



FRIDAY FOCUS WEBINAR #2: NEW AZELLA ITEM SPECIFICATIONS

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WELCOME TO WEBINAR #2: NEW AZELLA ITEM SPECIFICATIONS

This webinar will be recorded and posted on the ADE Assessments webpage.

Please enter your First and Last Name in the Chat for tracking purposes for the live event.

We will also be capturing the chat questions. If there are questions that were frequently asked or need further clarification, ADE will compile and create an FAQ which will then be posted on the Assessments webpage under Friday Focus Webinars.

WELCOME TO WEBINAR #2: NEW AZELLA ITEM SPECIFICATIONS

- ADE Assessments Team will have 7 more webinar sessions in this series for the 2023 - 2024 school year
- These webinars will be recorded and posted on the Assessments Webpage
- This session will spotlight provide a brief guide to navigate the new AZELLA Test Specification Documents and potential applications in the SEI classroom. Updates on the EL70 Report and the K – 1 Speaking test will be provided.

NAVIGATING THE AZELLA ITEM SPECIFICATION DOCUMENTS



DEFINITION

The AZELLA Items Specifications document:

- is a resource that defines the content and format of the test and the test items,
- indicates the alignment of items with the 2019 Arizona ELPS,
- provides information about the scope and function of assessment items,
- can also serve to assist educators in understanding how assessment items are developed in alignment with the standards,
- intended to provide information regarding standards, item formats, and response types typically used on the AZELLA, and
- is **not** intended to be used for the purposes of instruction or the basis for curricula.



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- AZELLA Blueprint
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- AZELLA Reading Passages Word Count and Lexile Ranges
- AZELLA Listening Passages Word Count
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Item Specifications

- Grades 4–5 Item Specifications
- EL.4–5.RFS.1 Phonological Awareness
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ITEM TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS

Item Type	Description
Multiple Choice (MC)	KG & G1 -3 options Grades 2-12 -4 options
Inline Choice (IC)	Drop-down menu contains options
Gap Match (GM)	Drag-and-drop
Short Answer (SA)	KG & G1 -student writes missing word, capitalizes words, or adds end punctuation.
Constructed Response (CR)	Student creates written response to a prompt (one sentence for Kindergarten, two to three sentences for Grade 1 and Grades 2-3)
Extended Response (ER)	The student uses the keyboard to enter a response into a text field (Grades 4–12). These items can usually be answered in one paragraph

Item
Development
Process



AZELLA LISTENING AND READING PASSAGES WORD COUNT AND LEXILE RANGES

Reading Passages

Word Count and Lexile Ranges by Grade Level		
Grade	Word Count Range	Lexile Range
K	40–60	NA
1	75–85	NA
2–3	100–125	350-750L
4–5	175–225	720-850L
6–8	200–275	860-1010L
9–12	250–300	1000-1200L

Listening Passages

Word Count Ranges by Grade Level	
Grade Level	Words
K	30-50
1	40-100
2–3	60-135
4–5	60-250
6–8	60-300
9–12	60-300



EL.2–3.S1

By the end of each language proficiency level, an English learner can: construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade appropriate listening, reading, and viewing.

Assessed in: Listening and Reading

Note: Gray-shaded rows and cells indicate Performance Indicators (PI) that are better suited for instruction.


Domain	Performance Indicator	Level	PI Description	Task Summary	Stimulus Description	Format	Sample Prompt
LISTENING	1	PE/E	respond to simple literal questions.	Select response that answers a literal question.	Listening passage between 60 and 135 words	MC (3 options, 1 point)	What is a(n) [noun]?
		B	ask and answer questions by using evidence from a text.	Select response that asks or answers a question.			Who [action] [noun]?
							Why does [character] [action]?
							I
							Which detail from the passage shows [noun phrase]?
							Why are you more likely to [action] than [action]?

