

Kentucky Teacher's Guide

Contained in this teacher's guide will be information on how to access student data and fully utilize the CERT program.

WHAT IS CERT	1
<u>FIRST STEPS</u>	2
SUPPORT	3
Knowledge Base	3
<u>Email</u>	3
PREVENTING TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES	4
System Requirements	4
Practice Assessment	5
COMMON TASKS	5
How to Login	8
<u>CLEVER</u>	9
<u>Groups</u>	11
Create Groups Manually	12
Add/Remove Students from Existing Groups	14
<u>REPORTS</u>	
Group Reports	15
Assessment Score & Review	17
College Readiness Standards	18
<u>Item Analysis</u>	19
Scores Report	20
Kentucky Academic Standards/CCSS/NGSS Breakdown Report	21
Skills Breakdown Report	22
Quiz Answers	23
Quiz Completion	24
Quiz Scores	24
<u>Individual Reports</u>	25
<u>Course Reports</u>	25
Individual College Readiness Report	26
Grade Comparison	28

Skill Breakdown	29
STUDENT PLATFORM	30
<u>Homeroom</u>	30
Exam Room	30
Study Hall	31
<u>Profile</u>	33
QUIZZES	34
How to Download	35
Activities & Logins and Student Login Credentials	35

WHAT IS CERT?

The College Equipped Readiness Tool (CERT) is an interim assessment tool based on ACT's College Readiness Standards. CERT was designed for administrators, teachers and students as a means to provide actionable data on the most important set of standards students will be assessed upon. Up to three times a year, save for grade 12, which offers 2 full-length assessments, students have the opportunity to take age-appropriate ACT-like assessments, receive instant feedback on their performance, and then be taken through a suite of remediation tools. Teachers benefit from CERT's detailed reports that help tailor classroom instruction and direct teachers in possible curricular gaps. For grades 6 through 8, students take Explore-like assessments, save for Spring of grade 8, when students use a PreACT like assessment. Grade 9 students will take PreACT-like assessments, while grades 10 through 12 take full length ACT-like assessments. Some of the features included in each CERT account include:

- Remedial Videos for each question on each assessment
- Remedial Lessons covering various pertinent skills addressed on each assessment that includes test strategy
- Small formative assessments (Quizzes) which allow additional interim testing throughout the year (additional purchase)
- Six distinct reports to allow teachers access to student mastery levels on the College Readiness Standards, cut scores, benchmark performance, remedial completion, and more
- Data of student mastery over Common Core standards
- Individual Course Reports detailing weaknesses and strengths

FIRST STEPS

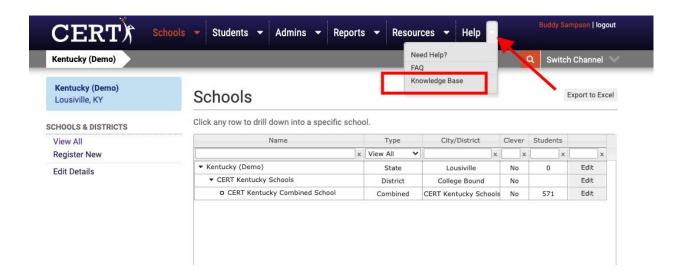
Once your school account has been set up in CERT, the first step in the CERT program is administering the fall assessment. CERT is considered an universal screening tool and diagnostic assessment, so having data on students' abilities as soon as they begin the school year will be foundational. Please contact your building System Administrator regarding the plan for your school and administering the first CERT assessment. Below you will find information regarding our Practice Assessment, which allows students to practice the format and tools offered on CERT assessments BEFORE the "real thing". After the fall assessment has been completed, you will then login your teacher's account and begin to review the data through the variou reports covered later in this guide. Questions from the assessment can be used as "bellringer" type activities. You can access assessment bellringer questions in various reports, but the most popular reports to do so are the College Readiness Standards Report and the Item Analysis Report. Students will begin to work on their individualized remediation through the Exam Room and Study Hall. If your school purchased Quizzes, you can begin to assign Quizzes as you see fit as a way to progress monitor throughout the year

SUPPORT

If at any point you have a question or need help completing a certain function, there are several resources available to you, but the two main resources we encourage you to utilize are the FAQ's page and the chat feature.

Knowledge Base

Our Knowledge Base offers a simple way to quickly search for the answers you need and can be found in the chat box. Step-by-step procedures and screenshots are provided for every operation teachers or administrators need to perform within the program.



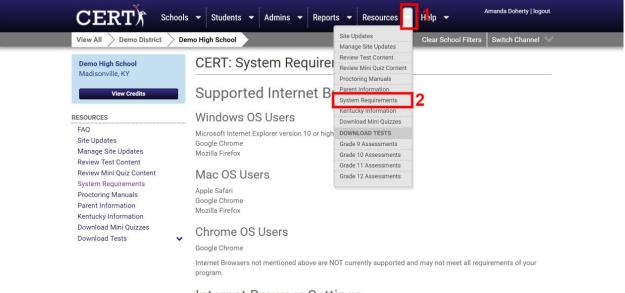
Email

If building-level System Administrators for CERT are unable to answer your specific questions, please reach out to us at support@certforschools.com.

PREVENTING TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

System Requirements

The system requirements page details the specific requirements for devices to properly access the assessments and remediation. The school's administration team has likely shared this document with the IT personnel, but by checking the basic requirements, users can ensure a flawless assessment day.

