

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2120
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-2120

TESTING MEMO NO. 627

April 19, 2007

TO: Division Directors of Testing

FROM: Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent
Division of Assessment and Reporting

SUBJECT: Discontinuation of Testing for LEP Students During
Spring 2007 SOL Grades 3 through 8 Reading Tests
Administration

As noted in the Examiner's manuals for the Spring 2007 Standards of Learning (SOL) Test Administration for Grades 3 through 8 Reading, testing may be discontinued for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who are struggling to respond to the test questions. Those students who answer at least five items will be counted as participants in the calculation of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) because they have met the "attemptedness" rule for the SOL tests by responding to five items.

A testing status code must be provided for students who answer four or fewer items on their answer documents since these students will not have met the attemptedness rule. If the school division determines that the student answering four or fewer items refused to take the test, then Testing Status 5 (refusal) may be recorded on the student's answer document or in the student's online test record within PEMSolutions. Before this determination is made, the LEP student should indicate to the Test Examiner either verbally, or non-verbally by shaking his/her head "no," or by not responding to the reading test questions that he or she is not able to complete any more items.

Students with a Testing Status 5 (refusal) marked in their test records will count as participants in the calculation of AYP but will receive a score of "0" that will be included in the calculation of the pass rate.

During the reading test administration, the School Test Coordinators should provide the attached addendum to the Test Examiners.

If you have questions, please contact the Division of Assessment and Reporting at darfax@doe.virginia.gov or by phone at (804) 225-2102.

SLR/jc

Attachment

**Spring 2007 SOL Reading Test Administrations
Grades 3-8 Examiner's Manuals
Addendum**

Specific Directions for Examiners during the Reading Test Administration

The School Test Coordinators may direct the Test Examiners as follows:

Testing may be discontinued after an LEP student has had sufficient time to answer items on the reading test and indicates to the Examiner that he or she is unable to complete any more items. The LEP student should indicate to the Test Examiner either verbally, or non-verbally by shaking his/her head "no," or by not responding to the reading test questions that he or she is not able to complete any more items.

After the student has indicated that he or she is unable to respond to any more test items,

SAY If you have completed as many items that you can, you may stop now. I will collect your materials. After I have collected your materials, you may sit quietly or read if you wish.

After testing, Examiners should follow specific directions as outlined by the STC for preparing/bundling these answer documents for return to the Division Director of Testing.

NOTE

- If the student has completed at least 5 items, it is not necessary to mark a testing status.
- If the student has completed 4 or fewer items and has indicated refusal to the test examiner, testing status 5 may be marked.