



Administrator/ Teacher FAQs



What does TELL stand for?

Test of English Language Learning, or simply TELL™.

What is TELL?

TELL is a self-administered, tablet-delivered language proficiency assessment that can be used to screen, diagnose, and progress monitor English language learners in grades K-12.

What sets TELL apart?

There are several aspects of the TELL assessment that set it apart:

- TELL is comprised of a bundle that includes a single screener, 2 diagnostics, and up to 8 progress monitoring tests. The screener can be used to identify students who qualify for English Language Learning services. The diagnostic assessments are intended to be administered at the beginning and end of the school year to set a baseline for each learner and then determine gains during the academic year. Between the two diagnostic assessments, up to 8 progress monitoring tests can be administered to obtain valuable information that is instrumental to inform instruction, create differentiated learning paths and make any necessary adjustments as needed.
- TELL has an engaging, intuitive interface, designed to be a test learners enjoy taking.
- TELL automatically scores student responses. No need for teachers to waste valuable instructional time! Quick results help teachers make timely and accurate decisions.

How is TELL delivered?

TELL can be delivered on both iPad® and Android devices with subsequent delivery platforms planned in the future.

Does TELL require an internet connection?

TELL is an app based program with automated scoring and reporting that requires an Internet connection.

Can TELL be administered offline?

Yes, the TELL test can be administered offline, but it requires internet connection at the start of testing to authenticate the Test IDs and, at the end of testing, to upload responses for scoring.

How is TELL administered to students?

TELL is convenient, flexible and scalable, TELL can be used with just one student at a time, a small or larger group.

How long does it take to administer TELL tests?

TELL testing times may vary based on the type, grade level and number of assessments administered. On average, tests take between 20-50 minutes.

How does TELL score student responses?

TELL uses state-of-the-art online speech recognition and writing evaluation technology to provide consistent and objective grading without the need for on-site scorers.

How do teachers access TELL for roster management, test administration, and reporting details?

Teachers and administrators will access TELL's secure site to handle roster upload and management, set up test administration, and access reports.

What type of scores does TELL report?

TELL uses state-of-the-art technology that enables highly efficient, consistent and objective scoring on four foundational skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking as well as up to seven sub-skills: pronunciation, fluency, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, expressiveness, pre- literacy, reading rate and reading comprehension. Reports are available within minutes, and are designed to guide instructional decisions reliably and accurately.

What type of reports does TELL generate?

TELL reports are available at the district, school, classroom, teacher, and student level. They provide aggregated and individual student data, separable by demographic and other pertinent variables. TELL provides teachers and administrators with fast and easy-to- interpret reports to help guide instruction.

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How quickly are TELL student results available?

After the assessment(s) have been successfully conducted, the test results are scored and results become immediately available via the TELL Platform. Reporting results are typically available within the hour of export, and are designed to guide instructional decisions reliably and accurately.

How does TELL align to the College and Career Readiness Standards?

TELL assesses English language proficiency and not content knowledge. However, the assessment has been built taking into consideration the College and Career Readiness Standards and includes academic language and topics from the following subject areas; Science, Math, Social Studies, History, Language Arts, Health, and Art.

Does TELL align to WIDA and other state's standards?

External experts and ELL educators conducted standards alignment studies to investigate the degree of the alignment of TELL items and items types to WIDA and the ELD/P standards of California, Arizona, and Texas. These alignment studies provide information about how well TELL items address the language features of the standards that articulate expectations for the development of English in a K-12 context. Reports concluded that a close alignment between TELL and a set of ELD/P standards, which means that it adequately covers those standards and can be integrated with confidence into the instructional program, teacher, and student level. They provide aggregated and individual student data, separable by demographic and other pertinent variables. TELL provides teachers and administrators with fast and easy-to-interpret reports to help guide instruction.

Do TELL English Language Proficiency Level scores correspond to WIDA and other state's standards?

ELL's score concordance tables enable users to look up particular TELL scores and determine what the equivalent score would be on the other assessments. The four large-scale assessments mapped in this way are WIDA ACCESS for ELLS®, AZELLA, CELDT, and TELPAS. These concordance tables help make TELL scores more meaningful for teachers and other TELL score users.

Can TELL be used for accountability purposes?

Yes, TELL can be used for accountability purposes. TELL was designed as a low-stakes assessment, however Pearson extensively studied the TELL field testing data and identified cut scores for each grade indicating an English proficiency level most likely not requiring additional support or instruction. TELL scores can be used as a reliable component of a complete body of evidence around particular students' level of English language development. It is up to local educational authorities to make their own decisions around whether or not TELL scores can be used for this purpose.

How is TELL sold?

TELL licenses are purchased on a per student basis. Each student who participates in the TELL assessment will require a license.

How can I purchase TELL?

To purchase TELL or meet with your Pearson Specialist, go to pearsonassessments.com/form/tell-form.html or call 800.328.5999.

What type of funding is available to purchase TELL?

TELL is eligible for a wide variety of education funding sources. School districts commonly use one or more of the following funding sources to purchase ELL assessments.

Formula funds:

- State and local assessment funds
- State funds for English language learners
- Title I, Part A
- Title I, Part C - Migrant Education
- Title III - Intervention for English language learners

Competitive grants:

- Title I, Section 1003 (a) and (g) - School Improvement funds
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant
- Investing in Innovation
- Innovative Approaches to Literacy
- State-specific grants

What are the system requirements for TELL?

TELL supports a variety of configurations on both Android and iPad® tablets. While other combinations of settings and software versions may also function, TELL's system requirements include recommended configurations for optimal use.

- [View system requirements.](#)

What type of technical support will be provided for TELL?

Support for TELL is available Monday-Friday between 7am-6pm CST at 800.328.5999 or by email: eacustomerservice@pearson.com.

To learn more about TELL,
visit PearsonTELL.com