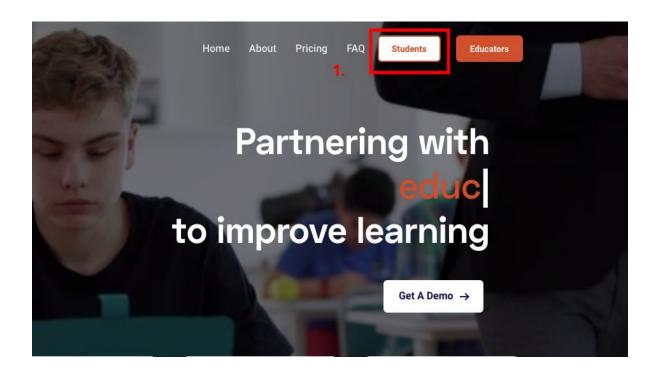


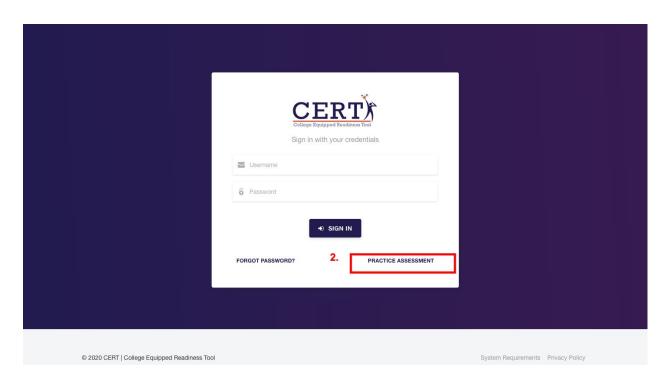
Internet Browser Settings

Practice Assessment and Assessment Accessibility Features

On the Student Login page, we offer a short practice assessment. This practice assessment serves two purposes. First, it allows your servers to communicate with CERT servers to ensure a good connection. Second, the practice assessment allows students to see and use all the tools (accessibility features) on the assessment. This is a short, 4 questions in the 4 content areas practice run will ensure that any firewalls, settings, or WiFi requirements can be addressed before the day of testing, while also allowing teachers to model valuable information for your students. To access the practice assessment, and view Accessibility Features, take the following steps:

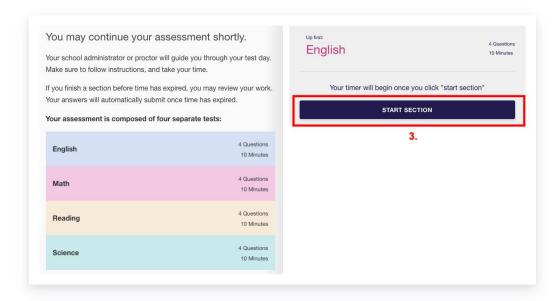
- 1. On the homepage, Select **Students**
- 2. Choose **Practice Assessment** in lower right hand corner
- 3. Start Section
- 4. Online directions for using the assessment appear; select **Start Your Exam**
- 5. Toggle for **Spanish** or **English**
- 6. Accessibility Features
 - a. Magnifier: enlarge the text
 - b. Highlighter: highlight text
 - c. Line Reader: read one line at a time
 - d. Answer Eliminator: "cross out" answer choices
 - e. Answer Masking: cover answer choices
 - f. Calculator: 4 function calculator available for math section
- 7. Flag a question: indicate answers to review
- 8. Section Timer Countdown







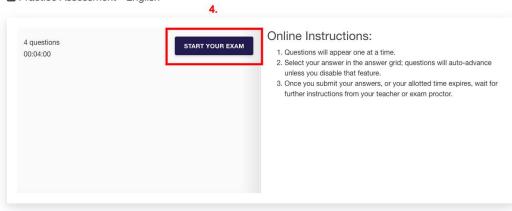
Home Room



CERTA

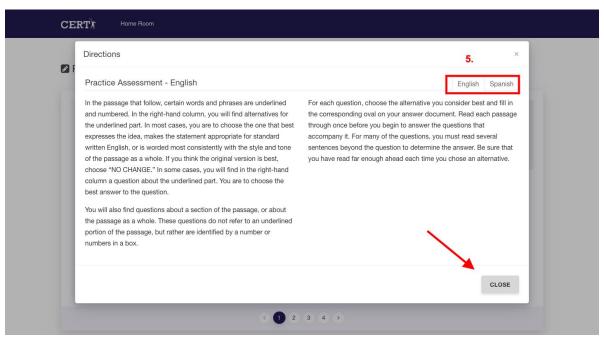
Home Room

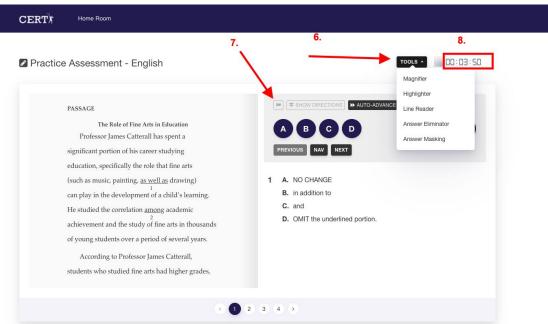
Practice Assessment - English

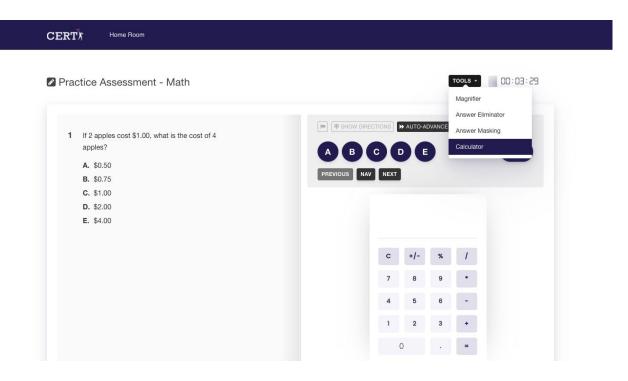


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System Requirements Privacy Policy







