



# EXPLORE<sup>®</sup>

## Your Score Report

EXAMPLE, STUDENT

ID#: 1234567890  
GRADE: 8

CLASS/GROUP NAME: SMITH

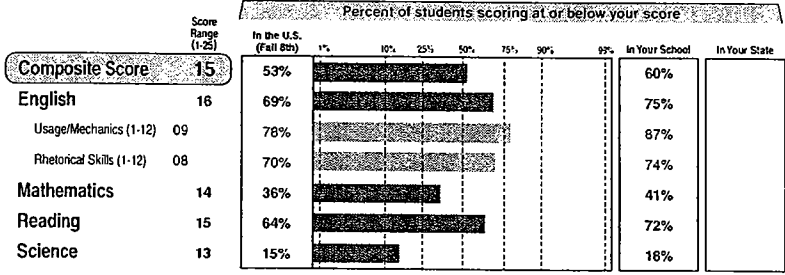
SCHOOL NAME: EXAMPLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

SCHOOL CODE: 000000

TEST FORM: SM6

TEST DATE: October 2012

### Your Scores



More Info at  
[www.explorestudent.org](http://www.explorestudent.org)

**Your Estimated PLAN Composite Score Range**  
15-18  
PLAN is a 10th-grade test that helps you plan for the ACT tests and for college. Additional information is in your booklet *Using Your EXPLORE Results*.

### Your Plans

**Your High School Course Plans Compared to Core**

Core means minimum number of high school courses recommended to prepare for college.

Subject	Year	1	2	3	4
English	Your Core	█	█	█	█
Mathematics	Your Core	█	█	█	█
Social Studies	Your Core	█	█	█	█
Science	Your Core	█	█	█	█

About Your Course Plans. Your plans fall short of the recommended courses. Consider taking additional courses in Math, Social Studies, and Science. (Most successful college students completed all of these recommended courses when they were in high school.) You may want to talk to your counselor or teacher to make sure you are getting the courses you need.

**Your Reported Needs**

- Making plans for my education, career, and work after high school
- ✓ Improving my writing skills
- ✓ Improving my reading speed and comprehension
- ✓ Improving my study skills
- Improving my mathematical skills
- Improving my computer skills
- ✓ Improving my public speaking skills

**College Readiness**

Students scoring at or above these EXPLORE benchmark scores, and taking college prep courses throughout high school, will likely be ready for first-year college courses. How do your scores compare?

EXPLORE Benchmark Scores (8th Grade)	Your score is:	Below	At	Above
English 13		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics 17		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading 15		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science 20		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

About Your Scores. One or more of your EXPLORE scores fall below the benchmark scores that show readiness for college-level work. Suggestions for improving your skills are listed on the back of this report. Also, talk to your counselor or teacher about courses that can improve your skills. It's not too early to start thinking about college.

**Your Plans for After High School**

Educational Plans

4-Year College or University

Career Area Preference

Management

## Your Career Possibilities

EXAMPLE, STUDENT

**STEP 1: You and the World of Work**

The World-of-Work Map is your key to hundreds of jobs in the work world. The Map shows 26 Career Areas (groups of similar jobs) according to their basic work tasks involving people, things, data, and ideas.

The Map is divided into 12 regions. Each region has a different mix of work tasks. For example, Career Area P (Natural Science & Technologies) mostly involves working with Ideas and Things. Which Career Areas mostly involve working with people and data?

**STEP 2: Your Interests**

When you completed EXPLORE you were asked to:

- choose a Career Area you would like.
- complete an interest inventory.

Your results are shown on the World-of-Work Map below.

- You chose Career Area C: Management.
- Your interest inventory results suggest that you may enjoy jobs in map regions 12, 1, and 2. See the Career Areas in those regions.

There are many jobs in these Career Areas. For example, Training/Education Managers work in corporations and organizations. They provide training to help workers improve their skills.

**STEP 3: Exploring Career Options**

The Career Area List below shows examples of jobs in each of the 26 Career Areas. Review all of the Career Areas, especially any that are shaded.

Circle at least two Career Areas that have jobs you might like best.

Find out more about jobs that are right for you. Use the tips in your booklet, or go to [www.explorestudent.org](http://www.explorestudent.org).



