

Placement Test Guide

Overview	2
Test Specifications	3
Sample Questions	3
Subtest 1	3
Subtest 2	4
Subtest 3	5
Subtest 4	6
Subtest 5	7
Subtest 6	8
FAQ	9

Overview

BrainPOP ELL provides a sequence of 90 individual lessons addressing English language learning—from beginning to advanced. The grammar and vocabulary lessons are organized in three proficiency levels, each containing six units. That’s a lot of lessons! So where should each student begin?

The placement test assesses individual student’s language proficiency and uses the results to identify which of the following BrainPOP ELL level and unit to begin with:

	BrainPOP ELL Designation	WIDA ELD Levels	TESOL ELP Levels	CEFR Levels
	Level 1, Units 1-3: Beginning	1 - Entering	1 - Starting	A1 - Basic
	Level 1, Units 4-6: High Beginning	2 - Emerging	2 - Emerging	A2
	Level 2, Units 1-3: Intermediate	3 - Developing	3 - Developing	B1 - Independent
	Level 2, Units 4-6: High Intermediate	4 - Expanding	4 - Expanding	B2
	Level 3, Units 1-3: Advanced	5 - Bridging	5 - Bridging	C1 - Proficient
	Level 3, Units 4-6: High Advanced	6 - Reaching		C2

The questions assess receptive language skills through listening and reading tasks, all with accompanying visuals. For listening, students must listen to the passage before they are able to select an answer. They may listen to each passage twice. The length of the listening and reading passages increases as students advance through the placement test.

The assessment contains six subtests, aligned to the BrainPOP ELL designations in the table above. When a student answers one third or more of the questions in a subtest incorrectly, the assessment is complete. A result screen appears with a certificate indicating the student’s placement level within BrainPOP ELL.

When a teacher assigns the placement test, the results appear on the Teacher Dashboard. The results can also be emailed to a teacher or printed. Depending on how far the student progresses, testing time ranges from **10 to 40 minutes**.

Test Specifications

Subtest	Number of Questions	Modalities Addressed
1	10	Listening (all answer choices are images)
2	11	Listening (all answer choices are images), Reading
3	10	Listening, Reading
4	10	Listening, Reading
5	8	Listening, Reading
6	8	Listening, Reading
	57 total questions	

Sample Questions

Subtest 1

Listening passage:

Hi! I'm Jack Bolton. I'm 10 years old.



Subtest 2

Friday was a great day for Maya. Her school wasn't open because there was a big snowstorm. So what did Maya do? She slept late, watched TV, and played in the snow with her dog. Then she called her friend Liz and asked her to come over. But Liz didn't want to go out. So Maya went to Liz's house. They made cookies and had a good time.



Q

Why was Friday a great day for Maya?

a

Her school wasn't open.

b

She made cookies.

c

She got a dog.

d

She played in the snow with Liz.

Subtest 3

Listening passage:

Jack: Hello?

Sarah: Hi, Jack! I called to see if you want to go to the new skate park with me this afternoon.

Jack: Oh, is the park open now?

Sarah: Yeah, it opened yesterday.

Jack: That sounds cool! When are you going?

Sarah: At two o'clock.

Jack: Oh, I forgot! Mom says I have to clean my room before I go out today.

Sarah: When will you be finished?

Jack: I'll be finished by one thirty. Can you pick me up?

Sarah: Sure, my Dad can take us both. See you soon!



Q

What does Sarah ask Jack to do this afternoon?

a

Go to a skate park

b

Watch television with her

c

Work on a school project

d

Help clean her room

Subtest 4

Do you love biology, chemistry or astronomy? Do you think you can solve a problem or invent a cool, new machine? Then take part in the Applewood Middle School Science Fair on Friday, April 20th. First, you will need an idea for your project. Then you have to talk with your science teacher. He or she has to agree that it is a good idea. There will be first, second, and third place prizes. Visitors from other high schools will decide on the winners. We hope to see you there!



Q

Why do students have to talk to their science teachers?

- a To agree on project ideas
- b To talk about prizes
- c To learn about chemistry
- d To talk about college

Subtest 5

Listening Passage:

Maya: Bernie, are you busy tomorrow after school?

Bernie: No, Maya, why do you ask?

Maya: I am supposed to meet with the Math Club tomorrow but I have to go to the dentist at the same time. Will you please meet with the Math Club for me?

Bernie: Of course, I'll help with the Math Club.

Maya: Great! I'll call you after I finish at the dentist. I'm a little nervous about going there.

Bernie: Haven't you been taking care of your teeth?

Maya: (laughs) Ha! I have been brushing them every day. But I broke a tooth yesterday.

Bernie: Fixing a tooth might cost a lot of money.

Maya: I am not worried about that. I just don't want to be in pain!

Bernie: Don't worry. The dentist will be very careful so it won't hurt.

Maya: Do you think so? I hope you're right!



Maya asks Bernie to _____.

- a** meet with her students
- b** find a good dentist
- c** pay for the dentist
- d** call her students

Subtest 6

Listening Passage:

I'm Jack Bolton and I'm giving my report today about a musician whom I admire; "Duke" Ellington. He was a band leader, a conductor, a composer, an actor, and a pianist. Ellington began playing piano when he was five years old. When he was 14, he wrote his first piece of music. By the time he was 18, he had formed his own orchestra and was conducting, or leading them, from his piano. Later, he moved to New York City, where he became an important jazz player. His band played at Harlem's famous Cotton Club, which had a weekly radio show. Because of that show, he was soon known all over the country. He wrote a symphony that was played in his first concert at New York's famous concert hall, Carnegie Hall. He was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award given by the US President. Ellington played music up until 1974. He said, "Music is how I live, why I live, and how I will be remembered."



