General Directions for Administering the Sampler

The purpose of this Sampler is to prepare students for taking the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) so that students become familiar with the types of questions that appear on the test. It offers the teacher an opportunity to review the questions and directions with the students and to help them become familiar with the mechanics of using separate answer sheets. The test administrator (e.g., the teacher) will also become familiar with the rubrics used to score the Pre-Writing, Writing, and Speaking performance tasks. These scoring forms are located in the Sampler booklet.

The Sampler is for practice purposes only. Therefore, students should be given as much help as they need to complete the questions successfully. For most effective use, the Sampler should be administered approximately one week before the regular NYSESLAT administration. You should become thoroughly familiar with these Directions before administering the Sampler. For your convenience, correct responses to the questions are printed in the back of these Directions.

Please make sure to visit the NYSESLAT web page for all updates regarding the NYSESLAT exam. http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/nyseslat/home.shtml
Specific Directions for Administering

To administer the Sampler, read aloud the boldfaced text next to the word “SAY.” Instructions for the test administrator (e.g., the teacher) are printed in plain text and should not be read aloud to the students.

SAY Today we are going to do some practice questions. I am going to give each of you a booklet. Write your name on the front of the booklet, but do not open your booklet until I tell you what to do.

Distribute the Sampler booklets with the front covers facing up. Be sure each student has a booklet and a pencil with an eraser.

SAY Remove the answer sheet from your booklet. (Demonstrate.) Write your name at the top of the page. Make sure the answer sheet is facing up. You will mark the answers to the questions on this answer sheet. There are numbered answer spaces for each question.

Make sure all students have properly detached the answer sheet. Begin the Sampler.

Listening

IMPORTANT NOTE

In this Sampler, the teacher reads the dictated text. In the NYSESLAT Operational Test, the Listening section is administered using a CD.

SAY Open your booklet to page 2. We will start with the Listening section.

Make sure all students have found the Listening section.

SAY Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Listen to the question. Look at the three pictures. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

If you decide to change your answer, remember to erase your first mark completely. Then mark the correct answer.

1 Look at number 1. In this row, you see three pictures. Which picture shows a boy getting dressed? . . . Which picture shows a boy getting dressed?
Call on a student and encourage a reply.

**SAY** The correct answer is the second picture, because it shows a boy putting on his shoe—he is getting dressed. You should have filled in circle “B” for number 1 on your answer sheet. Does anyone have a question?

Answer any questions the students may have.

**SAY** Next you will hear a story and a question about the story. Listen carefully, because the story will only be read one time. The answer to the question will come from the story.

Look at the top of the next page. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Read the question and answers silently as I read them out loud. Listen carefully. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

Look at number 2. What will you buy at the park?

A Fruit  
B Cookies  
C Ice cream  
D Sandwiches

Pause for about 5 seconds.

**SAY** Now listen.

Let’s pack a picnic and take it to the park. We have sandwiches, fresh fruit, salad, and cookies. But we won’t bring ice cream because it would melt. We can get some when we get there. We should also take our red blanket to sit on and some paper plates and plastic cups. Aren’t we lucky that it’s such a beautiful day?

2 Look at number 2. What will you buy at the park?

Pause for about 10 seconds.

**SAY** Does anyone have any questions?

Answer any questions the students may have.

**SAY** Turn to page 4. There are some directions at the top of the page. Read them to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Listen to the person talking. Read the question and look at the pictures. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.
Now read the sentence above the picture.

Your aunt is helping you prepare a meal for your family and your grandmother, who is coming to visit.

Pause for about 10 seconds.

Looking at the top of the next page...

Look at number 3. What should you take from the cabinet?

Now listen.

Put the dishes and silverware on the counter before you set the table. Now let’s see. Get the glasses from the cabinet. Take the knives, spoons, and forks from the drawer.

What should you take from the cabinet?

Pause for about 10 seconds.

Looking at number 4. How will you set the table?

Now listen.

Your mom and dad left at three to pick up your grandmother from the airport. Her plane arrives at four. There’ll only be five eating, but we have a lot to do! Go ahead and set the table while I start to make dinner.

How will you set the table?

Pause for about 10 seconds.

Does anyone have a question about the Listening section?

Answer any questions the students may have.

Reading

Turn to page 6. This is the Reading section. Look at the directions at the top of the page. Read them to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Read the question. Look at the three pictures. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.
1 Look at number 1. Read the question and mark your answer.

Pause for about 10 seconds.

SAY Which answer did you choose?

Call on a student and encourage a reply.

SAY The correct answer is “B,” so you should have filled in circle “B” for number 1 on your answer sheet. The picture shows a girl reading under a tree. Does anyone have a question?

Answer any questions the students may have.

SAY Look at the top of page 8. You will see a poem called “Home.” Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Read the poem and each question. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

Now read the poem silently to yourself. Then read the questions and mark the best answers. You may begin.

Pause while students read the poem and answer the questions. When all students have finished,

SAY Does anyone have a question about the Reading section?

Answer any questions the students may have. Make sure students understand the poem and how to answer the questions.

Writing Conventions

SAY Now turn to page 10. This is the Writing Conventions section. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Look at the picture. Read the question and three answers. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

1 Now look at number 1. Read the question and mark your answer.

Pause while students mark their answers.