Information for Counselors  
Scores: **R6 I2 A3 S8 E7 C5**  
%Like, Indifferent, Dislike: **43—22—35**

**Career Area List**

**A. Employment-Related Services**  
Human Resources Manager; Recruiter; Interviewer

**B. Marketing & Sales**  
Agents (Insurance, Real Estate, etc.); Retail Salesperson

**C. Management**  
Executive; Office Manager; Hotel/Motel Manager

**D. Regulation & Protection**  
Food Inspector; Police Officer; Detective

**E. Communications & Records**  
Secretary; Court Reporter; Office Clerk

**F. Financial Transactions**  
Accountant; Bank Teller; Budget Analyst

**G. Distribution & Dispatching**  
Warehouse Supervisor; Air Traffic Controller

**H. Transport Operation & Related**  
Truck/Bus/Cab Drivers; Ship Captain; Pilot

**I. Agriculture, Forestry & Related**  
Farmer; Nursery Manager; Forester

**J. Computer & Information Specialties**  
Programmer; Systems Analyst; Desktop Publisher; Actuary

**K. Construction & Maintenance**  
Carpenter; Electrician; Bricklayer

**L. Crafts & Related**  
Cabinetmaker; Tailor; Chef/Cook; Jeweler

**M. Manufacturing & Processing**  
Tool & Die Maker; Machinist; Welder; Dry Cleaner

**N. Mechanical & Electrical Specialties**  
Auto Mechanic; Aircraft Mechanic; Office Machine Repairer

**O. Engineering & Technologies**  
Engineers (Civil, etc.); Technicians (Laser, etc.); Architect

**P. Natural Science & Technologies**  
Physicist; Biologist; Chemist; Statistician

**Q. Medical Technologies (also see Area W)**  
Pharmacist; Optician; Dietitian; Technologists (Surgical, etc.)

**R. Medical Diagnosis & Treatment (also see Area W)**  
Physician; Pathologist; Dentist; Veterinarian; Nurse Anesthetist

**S. Social Science**  
Sociologist; Political Scientist; Economist; Urban Planner

**T. Applied Arts (Visual)**  
Artist; Illustrator; Photographer; Interior Designer

**U. Creative & Performing Arts**  
Writer; Musician; Singer; Dancer; TV/Movie Director

**V. Applied Arts (Written & Spoken)**  
Reporter; Columnist; Editor; Librarian

**W. Health Care (also see Areas D and R)**  
Nurse; Therapist; Dental Assistant; Licensed Practical Nurse

**X. Education**  
Administrator; Athletic Coach; Teacher

**Y. Community Services**  
Social Worker; Lawyer; Paralegal; Counselor; Clergy

**Z. Personal Services**  
Hairdresser; Barber; Cosmetologist; Travel Guide

**Your Skills**

More Info at [www.explorestudent.org](http://www.explorestudent.org)

Ask for your test booklet so you can review the questions and your answers. "A" = correct answer, "O" = no response, "\*" = marked more than one answer

Suggestions for improving your skills are based on your scores.

English	SUBSCORE AREA (u = Usage; r = Rhetorical Skills)			Content Areas		
	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Topic Development	Organization	Word Choice
	1 A + r	18 J + r	35 A + r			
	2 H + u	19 C + u	36 H G r			
	3 B A r	20 H G u	37 B C u			
	4 H + u	21 C + r	38 G + u			
	5 A + u	22 G + u	39 A + r			
	6 G + u	23 B + u	40 H J u			
	7 C + u	24 H + u				
	8 F + r	25 D + r				
	9 A + u	26 G F u				
	10 H + u	27 A + u				
	11 C B r	28 H + u				
	12 F + u	29 C D u				
	13 D A u	30 J + r				
	14 G + u	31 A + r				
	15 B + r	32 G + u				
	16 F + u	33 D + r				
	17 D C r	34 F H u				

• You correctly answered 29 out of 40 questions.  
 • You omitted 0 questions.  
 • You incorrectly answered 11 questions.

**To improve your skills you can:**  
 read closely writers like George Orwell, James Baldwin, Sandra Cisneros, or Tony Hillerman  
 write longer and more sophisticated essays  
 describe the main idea of a paper you wrote  
 read writing aloud; cut out sentences that don't fit the topic  
 draft problem-solution or compare-contrast papers, using appropriate transition words or phrases like *because* or *therefore*  
 have a classmate read your paper and mark parts where more information is needed  
 try different ways to begin papers (present startling information, a question, main points, etc.); see how each changes the rest of the paper  
 revise writing to delete clumsy repetition, as in changing "The puppy dog barked noisily and loudly." to "The puppy barked loudly."  
 read a published essay and note the way words, details, and sentence lengths can create tone.  
 continue learning the uses and meanings of transition words and phrases like *indeed*, *furthermore*, and *however*; practice their use in your writing  
 write increasingly sophisticated sentences, handling effectively such elements as introductory phrases like "In the past, ..."  
 become familiar with commonly used idioms like "hold your horses"  
 check each verb to make sure it matches the subject in number and person, even when other nouns are between them  
 use commas to set off expressions that aren't essential to the sentence (for example, "Bob, in spite of all the bad reviews, wanted to see the movie.")  
 delete commas that create unnecessary pauses, as in "He walked[,] by quickly."

