



This report shows the results for

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### The National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy

In May 2008, national literacy and numeracy assessments were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia.

This report shows your child's achievement in those assessments.

The information contained in this report should be considered together with school-based assessments and reports.

#### Literacy Assessment

The literacy assessment tasks measured student achievement in reading, writing and language conventions.

##### Reading

Students were required to read a range of texts similar to those used in Year 9 classrooms and answer questions of varying difficulty to show their understanding of the material.

##### Writing

Students were directed to write in response to stimulus material. This writing task required students to generate and organise ideas and demonstrate their skills in vocabulary use, sentence structure, spelling and punctuation.

##### Language Conventions

Students were required to identify and correct spelling errors and answer multiple-choice questions on aspects of grammar and punctuation.

#### Numeracy Assessment

The two numeracy assessment tasks measured student achievement across number; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data; and space. Questions required students to apply mathematical knowledge, skills and understandings in a variety of contexts.

#### How to read the student report

A student's result is shown on an achievement scale for each assessment area.

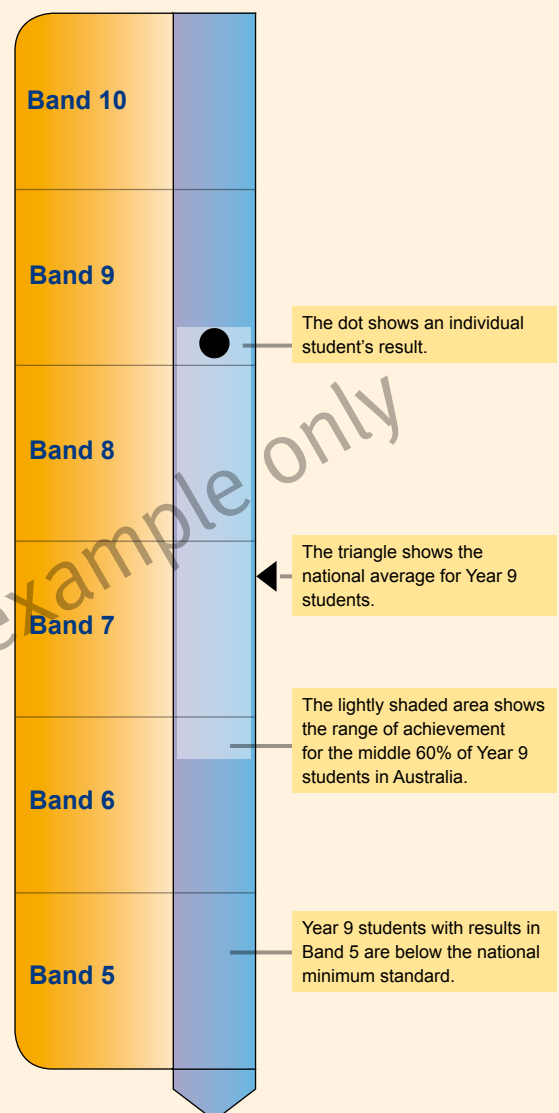
Results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10. The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in the assessments.

Results for Year 9 are reported across the range of Band 5 to Band 10, with Band 6 representing the national minimum standard for this year level.

The national average and the range of achievement for Year 9 students are also shown on the scale.

Your child's results are shown on the inside pages of this report.