Domain	Performance Indicator	Level	PI Description	Task Summary	Stimulus Description	Format	Sample Prompt
READING	2	PE/E	identify key words and phrases in read-alouds and oral presentations.				
		B	identify key details from read-alouds, picture books, and/or oral presentations.	Select the correct key detail.	Discrete stimulus or reading passage of approximately 45 words	MC (3 options, 1 point)	Why does [character] want to [action]?
		I	identify the main topic and details from read-alouds, picture books, and/or oral presentation.	Select the correct topic and/or key details.			Where does [event] happen? What is the story mostly about? Which picture shows what the story is mostly about?
LISTENING	3	PE/E	repeat familiar texts.				
		B	retell familiar texts.	Select the correct event in a sequence.	Listening prompt of approximately 30 words	MC (3 options, 1 point)	Which picture shows what [character] does first/second/last?
		I	retell familiar texts with details.				
READING	3	PE/E	repeat familiar texts.				
		B	retell familiar texts.	Select the correct event in a sequence.	Discrete stimulus or reading passage of approximately 45 words	MC (3 options, 1 point)	What does [character] do first/second/last?
		I	retell familiar texts with details.				

EL.6–8.S6

By the end of each language proficiency level, an English learner can: participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions.

Assessed in: Listening, Speaking, and Writing

Note: Gray-shaded rows and cells indicate Performance Indicators (PI) that are better suited for instruction. 

Domain	Performance Indicator	Level	PI Description	Task Summary	Stimulus Description	Format	Sample Prompt
SPEAKING	1	PE/E	participate in conversations and discussions about familiar topics.	Explain a personal experience or preference.	Oral prompt	SA (Oral Response, 3 points)	Think about [a topic]. In one or more complete sentences, explain what [the topic] is and why you like [this topic].
		B	participate in discussions about familiar topics and texts.				Think about a time you [action]. Explain what you did and why/how you did it.
		I	participate in extended conversations and discussions about a variety of topics and texts.	Explain a personal experience.			
WRITING	2	PE/E	participate in written exchanges about familiar topics.	Select the correctly written sentence.	Discrete item	MC (4 options, 1 point)	Which sentence corrects the error?
		B	participate in written exchanges about familiar topics and texts.				Which is the best introductory sentence for the paragraph?
		I	participate in extended written exchanges about a variety of topics and texts.	Select the most appropriate introductory sentence.			
	3	PE/E	follow the basic rules for discussion.				
		B	follow the rules for discussion.				
		I	express own ideas using the rules for discussion.				

Terms used and supports across grades

Grade 1 S02(RC).B-1

5 Read the sentence from paragraph 1 of the story.

The largest bat measures over five feet long when it spreads its wings.

What does the word spreads mean in the sentence?

- ☐ folds
- ☐ hangs
- ☐ opens

Grades 4 – 5 S02(RC).B-1 and B-3

Read the sentence from paragraph 3.

Two elements are needed for rainbows to form: white light and water.

What does the word elements mean as it is used in the sentence?

- ☐ bands
- ☐ colors
- ☐ events
- ☐ parts

Read the sentence from paragraph 2 of the section "Chiltepinos: Tiny Peppers with Big Taste."

Chiltepinos are the only chili pepper native to the United States.

What is the meaning of native as it is used in the sentence?

- ☐ used to preserve food
- ☐ mostly grown in hot areas
- ☐ originally from a certain area
- ☐ used to cure health problems

Grades 2 – 3 S10(LA).B-6

CLICK PLAY TO LISTEN



Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ The cat sleeps near the window.
- ☐ The cat sleeping near the window.
- ☐ The cat will sleeps near the window.
- ☐ The cat will sleeping near the window.

Grades 9 – 12 S10(LA).I-5

Which sentence is written correctly?

- ☐ Alice drivied the car while her companion was reading the map.
- ☐ Alice driving the car while her companion was reading the map.
- ☐ Alice was drive the car while her companion was reading the map.
- ☐ Alice was driving the car while her companion was reading the map.

AZELLA Sample Tests

Digital Kits and Teacher's Editions available at <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/azella> under *AZELLA Sample Test Information*

AZELLA Assessment

The Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) is a standards-based assessment that meets both state and federal requirements to measure students' English language proficiency. AZELLA is used for both placement and reassessment purposes. Students who have been identified as second language learners on the Home Language Survey take the AZELLA placement test, and the students' proficiency scores determine appropriate placement for instruction. Students who have been placed into an English language learner program will also take the AZELLA reassessment once per year until they achieve proficiency. Students who have scored proficient on the AZELLA are then monitored for two years to help ensure success after their move into a mainstream classroom.

▶ General Information

▼ AZELLA Sample Tests Information

The AZELLA Sample Tests are aligned to the 2019 English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS).

