



Say HELLO to TELL

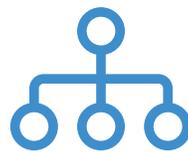


Meet TELL, the Test of English Language Learning

It's unlike any test you've seen, touched, or heard. TELL is a tablet-delivered language proficiency assessment for Grades K–12. It's interactive, accurate, and reliable. And it includes three types of tests to help you screen, diagnose, and monitor the progress of your English Language Learners (ELLs).



SCREEN and identify students' English language proficiency level and inform program decisions.



DIAGNOSE abilities and skill levels to establish a baseline at the beginning and compare with the end-of-the-year diagnostic to determine growth.



MONITOR PROGRESS and use key data to inform instruction throughout the year—a capacity no other language assessment can provide.

Contents

Meet TELL—What is it?	2	Reporting options	9
How does TELL work?	3	Technology behind TELL	12
Standards alignment and scoring	6	Getting started/Implementation	15



TELL in your classroom

No more using valuable teacher time to administer assessments. No more waiting months for students' language proficiency scores that may be outdated by the time you get them. With the Test of English Language Learning or TELL™'s, self-delivered assessments, student responses are automatically scored, and you get immediate, accurate results. Finally, you'll have the data you need to personalize ELL instruction throughout the school year.

What makes TELL so unique? Ongoing progress monitoring! Our engaging interactive items present students with authentic and contextualized tasks built for assessing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Then, our innovative scoring technology allows us to measure several skills with a single item. This is commonly referred to as integrated skills assessment. For example, when students watch a video clip and say what they saw, TELL can measure their speaking skills as well as several sub-skills, including grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluency.

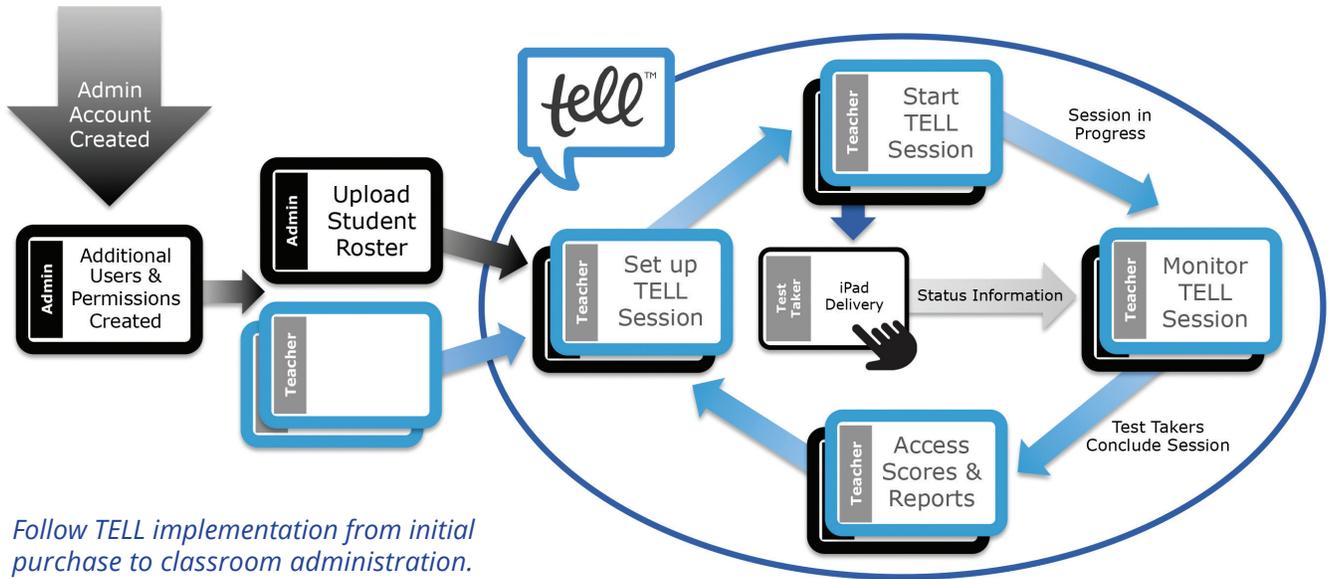
How does TELL work?

With minimal set-up time, students can begin testing. During test administration, students watch video clips and interact with pictures and words on a tablet, then answer questions out loud. They listen, write, read, and speak—all with no mark-ups or grading by teachers. TELL's innovative speech recognition and writing evaluation technology means scoring is automatic and results are available immediately!



The assessment is unique for a couple of reasons. It doesn't require intense teacher involvement for testing, it engages students in a meaningful interaction with the assessment, and it gives assessment feedback in areas of language development that we find difficult to assess unless a student is working with a test administrator in a one-on-one setting.

~ Craig Conte,
District Curriculum
Director, Old Adobe Union
School District,
Sonoma County California



Follow TELL implementation from initial purchase to classroom administration. Admin actions are shown in black and teacher actions in blue.

Managing TELL

The TELL system is an internal Pearson technology environment that supports our next-generation learning assessment solutions.

Administrators can use the system to:

- Manage licenses
- Upload student rosters
- View progress monitoring
- Monitor testing and view score reports

Teachers and administrators can both use the system to:

- Create classes or custom groups
- Set up test sessions
- View progress monitoring
- Monitor testing and view score reports



Tablet administration

TELL's self-delivery is groundbreaking. Students start with an initial tech check to make sure their tablet's audio and microphone are working properly, and then are introduced to TELL through guided video tutorials before seeing any items. They make their own way through the assessment, responding to fun, engaging items that feel more like a game than a test. TELL announces when they're done. Depending on test type (screener, diagnostic, or progress monitor), tests can take 20–50 minutes.