Q

Why did Jack choose Duke Ellington for his report?

a

He admires Ellington.

b

He thinks people have forgotten Ellington.

c

He thinks Ellington was a great actor.

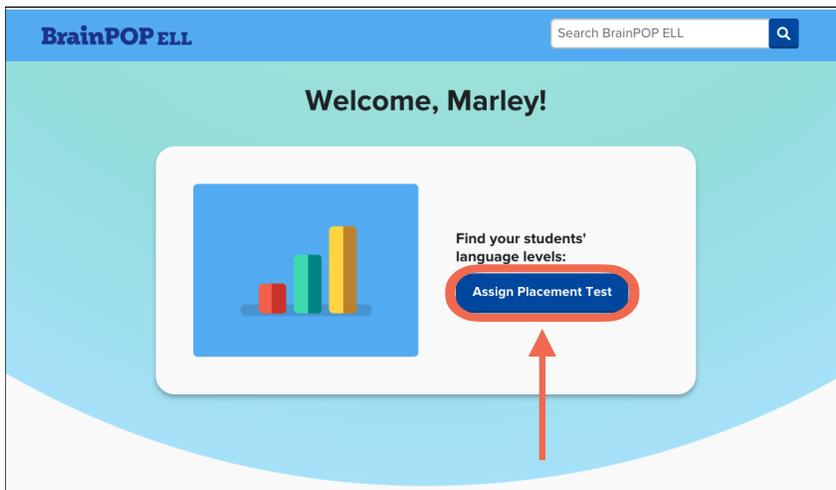
d

He wants the band to play Ellington's music.

FAQ

How does a teacher assign the placement test?

Login to BrainPOP ELL as a teacher and click Assign Placement Test. When assigning the placement test, teachers have the option to assign from a student's last result or from the beginning of the test. By default, each student's placement test will be set to start from their last result (the final section the student didn't pass last time). If a student doesn't have any past placement test results, the test will start from the beginning.



Assign Placement Test

Title
Placement Test

Instructions
Add instructions for your students (optional)

ELL Cluster 1

The placement test contains 6 sub-tests, one for each BrainPOP ELL designation. You can choose to have each student start either from their last placement result (e.g. sub-test 3 - intermediate) or from the beginning. If a student has never taken the test before, they will start from the beginning. For more information, see the [Placement Test Guide](#).

Assign to specific students

	First name	Last name	Username	Last test result	Last test date	Starting point
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Alex	Rush	arush876	Intermediate	06/23/2021	beginning
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Jamila	Wallace	jamwall	High Beginning	09/05/2021	last result
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 Little	Joe	joi444	Advanced	09/05/2021	last result
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 Terry	Pan	panterry	--	--	beginning

Due Date (optional)
m/d/yy

Schedule for later
m/d/yy

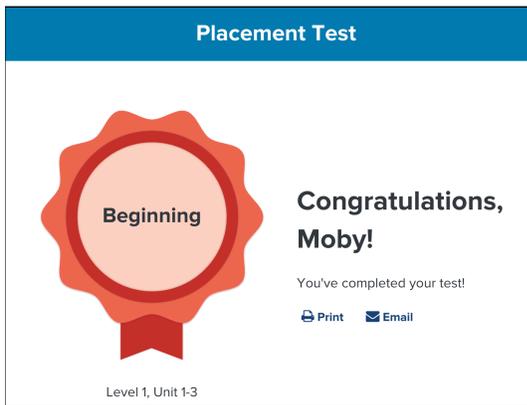
Assign

Can students save and return to a Placement Test?

Yes. Students with individual accounts can access their saved Placement Test from their student timeline whenever they would like to resume the test.

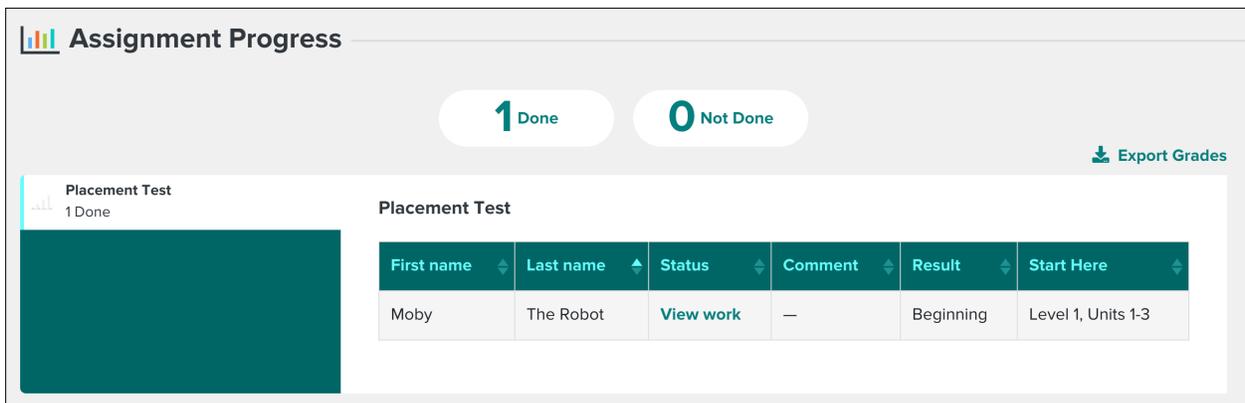
What will a student see when they finish the placement test?

Upon completing an assigned Placement Test, a student sees this screen indicating the level and unit where they are to begin:



What does a teacher see when a student finishes an assigned Placement Test?

A teacher sees the following in the Teacher Dashboard when a student completes the Placement Test:



First name	Last name	Status	Comment	Result	Start Here
Moby	The Robot	View work	—	Beginning	Level 1, Units 1-3

Is A the correct answer to every question?

A is the correct answer for purposes of this document only.