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# Alternate ELPAC

Alternate English Language  
Proficiency Assessments for California



## Scoring Guide



**Practice Test**  
**Grades 6–8**

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# Practice Test Scoring Guide — Grades Six–Eight

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## Introduction to the Practice Test Scoring Guide

This Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (Alternate ELPAC) Practice Test Scoring Guide offers details about the test questions, student response types, correct responses, and related scoring considerations for the included samples of practice items. The Practice Test gives students, parents and families, teachers, administrators, and others an opportunity to become familiar with the types of test questions on the Alternate ELPAC. When students know what to expect on the test, they will be better prepared to demonstrate their English language proficiency. The Practice Test provides a sample of the question types and grade-level content on the Alternate ELPAC and contains the same number of questions that appear on the operational tests.

The following information is presented for each item:

**Item:** The number that corresponds to the test question as it appears in the Practice Test.

**Key:** Represents the correct answer to the item and includes the score point value for the item and its parts. Items are worth either one or two points. For some technology-enhanced items, there is also a picture of the correct answer marked.

**Task Type:** Each task type is an activity that was designed to gather targeted evidence of a student's English language proficiency (e.g., "Communicate About Familiar Topics"). A task type is a set with a story or passage and two to four items. Each set is about a topic, such as taking a field trip or going to an event at school.

**Connector:** The Alternate ELPAC is designed to align with the California 2012 English Language Development (ELD) Standards via the ELD Connectors, which reduce the depth, breadth, and complexity of the standards, as appropriate for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The connectors represent the highest level of expected performance in English language proficiency at a given grade or grade span.

**Linguistic Complexity Level (LCL):** There are three linguistic complexity levels on the Alternate ELPAC: low, medium, and high. Each of these describes the English language skills expected of the student at the given level.

### Example of Metadata

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
1	C	Interact with an Informational Text  Polar Bears	PI.C.12: Select and apply appropriate general academic and domain-specific vocabulary to convey precise meaning.	High

## Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
1	A (1 point)	Recognize and Use Common Words  Transportation	<p>PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Low
2	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Recognize and Use Common Words  Transportation	<p>PII.B.4: Recognize and use an increasing number of nouns and noun phrases in producing simple and compound sentences on familiar topics.</p>	Low

Sample Responses and rubric for item 2:

<p><b>2 points</b></p> <p><b>Sample Response:</b></p> <p>“bus”</p> <p><b>Rubric:</b></p> <p>Correct response</p>
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Rubric continues on the next page

Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Rubric continues from previous page

**1 point**

**Sample Response:**

“bus”

**Rubric:**

The student indicates “bus” after modeling.

**0 points**

**Rubric:**

- No response
- Not in English
- Incorrect response, e.g., “car” or “airplane”

Item metadata table continuation showing item 3

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
3	A  (1 point)	Communicate About Familiar Topics  Book	<p>PI.A.1: Exchange information and ideas by participating in short conversations, asking and answering questions, responding to the ideas of others, and expressing one’s own ideas about familiar social and academic topics.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Low

Item metadata table continuation showing item 4

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
4	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Communicate About Familiar Topics  Book	<p>PI.A.1: Exchange information and ideas by participating in short conversations, asking and answering questions, responding to the ideas of others, and expressing one’s own ideas about familiar social and academic topics.</p> <p>PI.C.10: Write or compose short literary and informational texts with detail to communicate about familiar texts, topics, and experiences using appropriate technology.</p>	Low

Sample Responses and rubric for item 4:

<p><b>2 points</b></p> <p><b>Sample Response:</b></p> <p>“yes”</p> <p><b>Rubric:</b></p> <p>Correct response</p> <p><b>1 point</b></p> <p><b>Sample Response:</b></p> <p>“yes”</p> <p><b>Rubric:</b></p> <p>The student provides a correct response after modeling.</p> <p><b>0 points</b></p> <p><b>Rubric:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response</li> <li>• Not in English</li> <li>• Incorrect response</li> </ul>
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Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Item metadata table continuation showing items 5–7

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
5	B (1 point)	Understand a School Exchange Classroom	<p>PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Medium
6	A (1 point)	Understand a School Exchange Classroom	<p>PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Low
7	C (1 point)	Understand a School Exchange Classroom	<p>PI.A.1: Exchange information and ideas by participating in short conversations, asking and answering questions, responding to the ideas of others, and expressing one’s own ideas about familiar social and academic topics.</p>	Low



Item metadata table continuation showing items 8–10

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
8	A (1 point)	Understand a School Exchange Classroom	PI.A.4: Adapt language choices to various contexts by using language appropriate for a purpose, task, and audience and by using an increasing number of general academic and content-specific words or phrases.	Medium
9	B (1 point)	Describe a Routine Throwing the Ball	PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.  PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.	Medium
10	C (1 point)	Describe a Routine Throwing the Ball	PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.  PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.	Medium

Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Item metadata table continuation showing items 11–14