Mathematics	SUBSCORE AREA			Content Areas		
	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Basic Operations	Probability	Numbers, Concepts and Properties
	1 C +	15 B C	29 C O			
	2 F +	16 H +	30 G O			
	3 D B	17 A +				
	4 J +	18 H F				
	5 A +	19 C O				
	6 F H	20 J I				
	7 B A	21 D C				
	8 G +	22 J +				
	9 D B	23 C B				
	10 F +	24 G +				
	11 A C	25 A C				
	12 H +	26 G H				
	13 C D	27 D O				
	14 H J	28 J O				

• You correctly answered 12 out of 30 questions.  
 • You omitted 5 questions.  
 • You incorrectly answered 13 questions.

**To improve your skills you can:**  
 find some word problems in a book or on the Web and practice restating the problem in your own words (focus on what is given and what you are asked to find)  
 work the three major types of percent problems (for example, What percent of 20 is 7? 18 is what percent of 72? What is 15% of 12?)  
 make up lists of numbers that contain positives and negatives and find the average value (for example, 9, -1, 5, -3 has an average of 2.5)  
 determine what probabilities, when added together, represent 100% (for example, 4 red and 3 blue chips are in a hat; the sum of the probabilities of drawing and of not drawing a red chip on any one draw is 100%)  
 practice finding the factors of a number (for example, positive whole number factors of 32 are 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, and 32)  
 rewrite multi-digit numbers as a sum of values based on place value (for example,  $4,276.05 = 4,000 + 200 + 70 + 6 + \frac{5}{10}$ )  
 define each variable in multiple lists of formulas and practice substituting values into each formula to evaluate it  
 practice identifying and combining like terms of an algebraic expression (for example,  $3w^2 + 5w + 12w^2 = 15w^2 + 5w$ )  
 practice locating and describing objects in terms of their position on the number line and on a grid (for example, 4 right and 6 up)  
 look for real-world examples of parallel lines like railroad tracks, etc.  
 perform activities that require the computation of area and perimeter of geometric figures like your school building

Reading	SUBSCORE AREA			Content Areas		
	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Main Ideas and Author's Approach	Supporting Details	Relationships
	1 A +	11 B D	21 C +			
	2 F +	12 J +	22 G +			
	3 B A	13 B +	23 A C			
	4 G +	14 H +	24 G +			
	5 D +	15 A +	25 D +			
	6 F +	16 H +	26 J +			
	7 A C	17 C A	27 B D			
	8 H +	18 F +	28 J +			
	9 C +	19 D +	29 B +			
	10 G +	20 J +	30 H +			

• You correctly answered 24 out of 30 questions.  
 • You omitted 0 questions.  
 • You incorrectly answered 6 questions.

**To improve your skills you can:**  
 note details in fiction that convey the author's or narrator's goals  
 practice looking through a piece of writing quickly to find specific dates, places, concepts, etc.  
 decide the purpose of each paragraph in a short story or article (for example, to provide a specific example, prove a point, give a different opinion)  
 note how characters are described in a story (what they say and do), then tell what relationships are revealed (for example, They're best friends because they confide in each other, etc.)  
 try different strategies, like asking "what if" questions and role-playing, to better understand possible causes and effects  
 note language whose meaning is not clear, then come up with possible meanings based on the context and your own knowledge  
 read brief reviews of a novel, then find evidence within the book that supports or contradicts the statements made (for example, "compelling . . . poignant . . . spellbinding")  
 practice writing general statements about people or ideas you read about, using qualifiers like *a few*, *typically*, or *sometimes* when little information is provided

Science	SUBSCORE AREA			Content Areas		
	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Question Correct Answer Your Answer Subscore	Interpretation of Data	Scientific Investigation	Evaluation of Models, Inferences, and Experimental Results
	1 B +	11 A B	21 D O			
	2 F G	12 G +	22 G +			
	3 B +	13 D B	23 C A			
	4 J H	14 J H	24 H F			
	5 C B	15 A +	25 D A			
	6 J +	16 F G	26 J G			
	7 A B	17 C A	27 D +			
	8 G F	18 H O	28 H J			
	9 B C	19 B +				
	10 G H	20 F J				

• You correctly answered 8 out of 28 questions.  
 • You omitted 2 questions.  
 • You incorrectly answered 18 questions.