Convenient, flexible, and scalable, TELL can be used with just one student at a time or with a small to large group.



Having groups of students take the test at the same time gave the test administrators literally hundreds of hours back from the time that was previously invested in testing. I can also see how using an online format will give us the test results much faster and with more accuracy.

~ Rod Federwisch, Principal,
Butterfield Ranch Elementary
School in Chino Hills, California



Standards alignment and scoring

TELL ELD standards alignment

TELL aligns with World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA™) English Language Development (ELD) Standards as well as other state standards.

External experts and ELL educators conducted standards alignment studies to investigate the degree of the alignment of TELL items and items types to the ELD standards of Arizona, California, Texas, and WIDA. These standards alignment studies examined the degree to which linguistic forms and language functions identified in a set of ELD standards are covered by TELL items. They also evaluated how consistent the coverage is when broken out by grade or grade band, skill domain, and item type.

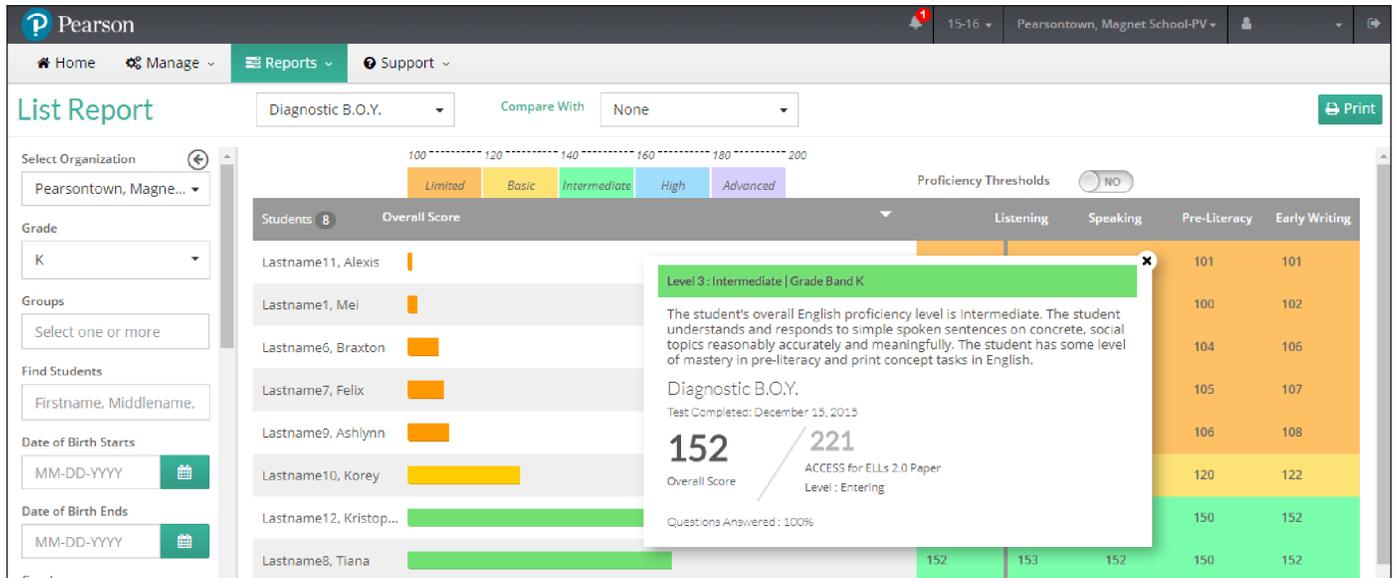
In particular, these alignment studies provide information about how well TELL items address the language features of the standards that articulate expectations for the development of English in a K–12 context.

Reports concluded that a close alignment exists between TELL and the ELD standards of Arizona, California, Texas, and WIDA, indicating that it adequately covers those standards and can be integrated with confidence into the instructional program.

Comparing TELL scores to ELD assessment results

The relationship between TELL overall scores and scores on other large-scale ELD assessments was established through a large data collection. Our resulting score concordance tables allow you to estimate how a student might score on a summative language proficiency assessment based on his or her TELL results. 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 administrators.

Grade	TELL Overall Score	Best Estimate Overall Score ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper	WIDA Paper Proficiency Level	Best Estimate Overall Score ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Online	WIDA Online Proficiency Level
1	299	339	Expanding	334	Expanding
1	300	340	Expanding	335	Expanding
2	200	238	Entering	232	Entering
2	201	240	Entering	233	Entering
2	202	241	Entering	235	Entering



The screenshot shows the Pearson TELL List Report interface. The main report displays a list of 8 students with their overall scores and proficiency levels. A detailed view for a student with an overall score of 152 is shown, indicating a proficiency level of Intermediate (Level 3) for Grade Band K. The student's scores are: Overall Score: 152, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper Level: Entering, Questions Answered: 100%. The student's scores on the four domains are: Listening: 101, Speaking: 101, Pre-Literacy: 102, and Early Writing: 102.

Student	Overall Score	Listening	Speaking	Pre-Literacy	Early Writing
Lastname11, Alexis	152	101	101	102	102
Lastname1, Mei	152	104	106	105	107
Lastname6, Braxton	152	106	108	120	122
Lastname7, Felix	152	150	152	150	152
Lastname9, Ashlynn	152	150	152	150	152
Lastname10, Korey	152	153	152	150	152
Lastname12, Kristop...	152	153	152	150	152
Lastname8, Tiana	152	153	152	150	152

Consecutive score scales

TELL uses state-of-the-art technology that enables highly efficient, consistent, and objective scoring on 4 foundational skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking, as well as various subskills. The subskills assessed vary by grade level.