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
11	A (1 point)	Describe a Routine Throwing the Ball	PII.A.2: Show an understanding of cohesion by comprehending how ideas or events are linked throughout a text, retelling a sequence of events or steps in a process, and using connector words, temporal words, and common transitional words and phrases.	Medium
12	B (1 point)	Describe a Routine Throwing the Ball	PII.A.2: Show an understanding of cohesion by comprehending how ideas or events are linked throughout a text, retelling a sequence of events or steps in a process, and using connector words, temporal words, and common transitional words and phrases.	Medium
13	C (1 point)	Understand and Express an Opinion A Change at School	PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.  PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.	Medium
14	B (1 point)	Understand and Express an Opinion A Change at School	PI.A.3: Offer and support opinions with others by providing information and a few reasons or facts to support the information about a familiar topic, experience, or event.	High

Item metadata table continuation showing item 15

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
15	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Understand and Express an Opinion A Change at School	PI.C.11: Support own opinions and evaluate others in speaking and writing by providing information and more than one reason or fact to support the information about a familiar topic.	Medium

Sample Responses and rubric for item 15:

**2 points**

**Sample Responses:**

“art / music”

**Rubric:**

Correct response

**1 point**

**Sample Responses:**

“longer day / one hour”

**Rubric:**

The student response is generally related to the text but does not answer the specific prompt.

**0 points**

**Rubric:**

- No response
- Not in English
- Incorrect response, e.g., “sleep”

Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Item metadata table continuation showing item 16

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
16	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Understand and Express an Opinion A Change at School	PI.C.11: Support own opinions and evaluate others in speaking and writing by providing information and more than one reason or fact to support the information about a familiar topic.	High

Sample Responses and rubric for item 16:

**2 points**

**Sample Responses:**

“longer, can do more art or music / stay the same, tired / I don’t like either, want it shorter”

**Rubric:**

**Correct response**

**1 point**

**Sample Responses:**

“tired / art / longer”

**Rubric:**

The student indicates a choice but no reason, gives a reason but no choice, or gives a response that does not answer the prompt but is related to the story.

**0 points**

**Rubric:**

- No response
- Not in English
- Incorrect response

Item metadata table continuation showing items 17–18

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
17	A (1 point)	Interact with a Literary Text Trip Out to Eat	<p>PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Medium
18	C (1 point)	Interact with a Literary Text Trip Out to Eat	<p>PI.B.5: Listen actively in social and academic contexts by summarizing information, asking and answering questions, identifying central ideas and themes, and identifying supporting details and how they support central ideas or themes in oral presentations.</p> <p>PI.B.6: Read texts and view multimedia to summarize information; identify central ideas, themes, and supporting details; and determine the meaning of words, phrases, and expressions in read-alouds and simple written texts.</p>	Medium

Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

Item metadata table continuation showing item 19

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
19	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Interact with a Literary Text  Trip Out to Eat	PI.C.9: Express information and ideas by planning and delivering short presentations or information on a variety of academic content.  PI.C.10: Write or compose short literary and informational texts with detail to communicate about familiar texts, topics, and experiences using appropriate technology.	Medium

Sample Responses and rubric for item 19:

**2 points**

**Sample Responses:**

“hamburger / burger / food”

**Rubric:**

Correct response

**1 point**

**Sample Responses:**

“out to eat / restaurant / walk”

**Rubric:**

The student response is generally related to the text but does not answer the specific prompt.

**0 points**

**Rubric:**

- No response
- Not in English
- Incorrect response, e.g., “a flower.”

Item metadata table continuation showing items 20–23

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
20	B (1 point)	Interact with a Literary Text  Trip Out to Eat	<p>PI.C.9: Express information and ideas by planning and delivering short presentations or information on a variety of academic content.</p> <p>PI.C.10: Write or compose short literary and informational texts with detail to communicate about familiar texts, topics, and experiences using appropriate technology.</p>	Medium
21	A (1 point)	Interact with an Informational Text  Polar Bears	<p>PII.A.1: Show an understanding of text structure by recognizing how simple texts are organized.</p>	High
22	B (1 point)	Interact with an Informational Text  Polar Bears	<p>PII.A.2: Show an understanding of cohesion by comprehending how ideas or events are linked throughout a text, retelling a sequence of events or steps in a process, and using connector words, temporal words, and common transitional words and phrases.</p>	High
23	Sample Responses and rubric provided below	Interact with an Informational Text  Polar Bears	<p>PI.C.9: Express information and ideas by planning and delivering short presentations or information on a variety of academic content.</p> <p>PI.C.10: Write or compose short literary and informational texts with detail to communicate about familiar texts, topics, and experiences using appropriate technology.</p>	High

Sample Responses and rubric for item 23:

Grades Six – Eight Practice Test Items

**2 points**

**Sample Responses:**

“fur / fat”

**Rubric:**

Correct response

**1 point**

**Sample Responses:**

“nose / food”

**Rubric:**

The student response is generally related to the text but does not answer the specific prompt.

**0 points**

**Rubric:**

- No response
- Not in English
- Incorrect response, e.g., “ice.”

Item metadata table continuation showing item 24

Item	Key	Task Type and Topic	Connector	LCL
24	C (1 point)	Interact with an Informational Text  Polar Bears	PI.C.12: Select and apply appropriate general academic and domain-specific vocabulary to convey precise meaning.	High