Kindergarten

- [AZELLA Kindergarten Sample Test Book](#)
- [AZELLA Kindergarten Sample Test Audio Files](#)
 - [AZELLA Sample Test Audio Grade K Unit 1](#)
 - [AZELLA Sample Test Audio Grade K Unit 5](#)
- [AZELLA Kindergarten Sample Test Teacher's Edition](#)

Grade 1

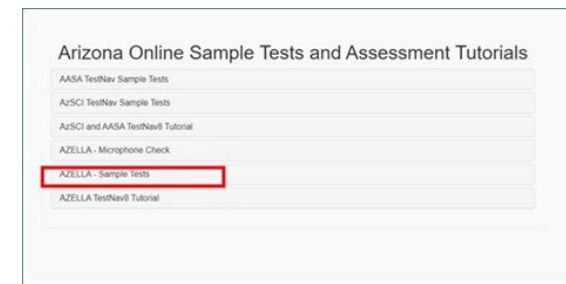
Digital Kits for KG and Grade 1: Student Test Book, audio files, and Teacher's Edition.
Grades 2 – 3 Extended Writing STB and audio file. Grades 4 – 12 Teacher's Editions.

Online Sample Test are accessible through <https://az.testnav.com/client/index.html> or the dedicated TestNav application



The image shows the TestNav Arizona login interface. It features a header with the 'TestNav Arizona' logo. Below the logo are two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. The 'Password' field has a small eye icon to its right. A blue 'Sign In' button is positioned below the password field. At the bottom of the login area, there is a red-bordered button labeled 'Mic Check & Sample Tests' with a microphone icon.

- Grades 2 – 3:
Units 1, 2, 3, and 5
- Grades 4 – 12:
All five test units



The image shows a list titled 'Arizona Online Sample Tests and Assessment Tutorials'. The list contains several items, each with a text input field to its right. The items are: 'AASA TestNav Sample Tests', 'ArSci TestNav Sample Tests', 'ArSci and AASA TestNav Tutorial', 'AZELLA - Microphone Check', 'AZELLA - Sample Tests', and 'AZELLA TestNav Tutorial'. The 'AZELLA - Sample Tests' item is highlighted with a red border.

POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF THE AZELLA ITEM SPECIFICATIONS



Applications and Resources

- Create items aligned to the ELP Standards similar to those that students will encounter in AZELLA for the purpose of:
 - Classroom quizzes and tests
 - Formative assessments
 - Additional practice for the Spring Reassessment
- Educators can contribute to the development of a school or district item bank
- Resources available:
 - AZELLA Item Specifications (KG, Grade 1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5, Grades 6-8, and Grades 9-12)
 - Considerations to Create an English Language Test handout
 - Ideas and templates to develop items by grade/grade band handouts (6 in total)

Ideas and Templates to Develop Items –Grade 1

Grade 1



Community Helpers

Firefighter



Farmer



Librarian



Grade 1



1. Community Helpers Speaking prompt (chart).

Include: Standard and PI alignment, task summary, stimulus description, format, and proposed prompt.

Grade 1



2. Daniela and Darío: ER Writing Prompt.

Narrator: Listen to the story about Daniela and Darío.

Speaker 1: It was hot outside. Daniela and Darío had a great idea. They picked lemons from their lemon tree. They asked their mom to help them make lemonade. That afternoon, they set up a lemonade stand and served the neighborhood fresh lemonade.

Narrator: In the story, Marcos and Maria _____
 _____ . Think about a time you _____
 _____ . / What do you think will happen next in the story? [question #1] [question #2] [question #3]

Write 3–4 sentences to answer the questions: [question #1]
 [question #2] [question #3]

Be sure to:

- Answer the questions completely
- Use complete sentences
- Use descriptive words
- Use correct capitalization, spelling, and punctuation

