Native Language Literacy Assessment (NLLA)*

October 1 2022 Version

[Languages: English, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Oromo, Somali, Spanish, Swahili & Vietnamese]

CE+HD
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
+ HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Test Administration Instructions

This test assesses students' initial literacy skills in their native language or their language of formal schooling. It is designed to identify students who have yet to acquire basic or initial literacy skills. This test should be administered to students who score a 1 or a 2 on the W-APT (9-12).

To administer the test:

1. **Determine which language the student reads and writes the best.**
   - Ask students which (non-English) language they used previously in school, and select that version of the test for administration. For instance, a student might have Somali as his home language, but have attended school in Arabic. He should take the Arabic version. Another example: a student might have Mam as her first language, but have attended only Spanish-language schools in Guatemala. She should take the Spanish language test. *Students should take the test in their strongest language of literacy.*
   - The test is available only in Amharic, Arabic, Oromo, Somali, Spanish, and Swahili. If a student does not identify one of these languages as a home language or a language of school, the NLLA should <u>not</u> be administered.

2. **Tell the student in English or a language she understands if possible:**
   - This is a test of your writing and reading in Spanish/Arabic/Somali/etc.
   - Do your best to answer in Spanish/Arabic/Somali/etc.

3. **Time students:**
   - Allow 10 minutes maximum to complete the test.
   - Stop after 5 minutes if they cannot complete any questions independently.

SCORING RUBRIC: Native Language Literacy Assessment (NLLA)

Score	Indicator(s): for each question, assign a 0, 1, or 2
0	Blank: No answers provided by the student *For questions 1-5*: Obviously incorrect information provided, suggesting inability to read the question (e.g., date provided instead of name)
1	***For all languages:*** Answers are not complete (e.g., first name only), include English, or, for questions 6-9, are only one word ***For languages with Roman scripts only:*** Letters are in all capitals or all lower case Letters are above, under, or covering the line (or vertically uneven) Letters are far apart from each other (within words) Words are all together in long lines with no separation Letters that are the same are shaped differently in the same word *For question 10*: Less than 2 complete lines written.
2	***For all languages:*** Answers consist of more than one or two words where appropriate (e.g., questions 6-9) ***For languages with Roman scripts only:*** Most or all capitals and lower case letters appear in the correct place Most or all letters are placed on the lines Most or all letters are next to each other (within words) Most or all words are separated from each other Most or all letters are written uniformly *For question 10*: Two or more complete lines written.

Award each response 0, 1 or 2 points. Add up the total score. The maximum score is 20.

Score	Descriptor	Placement suggestion
0-10	Limited NLL experience	Emergent ESL
11-15	Some NLL experience	(variable; see student's ed history)
16-20	Extensive NLL experience	Beginning ESL

Test administrator's notes (if time): (e.g., Did student take a long time? Write fluently or reluctantly? Grasp pencil/pen with ease or trepidation?)