Grade K

4 Subskills: vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and fluency

Grades 1-2

7 Subskills: vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, fluency, reading rate, pre-literacy, and reading comprehension

Grades 3-12

6 Subskills: vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, fluency, reading rate, expressiveness

Grade Band	Score Scale
K	100–200
1–2	200–300
3–5	300–400
6–8	400–500
9–12	500–600

TELL scores are reported on consecutive scales, with overall, domain scores, and subskill scores all reported on the same scale corresponding with the grade band.

Level	Proficiency
5	Advanced Proficiency
4	High Proficiency
3	Intermediate Proficiency
2	Basic Proficiency
1	Limited Proficiency

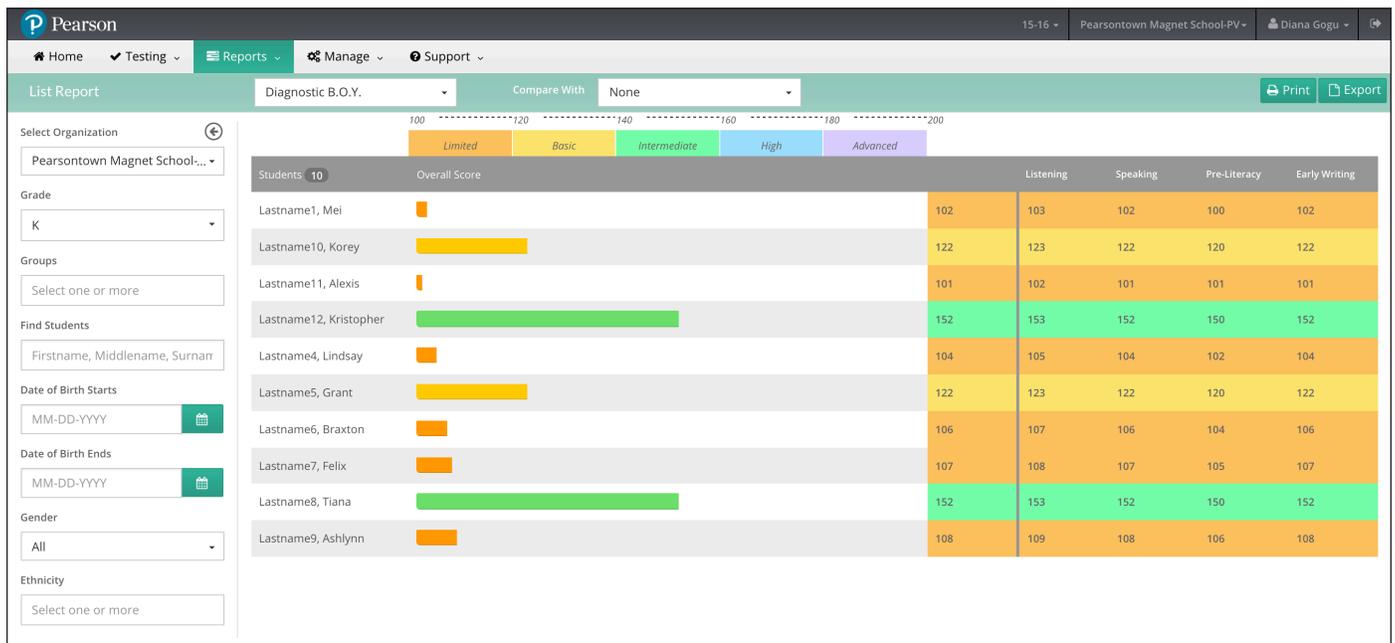
All grade bands have 5 proficiency levels.

Reporting options

With reports available in minutes, teachers will know early, quickly, and often where ELLs are in relation to proficiency levels, helping them make informed instructional decisions. Educators will also be able to accurately determine which students qualify for ELD programs. All reports can be exported into Excel and uploaded into a student information system.

List reports

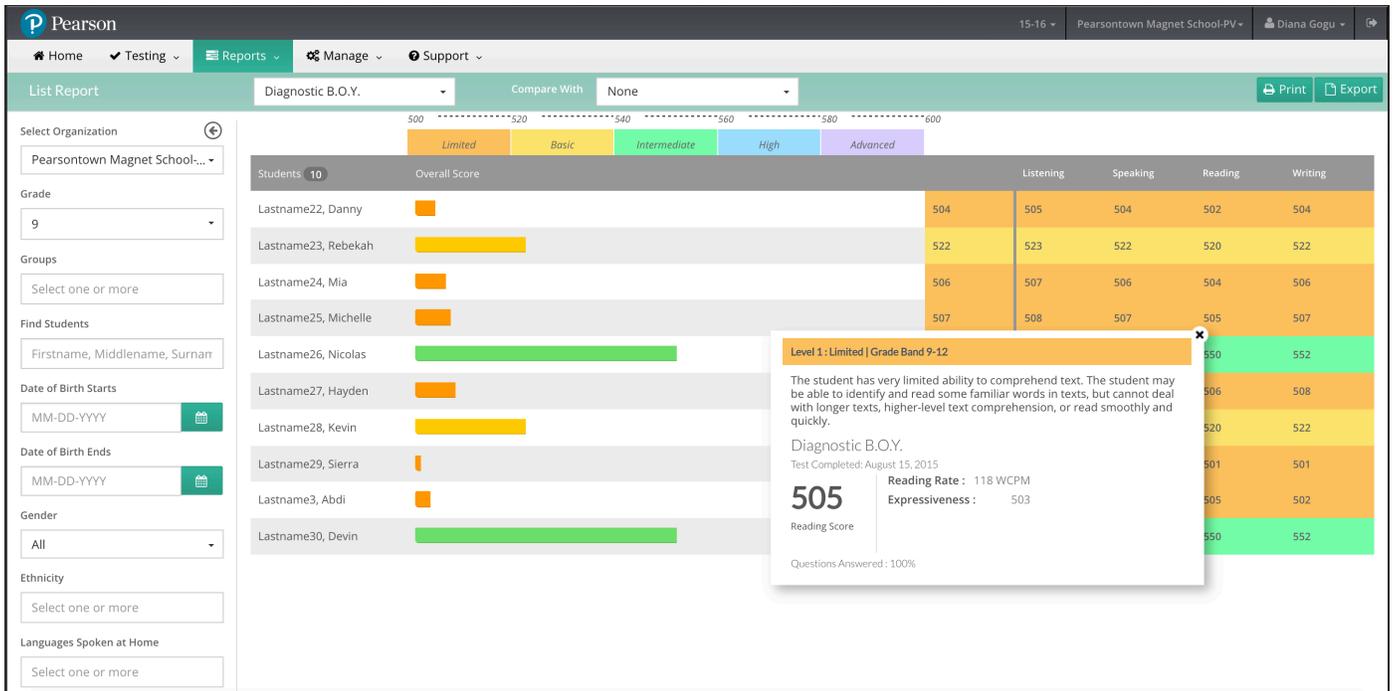
View student results for each assessment in an interactive roster format that allows educators to quickly dive deeper for detailed information.



