and Statistics**
Students must be able to show their understanding of probability (the chance that an event will occur) and statistics (the collection, organization, and interpretation of data).

**Objective 6
Mathematical Processes and Tools**
Students must be able to show their understanding of problem-solving strategies and tools, such as formulas, tables, pictures, graphs, and tables.

SCIENCE

The TAKS elementary science test given at the fifth grade assesses how well students understand science, including life, physical, and earth science concepts, and how well they can apply and analyze scientific information. The knowledge and skills tested are grouped into four objectives.

**Objective 1
The Nature of Science**
Students must be able to show an understanding of experimental design, the collection and organization of data, and safety issues. Students must also be able to analyze scientific information from various sources.

**Objective 2
Life Sciences**
Students must be able to show an understanding of living things, such as plants and animals. Students must also know how organisms meet their own needs and interact with other organisms.

**Objective 3
Physical Sciences**
Students must be able to show an understanding of the structure and properties of matter. Students must also know that forces cause matter to undergo changes.

**Objective 4
Earth Sciences**
Students must be able to show an understanding of the forces that are continually changing Earth's physical features. Students must also know that Earth is part of larger systems involving the sun, moon, and other planets in the solar system.

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills

TAKS Understanding the Confidential Student Report
A Guide for Parents **Grade 5**
April Math/Reading

What is TAKS?

TAKS is the name of the testing program for students in Texas public schools. The letters stand for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

Each public school in Texas must teach the same curriculum, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (also called the TEKS). The TAKS tests are based on this curriculum—in other words, on what students are being taught in school. Therefore, the TAKS tests are a good way to measure what students are learning.

Who takes TAKS?

Public school students in grades 3 through 11 take TAKS tests every spring. The chart below shows which subject-area tests are given each year.

ENGLISH TAKS											
Subject/Grades	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Reading	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mathematics			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Writing			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Science											
Social Studies											
English Language Arts											

SPANISH TAKS											
Subject/Grades	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Reading	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mathematics			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Writing			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Science											

If your child receives special education services, he or she may have taken TAKS (Accommodated). While the questions on TAKS (Accommodated) and TAKS are identical, the format of TAKS (Accommodated) is different in these ways: the questions are printed in a larger type size, and there are fewer questions on each page. Also, your child may have been allowed to take this assessment with more accommodations. These reports are intended to help your child show his or her best performance on the test.

How did my child do on TAKS?

Every child who takes a TAKS test gets a report of his or her score. This report is called the Confidential Student Report, or CSR. By carefully examining your child's CSR, you will find out where your child is doing well and where your child may need to improve. For example, if your child has done well on a TAKS test, it is a good indicator that your child is learning what he or she needs to learn in that subject. However, the TAKS test cannot test everything that your child is learning. However, your child's score will give you a good idea about the progress he or she is making. If your child did not receive a score on a TAKS test and you do not understand why, please contact his or her school.

Your child received an overall score on each test, but you can get more information about your child's strengths and weaknesses by looking at his or her performance on each test objective.

How is my child's promotion to sixth grade related to the grade 5 TAKS tests?

Texas law requires that every fifth grader pass the TAKS reading and mathematics tests in order to be promoted to sixth grade. This law is called the Student Success Initiative.

Your child is allowed a total of three chances to pass the grade 5 reading test and three chances to pass the grade 5 mathematics test. This year the grade 5 reading and mathematics tests are being given in April, May, and June. If your child meets the standard (passes) the first time he or she takes the reading and mathematics tests, he or she will not have to test again. However, if your child does not pass one or both of these tests the first time they are given, your child must test again. For each subject area test your child does not pass, your child's school is required to give your child additional help before the next testing opportunity.

If your child takes the reading or mathematics test in May and does not pass, your child's school must form a committee made up of you, your child's teacher, and the principal or someone the principal designates. If your child does not pass the mathematics or reading test in June, the committee will meet to decide whether your child should move on to the sixth grade or repeat the fifth grade.

The purpose of this law is to make sure your child has the reading and mathematics skills necessary to be successful in school.

Why am I receiving this brochure?

This brochure has three purposes:

- to give you some basic information about the TAKS program.
- to explain a sample test report so that you can understand your child's actual test report. The actual test report, which has your child's name on it and shows his or her test results, has been sent to your child's school and should accompany this brochure.
- to provide you with a short summary of each objective on the subject-area tests so that you will know what knowledge and skills that objective tests.

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
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We're on the Web!
Visit us at
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us>

Phone: 512-463-9536
Fax: 512-463-9302
E-mail: Student_Assessment@tea.state.tx.us

To access the proper test administration, grade level and language, please click on the following link: http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=3294&menu_id=793

Follow the following steps:

1. Select the Administration period
 - a. “April SSI” includes 5th and 8th grade reading & math
 - b. “Spring” includes grades 3-11 except Exit Retest & SSI

- c. "Exit Level Retest" includes students that are retaking the Exit Level Test
 - d. "May SSI" includes 5th and 8th grade May Retests in reading & math
 - e. "June SSI" includes 5th and 8th grade June Retests in reading & math
2. Select the row representing the grade level you wish to view.
 3. 'Click' on either "English" or "Spanish" to determine the language you view.

Parent Resources from the Texas Education Agency

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=3324&menu_id=793