

The Instructional Value Of TNReady

- **New Assessments For New Standards:** Since 2010, our state has voluntarily adopted more rigorous, Tennessee-designed academic standards. TNReady was developed with input from Tennessee teachers and education experts to go hand in hand with the new standards, so that students are being tested on what they're actually learning and we can ensure they are prepared for college or a career by the time they graduate high school.
- **Close Alignment With Classroom Instruction:** TNReady is one of many measures used to assess student learning, and it is an important one. It was designed with the help of Tennessee educators to mirror the kind of high-quality work students are already doing in their classrooms. The best preparation for TNReady is day-to-day instruction from Tennessee teachers, and over time the assessments will not require additional student preparation beyond regular instruction. Less test preparation, more instruction.
- **Measuring 21st Century Skills:** TNReady is designed to measure whether students are actually on track for the next grade and acquiring the skills necessary to be prepared for college or a career by graduation. The assessments go beyond just "bubble tests" to allow students to show what they know and can do, and to assess critical thinking, problem solving, clear communications—skills that teachers, parents, and business leaders say are important for success in higher education and the workplace. In English, for example, students will analyze literary and informational texts and write in response to those texts to demonstrate literacy skills appropriate for their grade. In math, TNReady will give students a chance to solve real-world problems involving the key knowledge and skills for their grade level, to show their reasoning, and to construct mathematical arguments with and without calculators.
- **More Actionable Feedback Through Improved Score Reports:** The TNReady score reports provide more in-depth feedback than any previous statewide assessment about subject-specific skills and knowledge. This information will allow parents and teachers to gain a deeper understanding of how they can help a student achieve more in the year ahead and ensure they are on a path to college and career readiness by graduation. Teachers will be given detailed data on each student's strengths and areas for improvement. The reports will include specific guidance parents can use to better support their students at home—ensuring there is a strong link between the home and the classroom.