

*New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners*

# **NYSITELL 2018 Update**

**Turnkey Training: Levels II – VIII**

**February 2, 2018**

LONG ISLAND  
REGIONAL BILINGUAL EDUCATION  

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RESOURCE NETWORK

# Purpose of the NYSITELL

- The NYSITELL is part of the formal identification process for English Language Learners (ELLs)/Multilingual Learners (MLLs) in New York State.
- The NYSITELL is given ***once*** to assess the English language proficiency level of new entrants whose home or primary language, as indicated in the Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ) and Individual Interview, is other than English.
- If a student receives a score of *Entering, Emerging, Transitioning, or Expanding* on the NYSITELL, then the student is considered to be an ELL/MLL. If a student receives a score of *Commanding*, the student is not an ELL/MLL.

# NYSITELL General Information

- 2018 NYSITELL ***replaces*** the 2014 edition
  - 2014 edition ceases as of January 31, 2018
  - 2014 edition should be destroyed securely so as not to become mixed with the new tests
- Timeline for Implementation:
  - February 1, 2018: Levels II-VIII
  - June 1, 2018: Level I (*incoming Kindergarten*)

# NYSITELL General Information

- 2018 NYSITELL is aligned to the NYSESLAT and includes similar question types
- Eight (8) test levels aligned to grade and date of entry
- Four Modalities
  - Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing
  - Except Level 1 – Integrated Listening and Speaking only

# 2018 NYSITELL Public Documents

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysitell/>

- *Guide to the NYSITELL Levels I-VIII, 2018 Edition*
- *NYSITELL Frequently Asked Questions*
- *NYSITELL 2018 Edition PowerPoint Webinar*

# 2018 NYSITELL Secure Documents

*These documents are provided with NYSITELL test materials.*

- ***Directions for Administration (DFA)***
  - Specific procedures for administering the test at each level
  - Delivered with secure test materials
- ***2018 NYSITELL Speaking and Writing Scoring Guide & Speaking Exemplars CD***
  - Specific information for scoring the Speaking and Writing Subtests
  - Delivered with secure test materials

# NYSITELL Levels & Test Administration Schedule

## Comparison: New vs. Old

2018



2014



Level	Grade in which student is enrolling	Dates on which test will be administered
I	Grade K	June 1–January 31
II	Grade K Grade 1	February 1–June 30 July 15–January 31
III	Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3	February 1–June 30 July 15–June 30 July 15–January 31
IV	Grade 3 Grade 4	February 1–June 30 July 15–January 31
V	Grade 4 Grade 5	February 1–June 30 July 15–January 31
VI	Grade 5 Grade 6 Grade 7	February 1–June 30 July 15–June 30 July 15–January 31
VII	Grade 7 Grade 8 Grade 9	February 1–June 30 July 15–June 30 July 15–January 31
VIII	Grade 9 Grades 10–12	February 1–June 30 July 15–June 30

Level	Grade in which student is enrolling	Dates on which test will be administered
I	Grade K	June 1 – January 31
II	Grade K Grade 1	February 1 – June 30 July 15 – January 31
III	Grade 1 Grade 2	February 1 – June 30 July 15 – January 31
IV	Grade 2 Grade 3	February 1 – June 30 July 15 – January 31
V	Grade 3 Grade 4	February 1 – June 30 July 15 – June 30
VI	Grades 5-6	July 15 – June 30
VII	Grade 7-8	July 15 – June 30
VIII	Grade 9-12	July 15 – June 30

# NYSITELL Subtests Item Types

Subtest	Response Type*	Number of Questions							
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
Level									
Listening	MC	16	10	11	11	11	11	11	11
Reading	MC	—	9	14	14	14	14	14	14
Writing	Letter	—	1 (1 pt)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Word	—	1 (2 pts)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sentence	—	1 (2 pts)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	CR	—	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)	1 (4 pts)
Speaking	CR	9 (16 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)	6 (11 pts)
Total Questions		25	29	32	32	32	32	32	32
Total Points		32	39	40	40	40	40	40	40

\* Response Type: MC = multiple-choice question; CR = constructed-response (open-ended) question



# Estimated Administration Times

- The NYSITELL is untimed.
- The table below presents *estimated* times for planning purposes.

Level	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Maximum Estimated Total Time*
I**		—	—		25 min
II	15–20 min	15–20 min	10–15 min	10 min	1 hour 5 min
III	20–25 min	15–20 min	10–15 min	10 min	1 hour 10 min
IV	20–25 min	15–20 min	10–15 min	10 min	1 hour 10 min
V	20–25 min	15–20 min	10–15 min	10 min	1 hour 10 min
VI	20–25 min	15–20 min	10–15 min	10 min	1 hour 10 min
VII	25–30 min	20–25 min	15–20 min	10 min	1 hour 25 min
VIII	25–30 min	20–25 min	15–20 min	10 min	1 hour 25 min

\* This time does not include the recommended breaks.

\*\*Level I is an integrated Listening and Speaking test booklet; therefore, modality testing times have not been estimated.