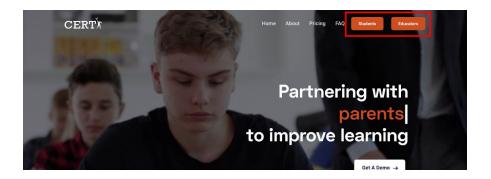
COMMON TASKS

How to Login

You will be sent a welcome email which includes your login credentials. Regardless of what level of access is granted (admin, teacher, or student), everyone logs into the same website www.certforschools.com.

CLEVER

Many of our schools have partnered with Clever or Classlink, which are single sign-on programs. If you are a "Clever School", your onboarding process for creating teacher/admin/student accounts has been done for you! Groups/rosters have been created as well. Your next step is found at Manage Assessment Access.



Administrators will have access to all students and have the ability to enable or disable most settings in the CERT account.

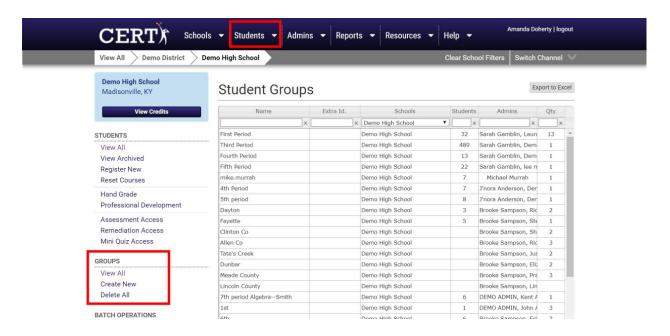
Teachers will have access to the students they have been assigned to in "Groups." These will likely be organized by class periods and perhaps by grade level if administration decides to do so.

Students will have access to their assessments, remedial videos, Mini Quizzes, and individual course reports. Their platform looks much different than the teacher or administrator platform which you can learn more about below

GROUPS

Groups are essentially a means of organizing your students into classrooms, class periods, and subject levels. All reports will be organized in these groups. Students can be a part of multiple groups and can be moved or placed in different groups throughout the year as you see fit.

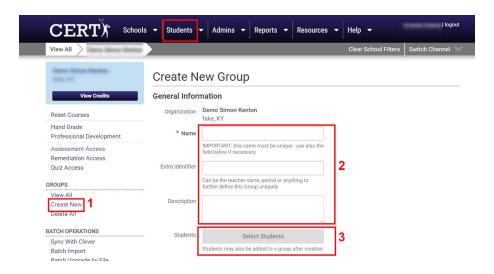
To view the groups in which you've been granted access, click "View All" in the left-hand column. You will also have the ability to create new groups if necessary which can be completed using the "Create New" feature.



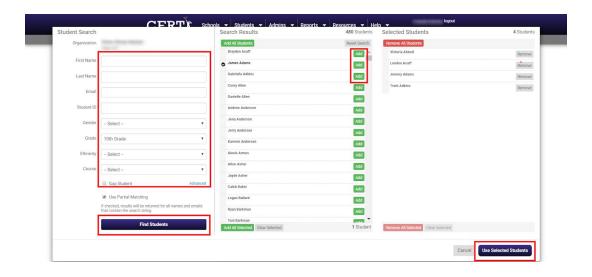
Create Groups Manually

While administrators have the ability to create all groups in a single batch upload, you may be asked to create your own groups. To create a group follow these simple steps:

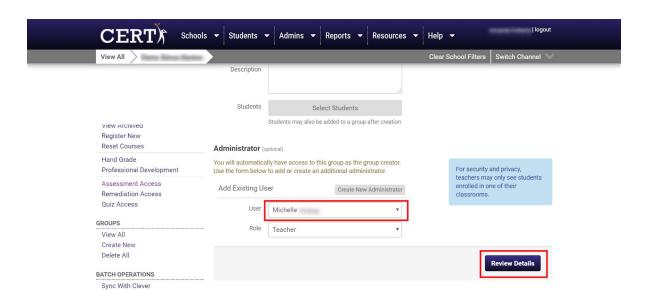
- 1. Under Student Groups, click on "Create New"
- 2. Fill in the corresponding fields
- 3. Click on "Select Students"

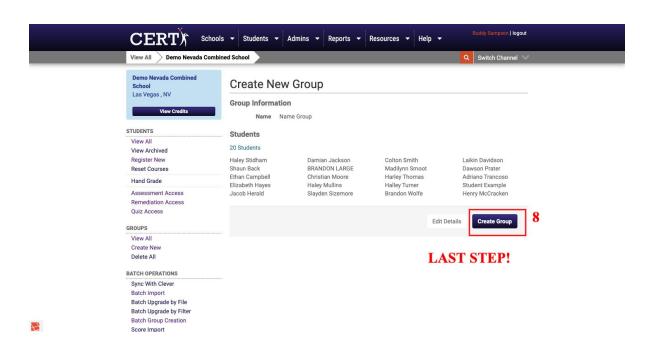


- 4. You can add students individually by entering the corresponding fields or click "Find Students" to add them all at once
- 5. Once you have selected the desired students, click "Use Selected Students"



