



GOOD TESTS MEASURE WHAT MATTERS MOST

- Probes students' writing, problem solving and critical thinking skills
- Aligns fully to grade-level expectations for what students should know and be able to do and expectations for what students need for success after high school
- Measures a range of performance, including moderate and high-performing students, not just the average
- Employs a variety of test question types (such as multiple choice, multi-step problems, short answer where students explain/justify their conclusion, extensive writing) well-matched to the skills and knowledge being measured
- Uses excerpts from actual research journals, famous essays and literature for students to read and analyze
- Allows nearly all students to demonstrate what they know and can do regardless of whether they have special learning needs or language barriers (using innovations such as pop-up word glossaries, options for simplified formats and questions in multiple languages)
- Reflects great teaching and strong instructional practices that should be used in classrooms

IMPORTANT FACT

Studies show not all state tests meet these criteria. So don't just trust—verify.