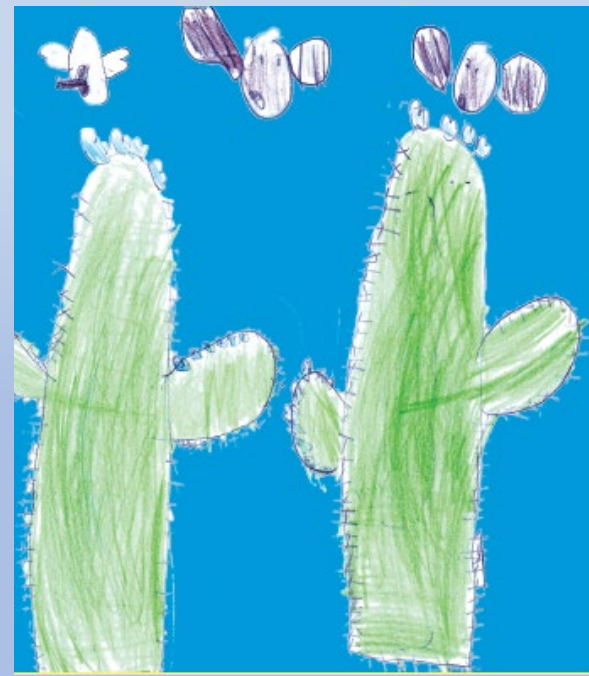


Your Writing prompt here

Be sure to:

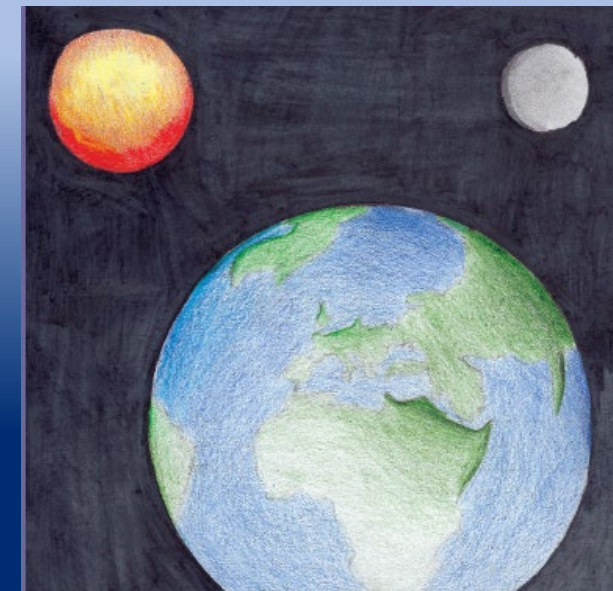
- Answer the questions completely
- Use complete sentences
- Use descriptive words
- Use correct capitalization, spelling, and punctuation





Considerations to Create
an English Language Test

PELL Meeting
September 6, 2023



Questions and considerations to create an English language classroom test

- ✓ Are the test **procedures practical**? (look at directions, admin time, ease of scoring)
- ✓ Is the test **reliable**? That is, would the same student/group of students get identical or similar scores if they were to take the same test under the same test-taking circumstances? Rubrics are critical for reliability.
- ✓ Is the test, to the extent possible, **authentic**?
- ✓ Does the test measure what it is **intended to measure**? (Look at the ELP standards, performance indicators, and proficiency levels. If a section of a test, for example, is supposed to assess Speaking, make sure that is you are not assessing Reading.)
- ✓ Is the test **free of bias** and **culturally sensitive**?
- ✓ Is the test **accessible** and does it provide sufficient and **adequate supports** for ELs of varying levels of proficiency?
- ✓ Whenever possible, **pilot your test** or “administer” it to a fellow teacher or coworker. This will help you **determine** if there are any **adjustments** or enhancements you need to do before your students take the test.
- ✓ Create your own **item specifications** and templates, it will help you develop new and better items.
- ✓ Create your own **item bank**. You worked very hard to develop your test. You might be able to use it all, or parts of it, next school year.

Suggested literature:

Brown & Abeywickrama (2010)

Language Assessments Principles and Classroom Practices

Spring 2024 Reassessment -Kindergarten and Grade 1 Speaking Test (Unit 5)

- TestNav will replace the phone administration.
- Student experience will be virtually the same when compared to the phone administration. **In a one-on-one administration:**
 - Students will use their Student Test Book.
 - Only the Test Administrator will interact with the testing device.
 - Test Administrator will sign into TestNav with the Testing Ticket, play the question or prompt for the student, and record their answer.
 - The KG and Grade 1 Unit 5 Sample Test will be available in TestNav for Test Administrators and students to practice before the administration of the Reassessment test.
 - A new Speaking Demonstration Video will be available in PAN and embedded in the Reassessment K – 1 training module.
 - Scripted directions in TAD will include, “Turn the page. Look at number X.”
 - There should not be a considerable pause between the question/prompt and recording the student response. ADE will be monitoring.

QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!

For questions, please contact us at:

AZELLA@azed.gov