- 6. Select an Administrator for the group
- 7. Click "Review Details"
- 8. Confirm by clicking on "Create Group"

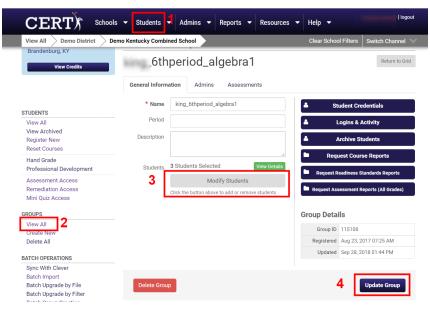


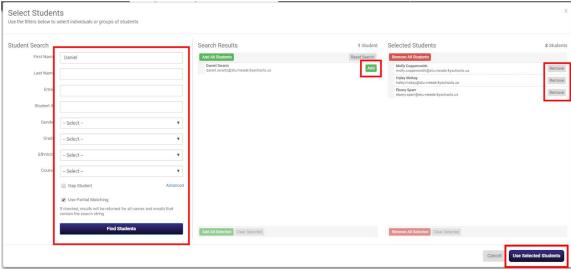


Add/Remove Students from Existing Groups

To add or remove students from a group which has already been created, follow the following steps:

- 1. Select "View All" under groups
- 2. Select the group you would like to modify
- 3. Select "Modify Students"
- 4. To add a student, type the name or use the filter. Then select the student and click "Add All Selected"
- 5. To Remove a student, select the name from the existing roster, then select "Remove All Selected"
- 6. Select "Use Selected Students" to save changes



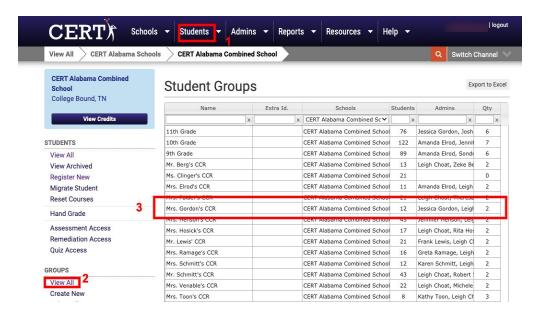


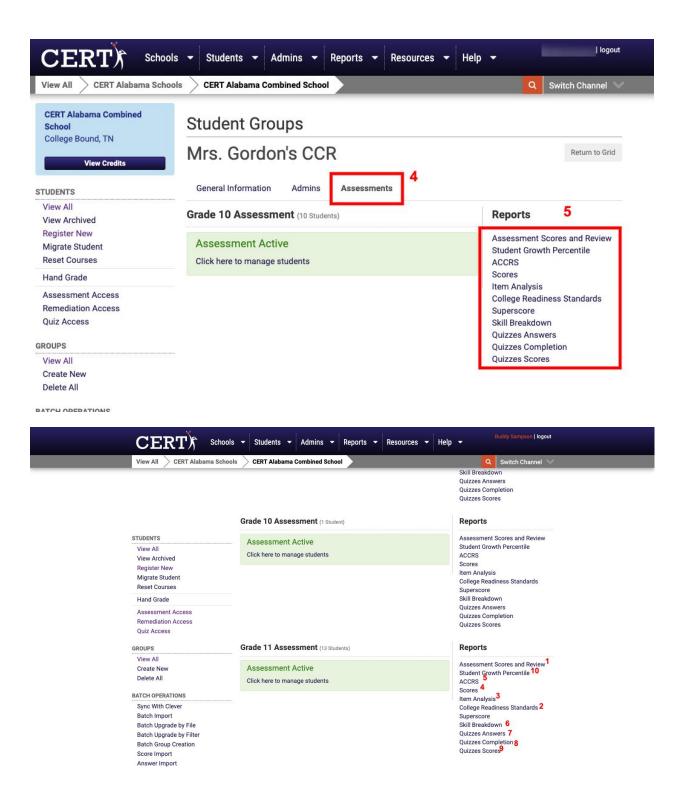
REPORTS:

GROUP REPORTS

The easiest way to look at data is through the Groups.

- 1. Students tab
- 2. Groups > View All
- 3. Select a Group
- 4. Go to the Assessments tab
- 5. Find appropriate Report

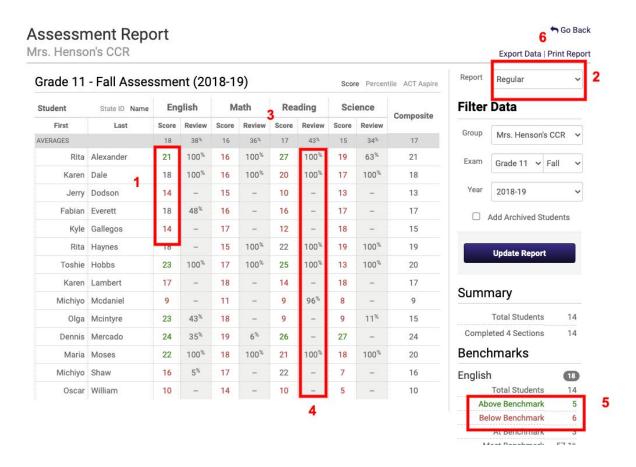




Assessment Score & Review (1)

This report allows you to view the following information:

