



**PRE-KINDERGARTEN LANGUAGE SCREENING TOOL  
FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS AND BILINGUAL STUDENTS**

**Directions:** The initial portion of this screening can be performed in an informal format, such as when you are walking down the hall towards the office or as you greet the child; or, in a more structured format, seated at the table in a testing situation. To decrease anxiety on the part of the child and parent, it is suggested to use the informal format when possible. **If the child fails to answer the first three questions in English, discontinue the test.** If the child is unresponsive due to fear or reservation, the test can be performed after a few weeks into the school year.

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. <b>What is your name?</b> <i>The child should be able to say at least their first name, and possibly their last name.</i>		
2. <b>How old are you?</b> <i>The child should state their age. If they only show their fingers to identify their age, ask "How many is that?"</i>		
3. <b>What are your favorite toys?</b> <i>The child should be able to list at least two or three of their favorite toys. If they need prodding, you can ask: "What do you like to play with at home?" Or, "What do you like to play with outside?" If the child fails to answer the first three questions in English, discontinue the test.</i>		
4. <b>Tell me about your _____</b> (use one of the toys he/she mentioned). <b>What is it like?</b> <i>The child should be able to give you 2 or 3 characteristics about the toy.</i>		
5. <b>What are some of your favorite animals?</b> <i>The child should be able to name 3-5 animals.</i>		
6. Can the child follow simple directions such as: <b>"Put the pencil on the table."</b> <b>"Put the book under the table."</b> <i>Include prepositional words such as on and under.</i>		
7. Point to the child's eyes, ears, nose, hair, legs, arms, hands, feet, fingers, knees, head, or toes and ask <b>"What is this?"</b> <i>Can the child name at least 6-8 of them?</i>		
8. Ask the child to draw a picture for you. When the child is finished, say <b>"Tell me about your picture."</b> <i>If child needs encouragement, you can say: "Tell me about this part of your picture."</i>		
9. <i>When the child talks about their picture, does the child include endings on their words such as s, ed, or ing as in the words: playing, balls, rolled?</i>		
10. <i>Does the child use complete sentences with at least 3 or 4 words?</i>		

Total the number of items you answered "yes" ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Total the number of items you answered "no" ..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Scoring instructions:** Proficiency is 70% or 7 out of 10 items. For students who are unable to answer 7 of the 10 questions, they qualify for ELL services and qualify for "bilingual count." If you discontinued the test after the first three items because of incorrect responses, the child qualifies for ELL services.