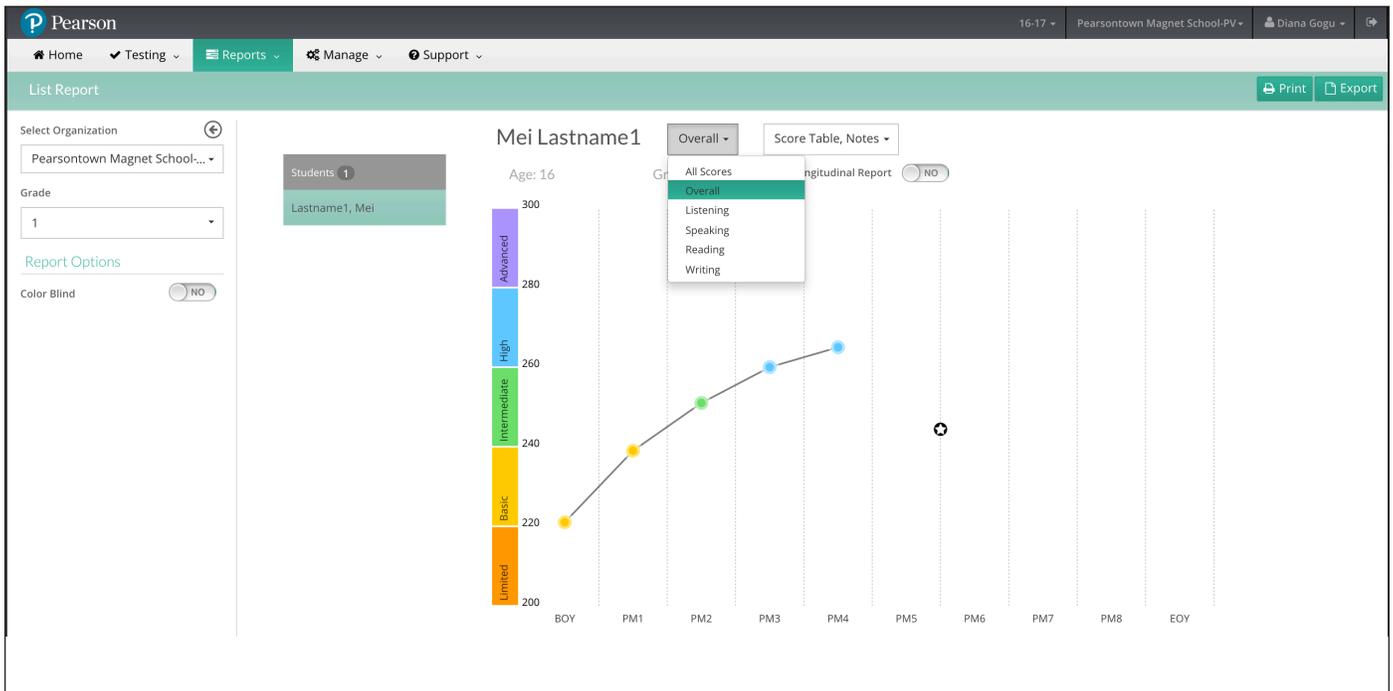
The screenshot shows the Pearson reporting interface for a 'Diagnostic B.O.Y.' assessment. The interface includes a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Testing', 'Reports', 'Manage', and 'Support'. The main area displays a list of 10 students with their overall scores and domain scores for Listening, Speaking, Pre-Literacy, and Early Writing. A color-coded proficiency scale is shown at the top, ranging from Limited (orange) to Advanced (purple). The table below shows the data for each student.