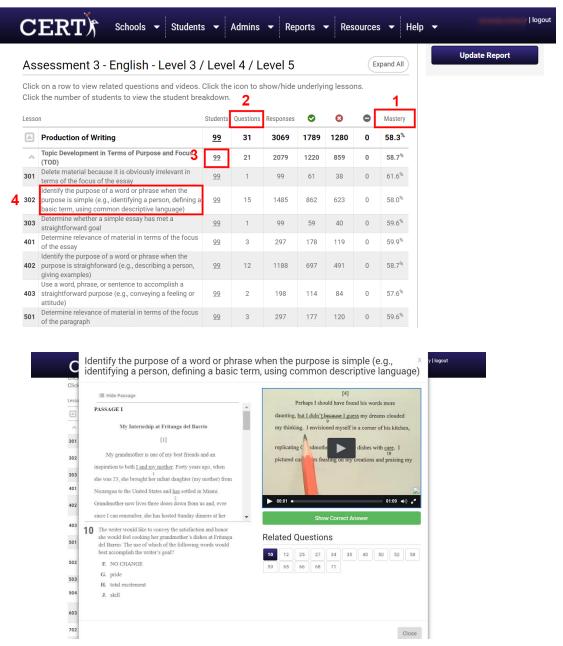
- 1. Scores for each of the content areas and composite score
- 2. Longitudinal scores to monitor student growth from assessment to assessment, as well as year over year
- 3. Sortable columns which show composite, national percentiles, review completion percentage, and section scores
- 4. Remedial Review tracking to allow you to monitor what percentage of the videos each student has watched in the Exam Room
- 5. Scores are color coded to show which students perform above, at, or below current benchmark criteria
- 6. Export and Print options



College Readiness Standards (2)

This report allows you to view the following information:

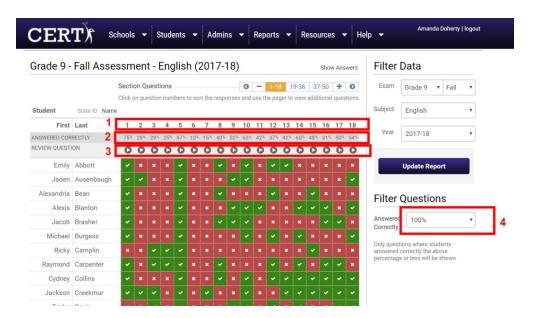
- 1. Sortable column to organize each standard and substandard by student mastery level
- 2. Sortable column to organize each standard by how many times they are represented in a question in the assessment
- 3. Option to select underlined student number to view individual student mastery of each standard or substandard
- 4. Option to select each standard to view the questions tagged to that standard as well as the review videos associated with each question



Item Analysis (3)

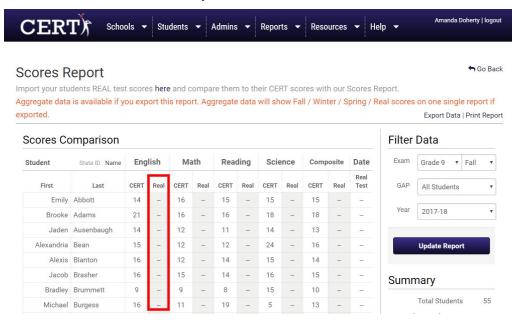
This report allows you to view the following information:

- Each question number to view what percentage of students answered each question correctly
- 2. Percentage of correct answers by that student group
- 3. Remedial video showing the question and correct answer
- 4. Filter to allow you address most frequently missed questions



Scores Report (4)

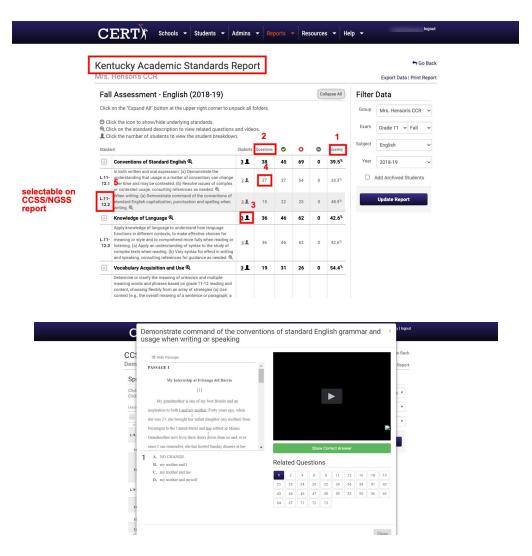
After importing real ACT scores through the "score import" feature, this report displays real ACT scores and CERT scores side-by-side



Kentucky Academic Standards and CCSS/NGSS Standards Report (5)

The KAS and CCSS/NGSS Standards Reports allow teachers to see data on your state's specific Common Core State Standards.