**To improve your skills you can:**  
 locate several pieces of data in a simple table or graph (for example, a graph with a single straight line plotted on linear axes)  
 talk with others about the major points of science articles  
 read science articles to better understand common science words like *star*, *force*, etc.  
 look at the data in a simple table or graph and tell how changing the value of one variable changes the value of another variable  
 do simple experiments using basic lab procedures; collect and write your results as observations and/or numbers  
 find one or more hypotheses or conclusions in a newspaper or magazine article about a science topic

## Your Estimated PLAN Composite Score Range

PLAN and the ACT are tests that cover the same subject areas as EXPLORE. PLAN is designed for tenth graders and the ACT is designed for eleventh and twelfth graders. Over time, EXPLORE, PLAN, and the ACT measure your skills as you progress through high school. Your EXPLORE scores can be used to predict how you are likely to do if you take PLAN as a tenth grader. Improving your study habits or taking more challenging courses may improve your PLAN scores. Keep in mind that these scores are only estimates, not guarantees. You need to keep working and learning.

EXPLORE was designed as the starting point of a long-term assessment system that continues with PLAN and the ACT. All three programs are built around the same four tests: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. However, the material tested in each program gets progressively more difficult. This is why the top score for each test is different, as shown below.

Program	Grade Level	Composite Score Range
EXPLORE	8 and 9	1 to 25
PLAN	10	1 to 32
ACT	11 and 12	1 to 36

The Estimated PLAN Composite Score Range on your EXPLORE Score Report tells you how other students scored on PLAN as sophomores after achieving the same Composite Score as you received on EXPLORE. When you take PLAN as a tenth grader, you are very likely to receive a Composite Score in the score range shown on your report.

## Your Plans for High School and Beyond

### Compare Your Courses to Core

What is "Core"? Core is a suggested minimum set of college preparation courses to be taken in high school. When thinking about what courses you should take, consider not only the number of courses you take, but also the content, level, and challenge of those courses.

So, what courses should you plan on taking? Following are the minimum number of courses recommended by *A Nation at Risk*, the prominent report on American education from the National Commission on Excellence in Education.

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math
- 3 years of laboratory science
- 3 years of social studies

When you took EXPLORE, you were asked about the courses you plan to take in high school. This section of your Score Report compares your plans

to Core recommendations. In the example below, this student should take at least one more year of math, one more year of social studies, and one more year of science to meet Core. See your counselor if your high school course plans fall short of Core.

Successfully completing additional courses like Speech, Trigonometry, Calculus, Physics, and advanced history courses can result in higher ACT scores. This means you're more likely to do well in typical first-year college courses. Check out the Coursework Planner starting on page 11 of this booklet. It's a great tool to help you work out your courses for next year.

### Your Reported Needs

When you took EXPLORE, you were asked whether or not you needed help in seven different areas. Those areas checked on your report are the areas you said you needed help with. Do you see a need for help in areas where your skills (test scores) are weakest? Compare your lowest percentile rank with the needs listed. Then talk about them with your parents, school counselor, or teachers. This is the best way to make sure you get the help you need.

Your Plans

#### Your High School Course Plans Compared to Core

Core means minimum number of high school courses recommended to prepare for college.

	0	1	2	3	4
	Years	Year	Years	Years	Years
English	[Progress bar showing 4 years completed]				
Mathematics	[Progress bar showing 2 years completed]				
Social Studies	[Progress bar showing 2 years completed]				
Science	[Progress bar showing 2 years completed]				

**About Your Course Plans.** Your plans fall short of the recommended courses. Consider taking additional courses in Math, Social Studies, and Science. (Most successful college students completed all of these recommended courses when they were in high school.) You may want to talk to your counselor or teacher to make sure you are getting the courses you need.

