

IXL Diagnostic Instructions

The IXL Diagnostic test scores are recorded for TECS students in grades 3 – 8, three times a year (beginning, middle and end) as part of our monthly testing program. Refer to the current year's monthly testing schedule to identify the specific dates of those testing windows.

Access the diagnostic test by using this link: <https://www.ixl.com/diagnostic/>

You will need to sign in with your name and password as have been provided by the front office.

There are two ways you can choose to administer the IXL diagnostic. You can have your students work on it each week for a small amount of time and the program will work to “pinpoint” their scores. Doing it in this way generally means that scores stay pinpointed and change accordingly as your students’ progress (or decline). You may also choose to have students work on the diagnostic test just during those specific three times a year. Doing this will take longer during those three times, but this option might work better for some classroom schedules. Students work on the test until all of their scores are “pinpointed”. A pinpointed score is a current, up-to-date measurement for that student on that day.

When a student has a pinpointed score during the testing window, it needs to be recorded by the teacher into the monthly testing spreadsheet. Scores can “unpinpoint” if a student doesn’t continue to work in the diagnostic arena, so make sure that you have the pinpointed scores recorded for your own records before they change. As of right now we can’t go back and look at pinpointed scores from the past, so keep this in mind.

The diagnostic can be given as an integrated test where both Math and ELA questions are given at random. However, teachers can change it so that it just gives Math, or just gives ELA questions. (Middle school teachers will want to only select their specific subject.) To change the test from being integrated, have students click the arrow in the right corner of the teal bar (while in the diagnostic arena). From the menu, they can select both subjects, or only math, or only ELA.

There are 13 specific scores that we can get from the IXL diagnostic test: Overall Math (breakdown scores are available for Numbers and Operations, Algebra and Algebraic thinking, Fractions, Geometry, Measurement and also “Data, Statistics and Probability”), Overall ELA and Overall Reading (breakdown scores are available for Reading Strategies, Vocabulary, Writing Strategies, and also “Grammar and Mechanics”).

Directions for students:

Students will login IXL. Have them click on the green Diagnostic tab. If their scores are not pinpointed it will say “Keep diagnosing to narrow down your levels.” If all of their scores are pinpointed, it will say “Your diagnostic stats are fully up to date. Explore your recommendations.” They will then be prompted to click on a green button that says “Step into the arena.”

Directions for you to see the scores:

Log in to IXL with your teacher account. (Students are promoted each year from the office. When you login, you can find their specific information by looking at your student roster.) Click on the green bar where it says “Diagnostic”. Click “See your student’s levels.” In the diagnostic overview, click on the Math tab or the Language Arts tab to see scores. You can click on the subcategories to see those scores as well from this page. You can also generate the individual reports for students that show all scores for each student if you would prefer to gather the information that way.

Interpreting the scores:

IXL Diagnostic scores are quick and easy to interpret. A student who is at the beginning of fourth grade should be scoring 400 for every subject and level. As they progress through the year that score goes up and at the end of the school year, they should be to 500 – which is ready to start 5th grade. A score of 450 would indicate that they are halfway to proficiency on fourth grade material (ie. an ideal place to be at the middle of the fourth grade year).