- 1. Sortable column to organize each standard and substandard by student mastery level
- 2. Sortable column to organize each standard by how many times they are represented in a question in the assessment
- 3. Option to select underlined student number to view individual student mastery of each standard or substandard
- 4. Select the number of questions beside each standard to view the actual questions from the assessment which measured this standard along with the review videos available to your students
- Select the standard indicator number next to the standard to be taken to a variety of teacher-created, teacher-vetted lesson plans related to that standard (only available on CCSS/NGSS report)



6. Click through the related questions to browse an explanation bank of questions related to the selected standard.

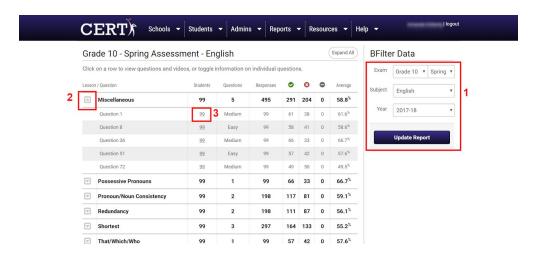
Skills Breakdown Report (6)

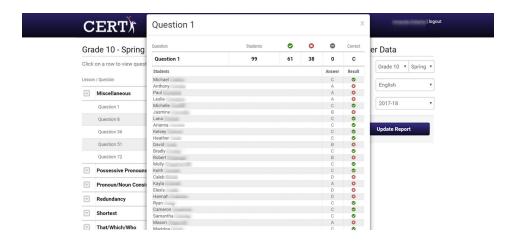
Skills Breakdown is a report which allows teachers to see general themes and skills addressed on the assessment. Looking at this group data, teachers can easily identify the topics with which their class is struggling. The Skills Report is mapped to Study Hall, which is one of the remediation options within the students' accounts.

This report is available both at the group level as well as the individual student level. When the drop down option is used next to the topic, teachers can see the mapped questions to that topic, as well as individual student responses to each question.

In order to find this report, follow the steps below:

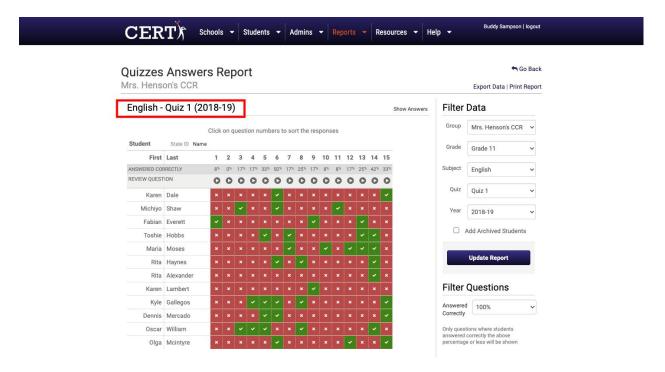
- 1. Under the Reports tab, select Skills Breakdown
- 2. Fill in the appropriate filters to view the group you wish to monitor
- 3. Select the drop-down arrow next to each lesson to view which questions on the assessment relate to this lesson
- 4. To view individual student answers, select the underlined number in the **Students** Column





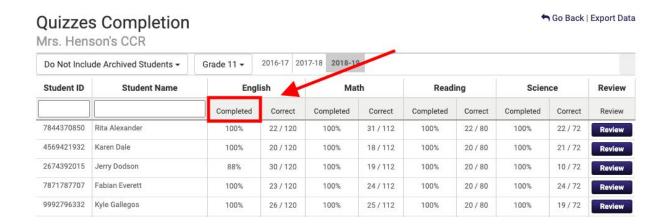
Quiz Answers (7)

The Quiz Answers is the item analysis report to allow teachers to see most frequently missed questions.



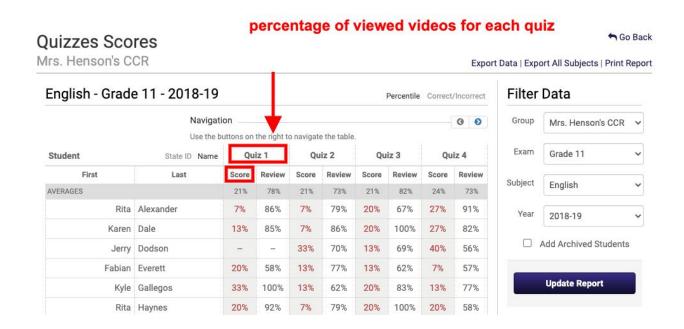
Quiz Completion (8)

View completed quiz data.



Quiz Scores (9)

Scores for each quiz in each content area are found here:



INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

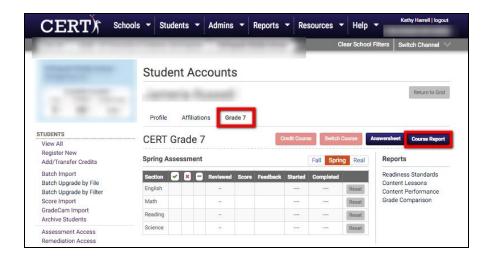
Course Reports

Course reports are individual reports for each student. This report is a great resource to share with parents and can be printed individually or from a batch request for a group of students. If you wanted to print off an individual course report for a parent meeting (etc.) they report will be available immediately. If you'd like to request a batch of reports to send home in report cards, for example, the wait time to receive these is approximately 48 hours.

How do I create a "Course Report" for just one student?

To request a course report for one student only, follow these simple steps:

- 1. Choose the student account
- 2. Click on the "Grade" tab
- 3. Click on "Course Report"



How do I request multiple student reports?

To request multiple student reports follow these simple steps:

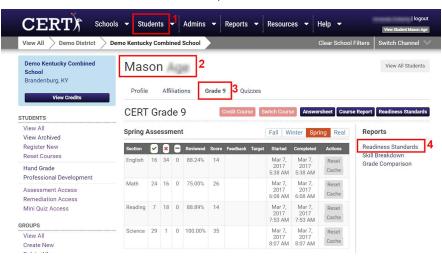
- 1. Under Student Groups, click on "View All"
- 2. Choose a group
- 3. Click on "Request Course Reports"
- 4. Fill in the corresponding fields
- 5. Click "Request Reports"

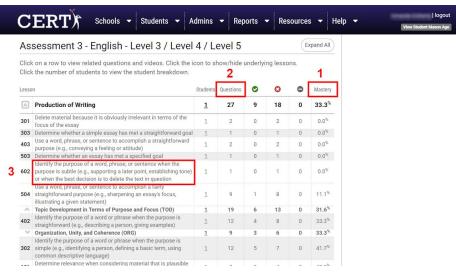
Note: Before requesting multiple student reports, make sure you have created a group with the list of all students you would like included on the report. Please be aware that the link to download the file expires in 48 hours. Once the link to download has expired, you will not be able to download the report and you will have to request the report again.