#### Your Reported Needs

- Making plans for my education, career, and work after high school
- ✓ Improving my writing skills
- ✓ Improving my reading speed and comprehension
- ✓ Improving my study skills
- Improving my mathematical skills
- Improving my computer skills
- Improving my public speaking skills

#### Your Plans for After High School

**Educational Plans**

4-Year College or University

**Career Area Preference**

Management

#### College Readiness

Students scoring at or above these EXPLORE benchmark scores, and taking college prep courses throughout high school, will likely be ready for first-year college courses. How do your scores compare?

EXPLORE Benchmark Scores (8th Grade)	HOW YOUR SCORE IS		
	Below	At	Above
English: 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics: 17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading: 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science: 20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**About Your Scores.** One or more of your EXPLORE scores fall below the benchmark scores that show readiness for college-level work. Suggestions for improving your skills are listed on the back of this report. Also, talk to your counselor or teacher about courses that can improve your skills. It's not too early to start thinking about college.

# What Do Your Scores Mean?

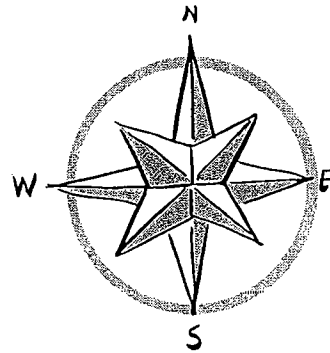
Your scores are between 1 (the lowest score you can receive) and 25 (the highest score you can receive) even though you answered a lot more than 25 questions on the EXPLORE tests! Just like your teachers turn your quiz and test scores into grades, EXPLORE takes the number of questions you got right on each test and translates it into a number between 1 and 25 (called a "scale score"). Just like grades, your scores tell you how well you did on each test.

Your Composite Score is simply the average of the English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science test scores (rounded to a whole number). In the same way your overall grade point average in school shows how well you are doing across all of your different classes, your EXPLORE Composite Score shows how well you did across the entire EXPLORE test.


The two scores directly under English (called "subscores") only range from 1 to 12 (see below). They tell you how well you did in these two specific areas of English: **Usage/Mechanics** (punctuation, grammar and usage, and sentence structure) and **Rhetorical Skills** (your understanding of the use of strategy, organization, and style in writing). These scores added together do NOT necessarily equal your English Test score because the two subscores are scaled independently from the total English Test score.

**A Note About Test Scores**

Because no test can measure educational development with absolute precision, it's best to think of each of your EXPLORE scores as a range rather than as a precise point. For example, a score of 15 on one of the four tests, such as the Reading Test, means that your level of educational development in the subject probably is somewhere from 13 to 17 (15 plus or minus 2). A Composite Score of 15 would mean that your overall level of educational development probably is somewhere from 14 to 16 (15 plus or minus 1).



October 07, 2012    QOF 9876543    PN: 11111111    000001



EXAMPLE, STUDENT

ID#: 1234567890

GRADE: 8

CLASS/GROUP NAME: SMITH

SCHOOL NAME: EXAMPLE MIDDLE SCHOOL    SCHOOL CODE: 000000    TEST FORM: SM6    TEST DATE: October 2012

Your Scores	Score Range (1-25)	Percent of students scoring at or below your score							In Your School	In Your State
		In the U.S. (Fall 8th)	1%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%		
<b>Composite Score</b>	<b>15</b>	53%								60%
English	16	69%								75%
Usage/Mechanics (1-12)	09	78%								87%
Rhetorical Skills (1-12)	08	70%								74%
Mathematics	14	36%								41%
Reading	15	64%								72%
Science	13	15%								18%

**ACT**

More Info at [www.explorestudent.org](http://www.explorestudent.org)

**Your Estimated PLAN Composite Score Range**

15-18

PLAN is a 10th-grade test that helps you plan for the ACT tests and for college. Additional information is in your booklet *Using Your EXPLORE Results*.

## How do you compare with other students who took EXPLORE?

Next to your scores, you'll find the percent of students scoring at or below your score. These figures are called "norms" and show the percentage of students, in a given group, who earned a score equal to or lower than yours. In the example on the previous page, the report shows 69% next to the sample student's English score. This means the sample student scored as high as or higher than 69% of students in the comparison group who took EXPLORE. The bar graph helps you to see which of your scores are strongest and weakest. Very few students have equal skills in all subject areas.

You can see how you did compared to other students taking EXPLORE at about the same time in your school by looking at the percentages shown under "In Your School". If you took PLAN in a state that uses these tests in most schools in the state, you may also see percentages in the column "In Your State". Don't worry in any of these columns are blank. This just means your school did not ask for