Students	Overall Score	Listening	Speaking	Pre-Literacy	Early Writing
Lastname1, Mei	102	103	102	100	102
Lastname10, Korey	122	123	122	120	122
Lastname11, Alexis	101	102	101	101	101
Lastname12, Kristopher	152	153	152	150	152
Lastname4, Lindsay	104	105	104	102	104
Lastname5, Grant	122	123	122	120	122
Lastname6, Braxton	106	107	106	104	106
Lastname7, Felix	107	108	107	105	107
Lastname8, Tiana	152	153	152	150	152
Lastname9, Ashlynn	108	109	108	106	108

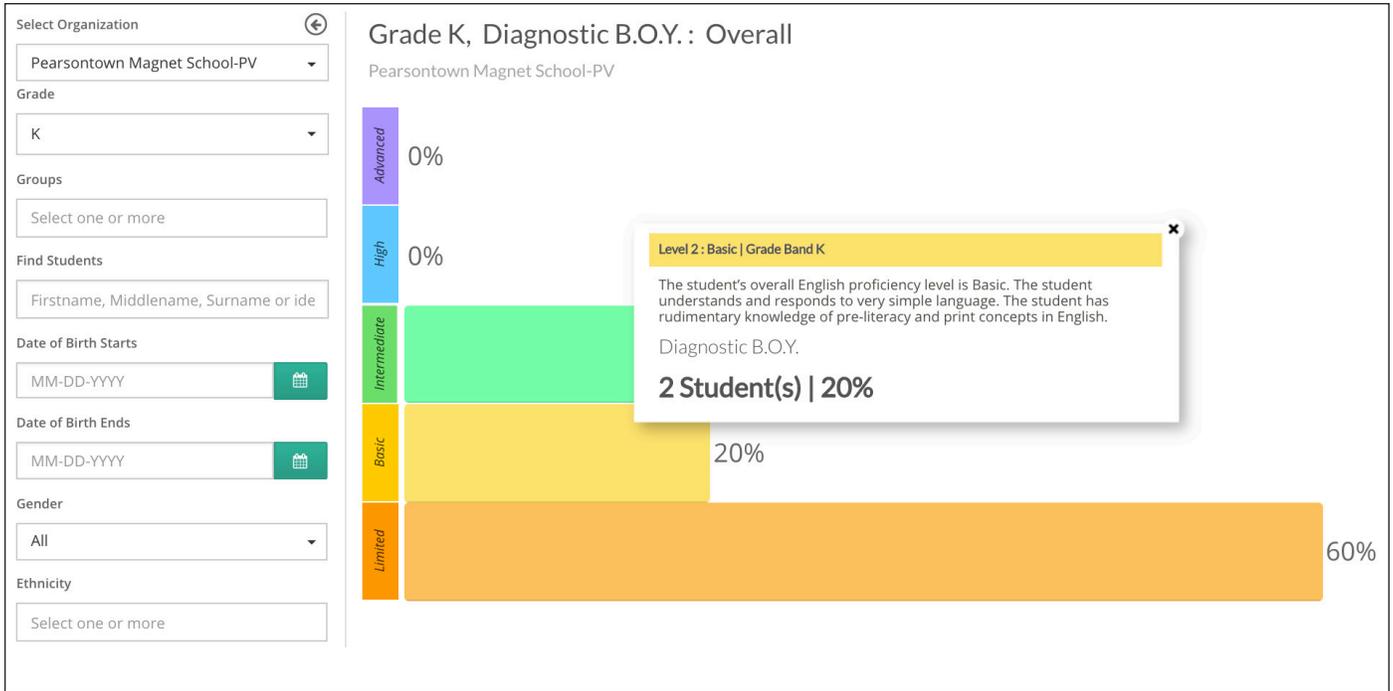
From the standard list view, educators can see Overall and Domain scores for each student. Color banding allows one to quickly see student proficiency levels and by clicking on a value, additional information appears.



Select any student's domain score to see a performance description for that proficiency level, subskill scores within the domain, and the percentage of test questions the student answered.



Select a student name to view the individual's test data as a graph that shows student progress and proficiency levels over time. Educators can also select any point on the graph to see the details of the student's score for that assessment.



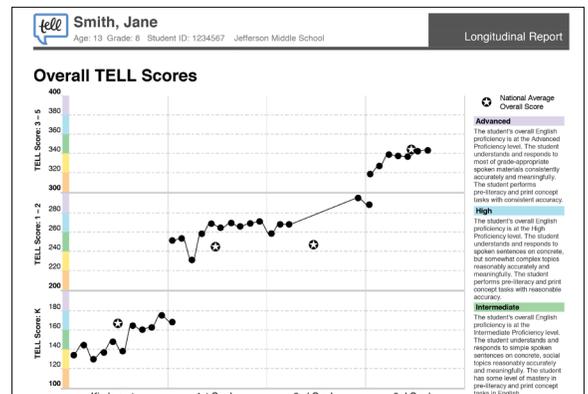
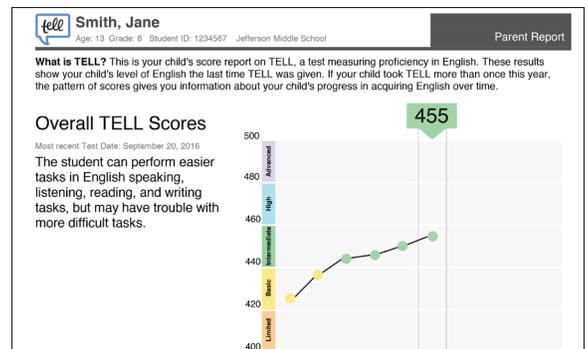
Filter the report by schools, teachers, gender, grade, test type, etc., to see proficiency level bars and the percentage of students at each level. Select any proficiency level to see the grade band, proficiency level descriptor, the test name (e.g., Diagnostic, Beginning Year), the number of students at this level, and the percentage of students at this level.