INDIVIDUAL COLLEGE READINESS REPORT

This report is identical in format and features as the College Readiness Report located under the Reports tab except it allows you to identify the mastery of each College Readiness Standard of an individual student. Included in this report are the following features:

- 1. Sortable column to organize each standard and substandard by student mastery level
- 2. Sortable column to organize each standard by how many times they are represented in a question in the assessment
- 3. Option to select each standard to view the questions tagged to that standard as well as the review videos associated with each question

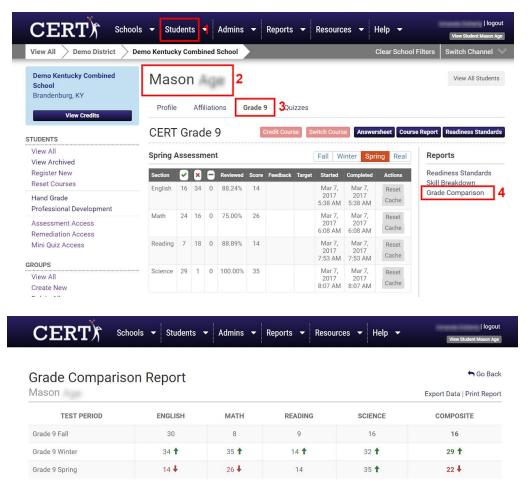






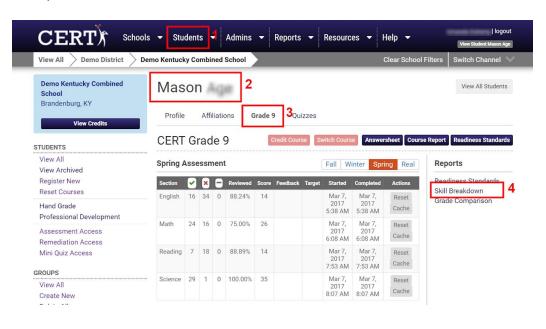
GRADE COMPARISON

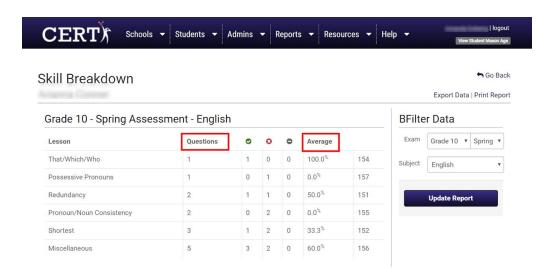
This report can provide an easy overview of progress between the fall, winter, and spring assessments by showing visuals of how many points each section increased or decreased.



SKILL BREAKDOWN

Skills Breakdown is a report which allows teachers to see general themes and skills addressed on the assessment. Looking at this individual data, teachers can easily identify the topics with which the individual student is struggling. The Skills Report is mapped to Study Hall, which is one of the remediation options within the students' accounts.

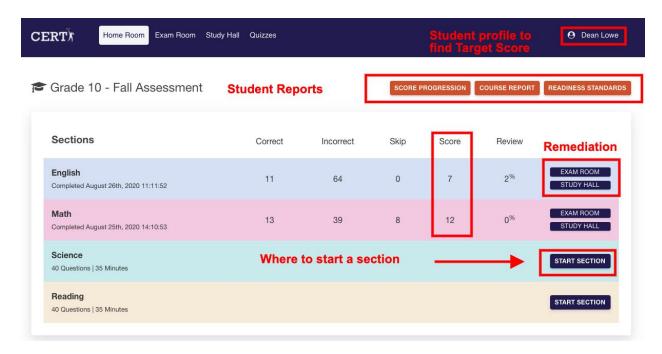




STUDENT PLATFORM

Homeroom

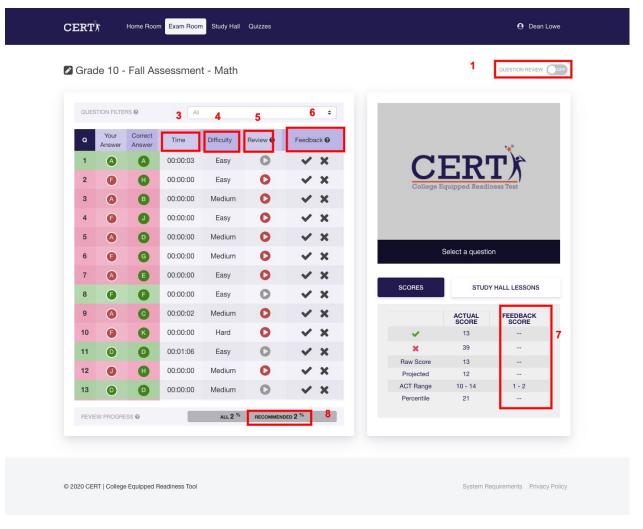
Homeroom is where students will find and take each section of the assessment when the testing window is open. Once a section has been completed, students will see the number of correct, incorrect and skipped questions for that section as well as their section score. Students can also access their own reports called Score Progression, Course Report, and Readiness Standards. If the assessments are not visible, contact your administrator to enable the assessment.