SAY Which answer did you choose?

Call on a student and encourage a reply.

SAY This is a picture of a street. Answer “C” shows how to write the word “street,” so it is correct. Does anyone have a question?
Answer any questions the students may have.

**SAY** Look at the middle of the page. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

**Directions:** Read the question and four answers. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

**2** Now you will answer number 2. When you are finished, stop and look up.

Pause while students mark their answers.

**SAY** Does everyone understand how to answer the question?

Answer any questions the students may have.

**SAY** Look at the top of the next page. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

**Directions:** Read the sentence and look at the underlined part. There may be a mistake. If you find a mistake, choose the correct answer. If there is no mistake, choose *Correct as is*. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

Now you will answer number 3. When you are finished, stop and look up.

**3** Pause while students mark their answers.

**SAY** Does anyone have a question about the Writing Conventions section?

Answer any questions the students may have.

**Pre-Writing**

**SAY** Turn to page 12. This is the Pre-Writing section.

You will answer some questions about the pictures. You will use your ideas later.

Pause while students look at the pictures.

**SAY** Read the directions at the top of the page to yourself as I read them out loud.

**Directions:** Immigrants from many different countries and cultures have played an important part in the history of the United States. Immigrants have had a great effect on American society. Look carefully at the pictures. Answer the questions. This will help you write an essay later.

Look at the top of the next page. Read the first question to yourself as I read it out loud. Then write your answer in the box.
1 Look at number 1. Describe what you see in each of the pictures.
Give students as much time as they need to finish writing.

SAY

2 Look at number 2. What do the objects in the pictures represent?
Give students as much time as they need to finish writing.

SAY

3 Look at number 3. Give some examples of how immigrants have contributed to American society.
Give students as much time as they need to finish writing.

SAY This is the end of the Pre-Writing section.

Writing

SAY Look at the top of page 14. This is the Writing section.

Now you will write an essay. You will write on the lines after the pictures. There is a checklist to help you write your essay. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Write an essay about the effect of immigrants on American society. Use your ideas from the Pre-Writing questions to add details to your writing. Make sure your essay is well organized and of sufficient length.

Does anyone have a question?

Answer any questions the students may have.

SAY You may begin writing now.

Give students as much time as they need to finish writing.

When students are finished writing, collect the Sampler booklets. Use the Sampler Pre-Writing and Writing Scoring Forms in the back of each student’s Sampler booklet to score each student’s writing.
The Speaking Sampler is individually administered. Each student will need his or her Sampler booklet to look at the Speaking questions when taking the test. The test administrator or teacher should remove the Sampler Speaking Scoring Forms, located in the back of each Sampler booklet, and use them to score the student’s responses. Review the directions for scoring prior to test administration. Following procedures for scoring the Sampler is important because it mimics the way teachers will score the actual test.

**SAY** Look at the top of page 18. This is the Speaking section. You will answer some questions in English. You will not have to mark or write anything in your booklet. You will only have to speak.

Prepare to score the Speaking section using the Sampler Speaking Scoring Forms.

**SAY** Read the directions at the top of the page to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Look at the words above the picture, and read them silently as I read them out loud. Then look at the picture and finish the sentence. Use the picture to choose your words.

1 Look at number 1. Ravi went to the edge of the pool . . .

Pause for about 15 seconds. Score the response.

**SAY** Look at the top of the next page. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Look at the three pictures. Tell a story about what you see in the pictures. Tell what happened first, what happened next, and what happened last.

2 Look at the pictures in number 2. Think about your story before you begin. Include as many details as you can. You may name the characters in your story. You may begin when you are ready.

Allow the student as much time as he or she needs to respond. Score the response.

**SAY** Turn to page 20. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Look at the picture. Listen to the question about the picture. Then answer the question. Be sure to answer both parts of the question.
3 Look at number 3. What is the woman doing and why?

Pause for about 15 seconds. Score the response.

SAY Look at the top of the next page. Read the directions to yourself as I read them out loud.

Directions: Imagine that we are having a conversation. I will say something to you. Listen and then answer.

4 Look at number 4. What will you do after lunch?

Pause for about 15 seconds. Score the response.

SAY

5 Look at number 5. I really like chocolate ice cream.

Pause for about 15 seconds. Score the response.

SAY This is the end of the Speaking section. Do you have any questions about what we have just done?

Answer any questions the student may have.

SAY Close your booklet so that the front cover is facing up. In a few days, we will do some more activities like this.

Collect the booklet. This concludes the Sampler.
GRADES 5–6 SAMPLER
CORRECT RESPONSES

■ Listening
  1. B
  2. C
  3. A
  4. C

■ Reading
  1. B
  2. B
  3. C
  4. D
  5. A

■ Writing Conventions
  1. C
  2. B
  3. C

■ Pre-Writing
Use the Sampler Pre-Writing Scoring Form in the Sampler booklet to score each student’s responses. Enter scores in the score boxes on the student’s answer sheet.

■ Writing
Use the Sampler Writing Scoring Form in the Sampler booklet to score each student’s responses. Enter scores in the score boxes on the student’s answer sheet.

■ Speaking
Use the Sampler Speaking Scoring Form in the Sampler booklet to score each student’s responses. Enter scores in the score boxes on the student’s answer sheet.