# NYSITELL Level I

- **NYSITELL Level 1: Entering Kindergarten Students**
  - May begin administering on June 1st
  - Individually Administered
  - 1 booklet: Integrated Speaking and Listening

# Test Administration – Level I Overview

- Consists **only** of Listening and Speaking Subtests
- Speaking subtest is scored at the time of administration
- Entire test **must** be Individually Administered
- Students respond to the Listening multiple-choice questions by pointing to an answer choice
- Responses to multiple-choice items are recorded by the examiner on the student answer sheet at the time of administration

# NYSITELL Levels II -VIII

- **NYSITELL Levels II – VIII**
  - 2 booklets
    - 1 Speaking
    - 1 Integrated Listening, Reading and Writing
  - Administered in one to two sessions
  - Speaking subtest can be administered before or after administration of Listening, Reading and Writing
  - Listening/Reading/Writing subtests must be administered in the sequence found in the test booklet
  - *Schools are not permitted to administer Levels II – VIII from July 1 - July 14*

# Test Administration – Level II - III Overview

- **Speaking** is individually administered and scored at the time of administration
- **Listening, Reading and Writing** administered individually or in a group setting
- *It is recommended to individually administer entire test at Levels II – III*
- Students mark their responses to multiple choice questions in their test booklets
- Responses ***must be transcribed by school personnel from the booklet to student's machine-scannable answer sheet;***
  - *Make sure that the student information on the test booklet matches the information on the answer sheet before transcribing any responses*

# Test Administration – Level IV – VIII Overview

- Speaking is individually administered and scored at the time of administration
- Listening, Reading and Writing can be administered individually or in a group setting
- Students mark their responses on their machine-scannable answer sheets

# Who Should Administer the NYSITELL?

- Teachers or Administrators able to carry out standard examination procedures
- Should have special training in administering NYSITELL or NYSESLAT
- May include:
  - NYS Certified ESOL or Bilingual Education Teachers
  - NYS Certified teachers who have been trained in cultural competency, language development, and the needs of ELL/MLLs
  - NYS Certified teachers

# Who Should Administer the NYSITELL?

- *Examiners must read and become thoroughly familiar with the procedures and scripts in the DFA **before** administering each level of the NYSITELL, including instructions specific to each subtest*
- Teachers familiar with NYSESLAT administration will be familiar with the question types and administration procedures on the 2018 NYSITELL
- For the Speaking subtest, the teacher who administers the test can be the same person who scores the Speaking.



# Stopping Rules

- A Stopping Rule has been incorporated into the NYSITELL Speaking, Listening and Reading subtests for Levels III – VIII
  - *Level II also contains a Stopping Rule for Writing*
- Specific instructions for individual and group administration are provided in the DFA
- Generally, if a student is unable to answer the first 3 questions, the Stopping Rule can be used.
- If a subtest is discontinued for any student, must mark the appropriate “Tested but unable to answer any questions” next to the corresponding subtest

<b>Tested but unable to answer any questions</b>
<input type="radio"/> Listening
<input type="radio"/> Reading
<input type="radio"/> Writing
<input type="radio"/> Speaking

# Administering & Scoring the Speaking Subtest

- Examiners **must** become thoroughly familiar with the **Speaking and Writing Scoring Guide** and the **Speaking Exemplars CD** prior to administering and scoring the Speaking subtest
- Students individual scores will be recorded on the *NYSITELL Speaking Score Sheet (2018 Edition)*
- Sufficient copies of the Speaking Score Sheet should be photocopied and distributed to test scorers prior to the administration
- Scores from the Speaking Score Sheet must be transcribed onto the student's machine-scannable answer sheet **after** all other subtests have been administered

# Administering & Scoring Writing Subtest

- Examiners **must** become thoroughly familiar with the *Speaking and Writing Scoring Guide* prior to scoring the Writing subtest
- Students individual scores will be recorded on their individual machine-scannable answer sheet
- NYSITELL Writing rubrics **are the same as** the NYSESLAT Writing rubrics

# Understanding Holistic Scoring

The NYSITELL Speaking and Writing subtests are scored using *holistic rubrics*.

- Student responses are evaluated for total, overall performance.
- Scores are assigned based on the criteria delineated in the *rubric*.
  - Match evidence from the response to the language of the rubrics.
  - Look for **what is included** in the response, not what is missing.
- The highest point on a rubric scale does **not** measure a “perfect” response.

# Test Accommodations

- In general, **students with disabilities** must be provided with the testing accommodations specified in their IEPs or 504 plans when taking the NYSITELL but must not alter the construct of the test
- Accommodations may be provided to students who incur disabilities within 30 days before the assessment, *at the principal's discretion*; written report of authorization must be faxed to NYSED OSA
- **ELL/MLL Accommodations** permitted on other NYS assessments are not permitted on this assessment
- Consult the *2018 Guide to the NYSITELL p 7-10* for guidance regarding test accommodations

# Scanning (Scoring) the NYSITELL Answer Sheets

- District specific machine-scannable answer sheets provided by the RICs must be used
- All student responses and scores must be recorded on the machine scannable answer sheets
  - Ensure the names match between answer sheets and booklets for those levels requiring transcription
- Answer sheets must be submitted to the RICs for scanning and score reporting
- Consult the local RIC for information on procuring and processing NYSITELL answer sheets
- Hand scoring is not allowed

# Record Retention

- Permanent Record:
  - NYSITELL results
  - any other records generated during the identification process
- Retain for 1 Year:
  - Booklets containing student responses
  - Students' individual answer sheets

# Review of NYSITELL 2018 Sample Items

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysitell/2018/nysitellguide18.pdf>

- Level II: Sample 1 Listening – p 28
- Level II: Sample 10 Reading – p43
- Level II: Sample 13 Writing – p 47
- Level II & III: Sample 14 Speaking – p48
- Levels III – V: Sample 15 Listening – p50
- Levels III – V: Sample 17 Reading – p54
- Levels III – V: Sample 19 Writing – p58
- Levels IV – V: Sample 20 Speaking – p 62
- Levels VI – VIII: Sample 21 Listening – p 63
- Levels VI – VIII: Sample 24 Reading – p 68
- Levels VI – VIII: Sample 27 Writing – p 74
- Levels VI – VIII: Sample 28 Speaking – p 80



# NYSITELL Contacts

- L.I. RBERN (631)244-4016 (East)  
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- Nassau RIC (516)608-6612
- Suffolk RIC (631) 244-4210