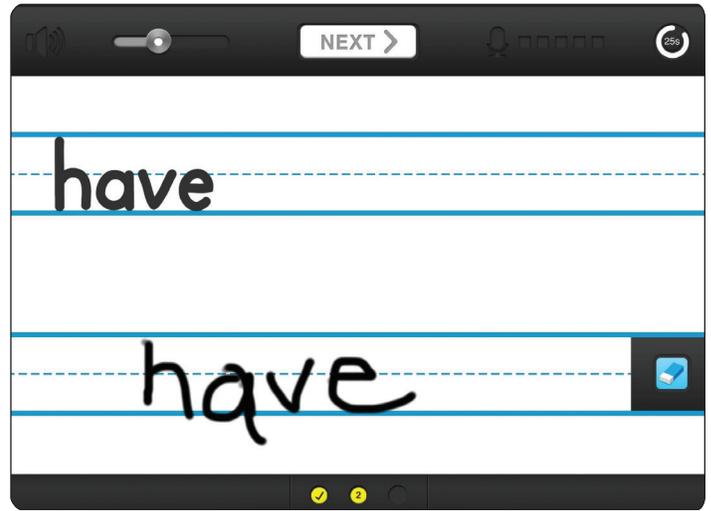
Parent reports

TELL also provides a report for parents in English, Spanish, and Chinese so that they can see how their student is progressing.

Longitudinal reporting

TELL includes multi-year progress reports that allow schools to ensure that students are making steady progress from one academic year to the next.





Many thought that they were playing some kind of educational game and really tried hard to score well. They all wanted to know how well they had performed. One boy wanted to know if we were going to give medals or prizes for the winners.

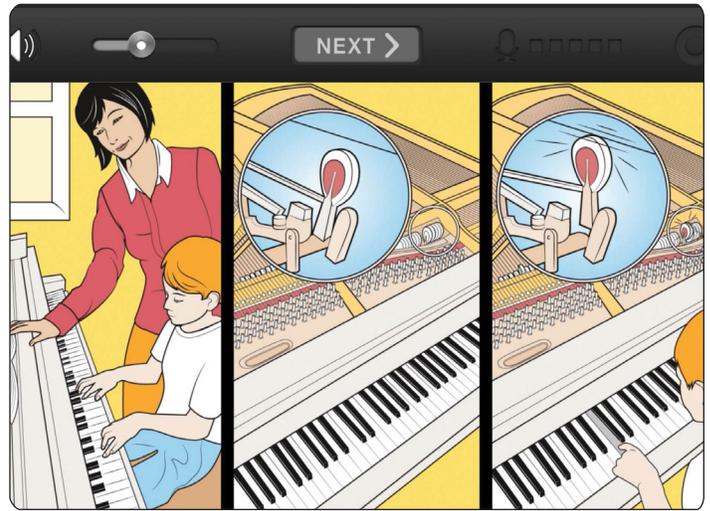
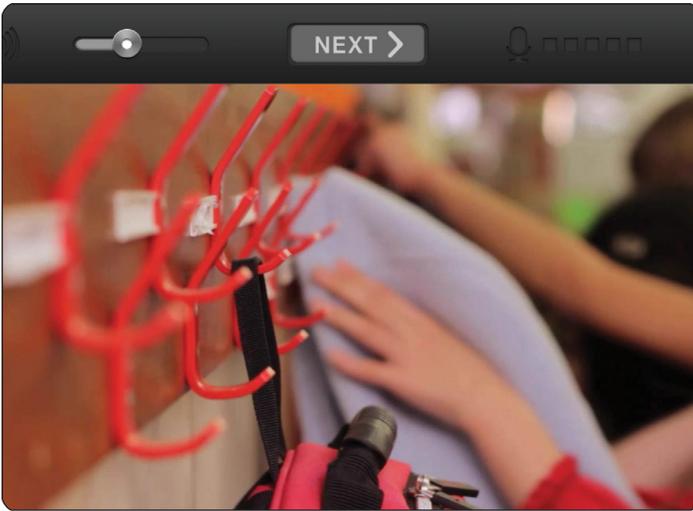
~ Rod Federwisch, Principal,
Butterfield Ranch Elementary
School in Chino Hills, California

Technology behind TELL

A research-based approach

Language learning is a dynamic, developmental process, and educational research has given us practical insight into how students acquire language skills and how to best measure those skills. We know that the modalities of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are best taught and learned in an integrated manner.

Further, research suggests that “deep learning” is facilitated through contextualization. In other words, students learn English best by applying a combination of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in meaningful, real-world situations. Finally, when it comes to teaching English, research tells us that monitoring students’ learning progress and adjusting instruction accordingly is particularly valuable for their development of English language proficiency.

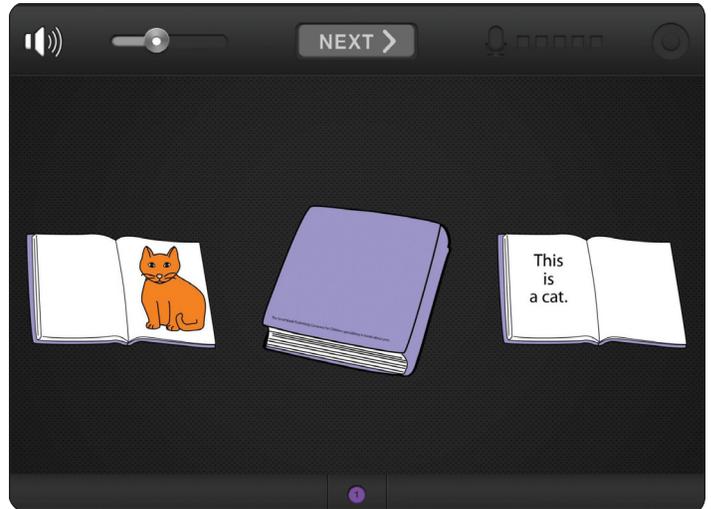
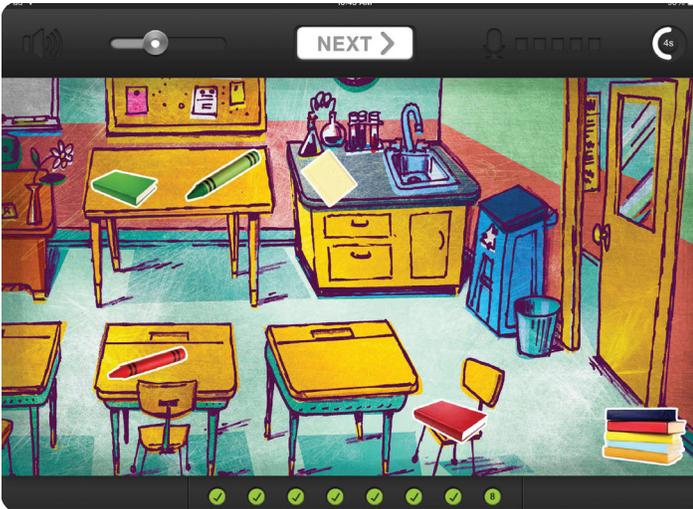


