



Did you know this about State Testing?

<p style="text-align: center;">Shorter</p> <p>ELA (English Language Arts) and Math tests have fewer questions. The ELA test also has a reduced number of reading passages. Each test is given for 50 to 90 minutes on each of the 3 days.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Untimed</p> <p>ELA and Math tests are untimed. Students can take their time to finish and check the whole test without feeling any pressure of a time limit.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Not All at Once</p> <p>This year the ELA test is at the end of March and the Math test is at the beginning of May.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Accommodations</p> <p>Now more accommodations are being allowed on the ELA state tests for Special Education students with an IEP (Individualized Education Plan).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Fair Passages</p> <p>Questar uses several different common measures to determine readability of reading passages. The reading passages are chosen by teachers from all over New York state. A variety of reading levels are used on each test to measure students who read on grade level, below grade level and above grade level.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Usable Scores</p> <p>Data about each school's performance on the test was received by the end of May 2016 and teachers were able to meet to use the information for planning curriculum changes. Individual student reports were received over the summer and mailed home before school started in September.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Teachers See the Test</p> <p>Last year ALL of the students' writing responses in grades 3-8 were released back to the schools. Professional development has been taking place in Putnam Valley so teachers can view the tests and plan lessons to best support our students.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parents See the Test</p> <p>Parents can see their child's test. YOU CAN MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE YOUR CHILD'S TEST FROM 2016. Call the school now to set up an appointment.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Teachers are Involved</p> <p>Now that Questar has taken over creating the tests from Pearson, teachers from all over New York state are involved in the test creation, including reading passage selection and item writing. Some Putnam Valley teachers have been involved in the Questar test making sessions over the last year.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Teacher APPR</p> <p>For teacher's APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) there is a new law of APPR 3012-d which designates that only a small percentage of a teacher's overall score now comes from state ELA and Math tests.</p>

Resources:

- <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/2016/changes2016grades3-8ela-math-tests.pdf>
- <https://www.engageny.org/file/148621/download/2016-instructional-reports-test-questions-release-memo.pdf?token=wq9cthR->
- <https://www.engageny.org/resource/released-2016-3-8-ela-and-mathematics-state-test-questions>
- <https://www.engageny.org/resource/appr-3012-d>
- <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/testing-accommodations-ela-grades-3-8.htm>