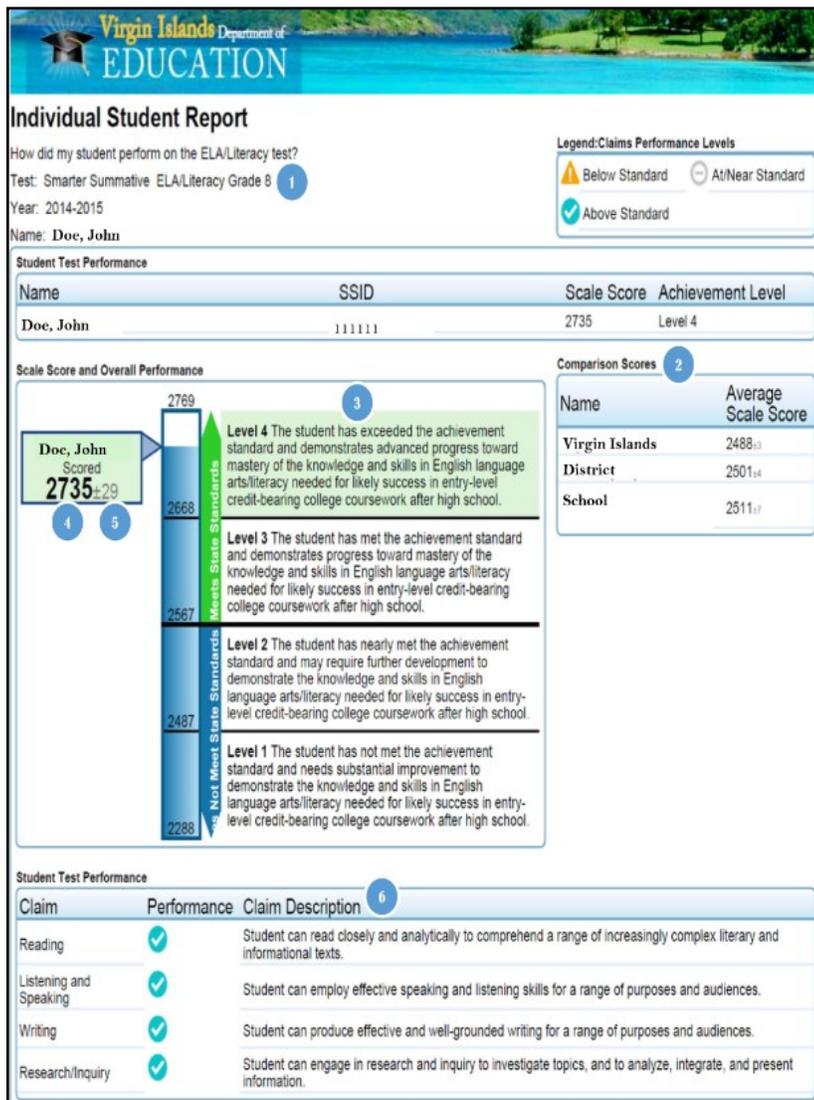


# Parent Guide to the Smarter Balanced Score Report



This past spring, your child participated in a new territory-wide assessment in English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Math known as Smarter Balanced. These online tests replaced the Virgin Islands Territorial Assessment of Learning (VITAL) test, and match up with the content and skills used in the new academic standards that your child is currently learning. The new tests have moved away from multiple-choice exams and ask questions that require students to explain their reasoning and think more critically. Results from the new tests, along with your child’s performance in the classroom, will give you a more accurate picture of your child’s progress toward graduating ready to succeed at college-level work.

The new tests measure more complex, real-world skills, such as critical thinking, writing, and problem solving. That’s why it’s important to understand that the new scores cannot be compared to previous test scores from the VITAL. Because the level of learning in the classroom is higher, the test is more stimulating for students. The new scores are setting a more accurate starting point for us to measure your child’s progress moving forward.

The attached reports provide you with detailed information about your child’s learning. We encourage you to talk to your child’s teacher(s) for additional information on how your child is performing in class as well as discuss how your child can be further supported in school. In addition, you can find grade-level learning resources that can be accessed at home at [www.cgcs.org/domain36](http://www.cgcs.org/domain36) and [www.BeALearningHero.org](http://www.BeALearningHero.org).

- 1 Test Name-** Students will receive a separate report for English language arts /literacy and mathematics.
- 2 Score Comparisons** – This comparison provides information on how students in the same grade performed at the same school, across the school district, and in the territory.
- 3 Achievement Level** – Students are categorized into a performance level based on their overall score. Level 1 indicates the greatest need for improvement and Level 4 indicates the strongest performance.
- 4 Overall Score** – Students will receive a scale score which fall along a continuous vertical scale from 2000 to 3000 that increases across grade levels.
- 5 Standard Error of Measurement** – A student’s test score can vary. In the example above, if John Doe were to take the same test repeatedly (with no learning taking place or no memory of question effects) his scores will range between + or – 29 points of the scale score reported.
- 6 Performance Claims** – This is summary statement about the knowledge and skill students have demonstrated on the assessment. The legend provided at the top right hand corner of the report shows the symbols used to indicate below, at/near, and above standard performance on each claim.