These principles of integrated skills, contextualization, and progress monitoring led us to develop TELL—a whole new approach to language proficiency assessment. TELL integrates skills, as appropriate (e.g., reading and writing, reading and speaking, listening and speaking), to promote language proficiency development. It presents elements of language in familiar and meaningful (contextualized) ways to facilitate language use and learning. TELL also includes items that don't require students to produce language—allowing you to measure a student's receptive language skills.



Trusted automated scoring

TELL's innovative technology makes it all possible. Unlike conventional language assessments, a unique feature of TELL is that students' spoken and written responses are automatically scored. The automated scoring systems implemented in TELL are custom-built for TELL items. However, TELL's automated scoring technology has been researched, validated, and used for more than a decade as part of Pearson's language assessments and language instructional systems.



Visit
PearsonAssessments.com/TELL
to learn more about the
research behind TELL.

The underlying technology for evaluating spoken responses is based on the patented Versant™ testing system, which locates and evaluates relevant segments, syllables, and phrases, and then uses statistical modeling techniques to assess the spoken performance of the test taker. Versant is used by leading corporations, government agencies, and academic institutions across the globe.

Pearson's technology for automatically scoring written responses uses Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA), a theoretically driven statistical method of modeling language that measures the semantic similarity of words and documents with accuracy closely approximating that of human judges. This technology is used in high-stakes testing and classroom products for building literacy skills.

Together, these technologies give TELL the unique ability to automatically score reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This combination allows us to finally test language proficiency in the way we teach and learn it—in real-world situations that require us to use integrated skills to understand, formulate responses, and communicate.

Getting started

We're here to help you successfully implement TELL and maximize its effectiveness in your classrooms. Our TELL implementation team will provide you with the resources needed to begin setting up your TELL account and assist you with this process. Pearson offers a variety of training options, all led by certified trainers, to help you implement TELL with fidelity and put your students on the road to academic success.

Training and professional development workshops

We offer half-day and full day on-site workshops that will introduce the TELL components to participants and demonstrate how it can be used to screen, diagnose, and progress monitor English language learners. During this training, participants will experience TELL from the student perspective and learn the best practices for test preparation and test administration. This training will also introduce the different reports TELL can generate, as well as how to interpret data to inform instruction, increase student achievement, and integrate TELL into your ELD instruction.

Web-based professional development workshops

Our half-day webinar training provides a virtual introduction to getting started with TELL. Trainers will give participants a clear understanding of how TELL can be used to manage users, test sessions, and review data and reports. This webinar also includes a one-hour follow up consultation to discuss your school or district's individual questions.

Consultation with a TELL certified trainer

Our expert team also offers customized one-hour virtual consultation sessions for customers who have begun using TELL. Our TELL certified trainers will work closely with your school personnel to create a customized agenda to meet the needs of your school.



Workshops:

Day 1:

Overview and Essentials—

This workshop includes a full TELL demonstration. Participants will learn the benefits and components of TELL and the necessary preparations for testing and progress monitoring. Participants will leave the session ready to begin their Screening and/or Diagnostic assessments.

Day 2:

Reports and Implications—

Participants will review Screening, Diagnostic, and Progress Monitoring reports and discuss strategies for using the data to improve instructional planning and student engagement and performance.



Funding resources

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 TELL:

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

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant
- Investing in Innovation
- Innovative Approaches to Literacy
- State-specific grants

Additional funding ideas

- After school/Summer school grants
- Community partnerships
- Foundation funding or donations
- PTA funds
- Impact aid



*To learn more
about school funding
opportunities, contact
your Pearson Assessment
Consultant at 800-328-5999.*



TELL helps meet key ESSA recommendations for ELLs

Under ESSA, English language proficiency is one of the academic indicators that comprise a state's accountability system. The academic indicator for the ELL student group required in a state's ESSA application is commonly called the ELL Progress Indicator and is typically defined as the percent of ELLs that moved up at least one performance level on the state's ELL summative assessment (e.g. WIDA, CELDT, TELPAS, etc.) from prior year to current year, plus the percent of ELL students reclassified as fluent English proficient.

States' ESSA applications that include English language proficiency as one of the academic indicators require ELLs to make progress towards English proficiency. ELL progress is typically determined using two data sources: (1) the state's summative ELL assessment and (2) reclassification data. A state's summative ELL assessment is used to measure ELLs' annual progress toward English proficiency. Having only one data point to measure progress – the state's ELL summative assessment score – doesn't provide critical data on ELLs' progress during the year needed to inform instruction. TELL is used to measure ELLs' progress throughout

the year, producing valuable reporting data to inform instruction. TELL could also be used by districts/LEAs as a standard English language proficiency assessment to reclassify ELLs as fluent English proficient (RFEP) during the year. Current criteria for reclassification vary by state and local districts/LEAs.