Exam Room

Exam room allows students to review all missed and skipped questions with an expert tutor:

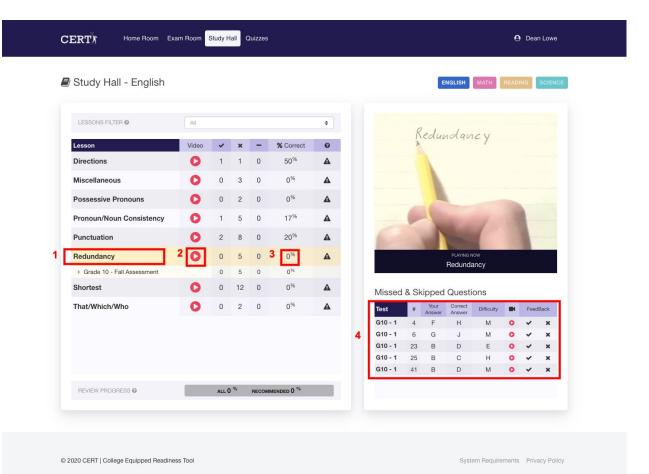
- 1. "Question View" to analyze and review an individual question on the assessment.
- 2. Color chart of answers: Correct, Incorrect, Skipped
- 3. **Time** spent on each individual question to help with time management
- 4. **Difficulty level** of each individual question
- 5. **Remedial video** for each question (turns from red to blue once watched entirely)
- 6. **Feedback** columns to allow student input on how they are likely to do on a similar question in the future.
- 7. **Updated score** based on the feedback provided in the feedback column
- 8. Percentage of Viewed Videos for missed and skipped questions



Study Hall

Study hall provides individual learning tracks for students based on performance from their assessment. Specific topics and skills from the student's assessment are grouped together into mini lessons for review. These are best viewed as a broad brush approach to different topics within each content area. Here students will be able to access:

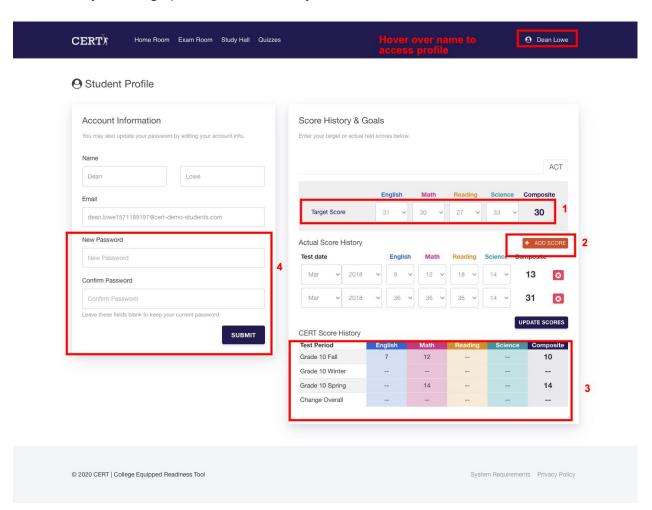
- 1. Various skills addressed on the assessment
- 2. A lesson video
- 3. Mastery percentile of questions that fell into each category
- 4. List of questions from the assessment and videos associated with each lesson category



Profile

Students can access their profile by hovering over their name in the upper right corner of the screen.

- Target Scores in order to track what the university requirements for the school of their choice will require for acceptance into their school, or for scholarship requirements (optional)
- 2. Ability to add actual ACT scores
- 3. Scores from previous CERT assessments to track progress
- 4. Ability to change password if necessary



QUIZZES

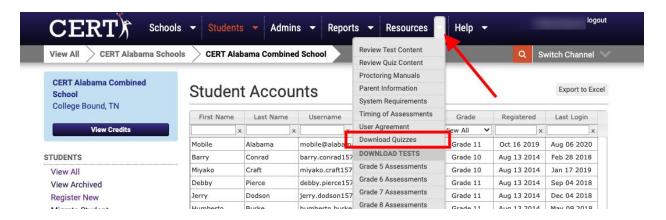
Quizzes are short, formative assessments to help teachers monitor student progress between assessments. All quizzes must be taken online as we cannot share answer keys for security purposes. All quizzes are made available at the beginning of the year so that teachers can review and determine where each quiz might fit best into your curriculum. They will not refresh with each testing window so please plan accordingly.

Note: Quizzes are not a default part of the program and must be purchased separately. If your school has purchased access to mini quizzes, continue reading. If not but you would like to discuss purchasing quizzes, please contact a CERT representative so we can provide that information.

How to Download

Note: This feature is for teacher reference only. Students must complete mini quizzes online in their student portal.

- 1. Select the drop-down box next to resources
- Select "Download Quizzes"



ACTIVITIES & LOGINS and ACCOUNT CREDENTIALS

You will have access to view student activity which includes how often students log on and how long they each spent on the CERT site. You will also be able to retrieve any login information for students in case they forget their usernames or passwords as well. Just as with all columns on CERT reports, the columns are sortable to allow you to quickly find the information you are looking for.

To access the credential report, follow the steps below:

- Select the drop-down arrow next to the **Reports** tab
- Scroll down to the Student Reports Heading
- Select Account Credentials to view account information like username and password.
- Select **Activity & Logins** to view how much time students have used the account