Districts/LEAs and schools will benefit from having an ELL proficiency and progress monitoring assessment like TELL (which assesses 4 skills just like most state ELL summative assessments) that:

- measures ELLs' progress toward English proficiency during the school year,
- uses automated scoring technology to provide immediate results to inform instruction and impact learning, and
- is aligned to, and predictive of, the state's ELL summative assessment

TELL dovetails with ESSA's requirements and goal to help ELLs' make progress towards English language proficiency, increase ELLs' access to curriculum, and make a difference in ELLs' success.



*For Technical Support,
call 1-800-328-5999*

System specifications

TELL supports a variety of configurations. While other combinations of settings and software versions may also function, the following are the recommended configurations for optimal use:

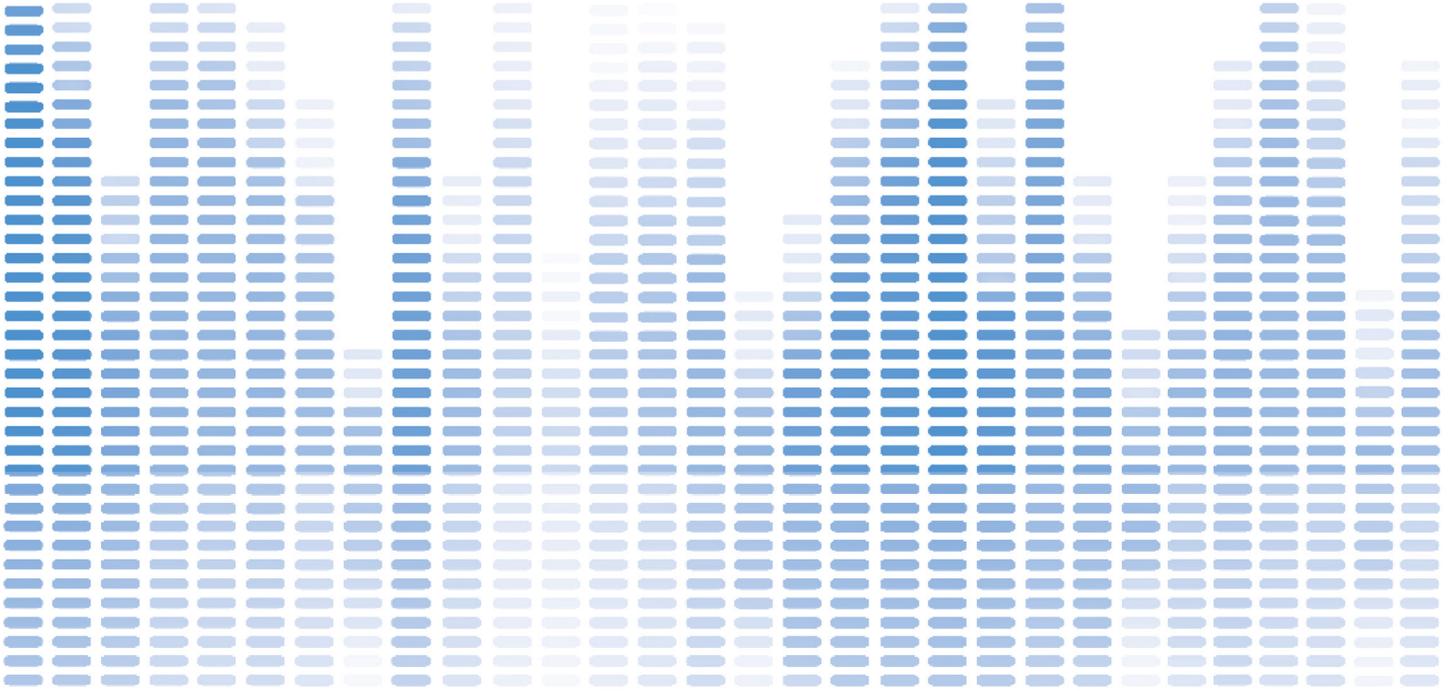
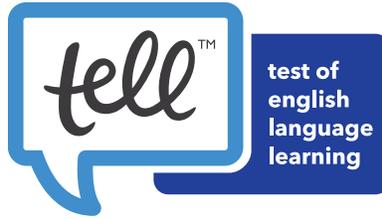
Equipment & app

- **iOS:** iPad 2 or higher (including iPad mini); Compatible with iOSv11+
- **Android:** All Android tablets with screen sizes 8" and higher; Android versions 5.0 and higher
- TELL app locally installed on the tablet device
- App requires an internet connection to begin taking each test and at the end of the test to transfer responses for scoring
- Flash is not required for student or administrative access
- Tablet-compatible headsets (single jack) with boom microphone
- Tablet stand

TELL content delivery options

1. **Proctor Caching:** Schools can use a local computer to pull and store TELL test content. This stored, or "cached," test content is then distributed to TELL iPads as tests are started.
2. **Single Download:** Individual test content will be downloaded once student enters login codes.
3. **Client Caching:** Schools can download all TELL test content or grade band-specific content directly onto individual iPads prior to commencing a testing session.





Learning makes us

Every lesson builds character, shapes dreams, guides futures, and strengthens communities. At Pearson, your learning gives us purpose. We are devoted to creating effective, accessible solutions that provide boundless opportunities for learners at every stage of the journey.

For additional information or to speak with a Pearson Assessment Consultant, we invite you to call **800-328-5999** or visit us online at **[PearsonAssessments.com/TELL](https://www.pearsonassessments.com/TELL)**

800-328-5999 | [PearsonAssessments.com](https://www.pearsonassessments.com)

© 2022 Pearson Education, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Pearson and TELL are trademarks, in the US and/or other countries, of Pearson plc. CLINA1175 EL 03/22