Year 9



# Student Report 2008

JANE SMITH

## KEY



Individual student result



National average

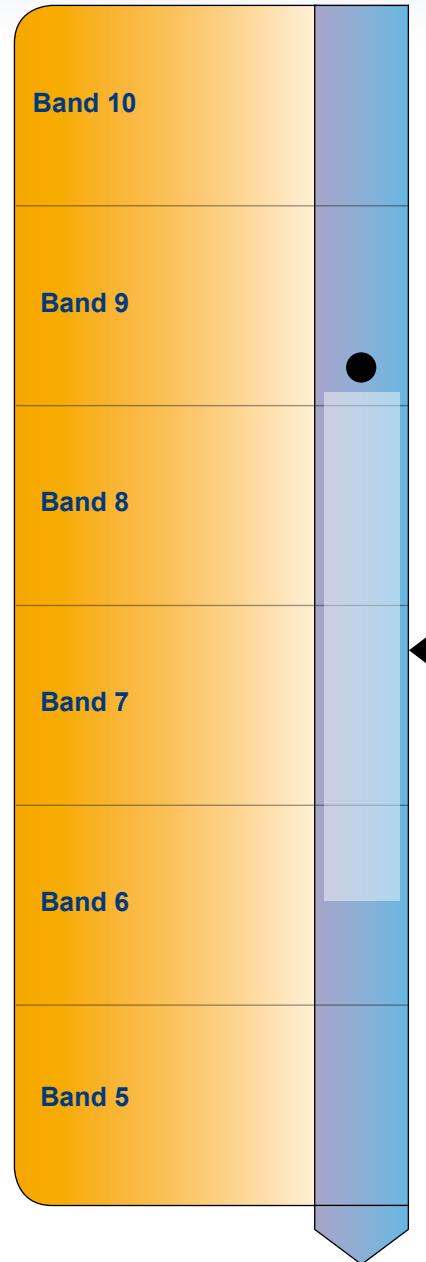
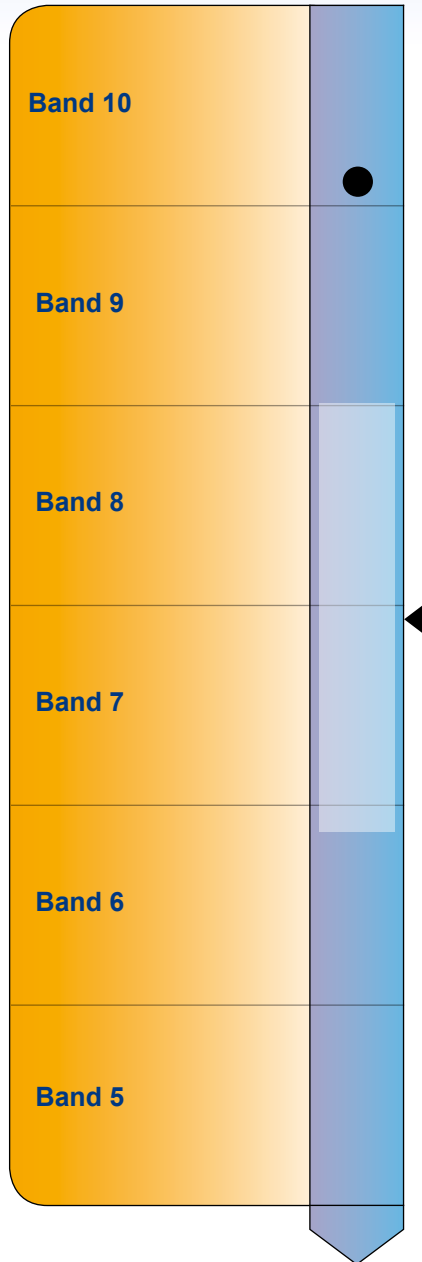


Range of achievement for the middle 60% of Year 9 students in Australia

## Reading

## Writing

Year 9



Students read stories, letters to the editor, arguments and factual texts. Students were assessed on aspects of reading, including:

- connecting and combining ideas from text and diagrams
- identifying and interpreting the main message in a text
- reflecting on strategies used to persuade a reader
- interpreting figurative language
- reflecting on the causes of a character's motivations, feelings and responses.

Students wrote a story. Their writing was assessed by evaluating how well they demonstrated their skills in:

- supporting the reader and understanding the purpose of writing
- structuring the story, developing ideas and characters, and making effective word choices
- using the conventions of written language such as grammar, punctuation, spelling and paragraphs.

**KEY**



Individual student result



National average

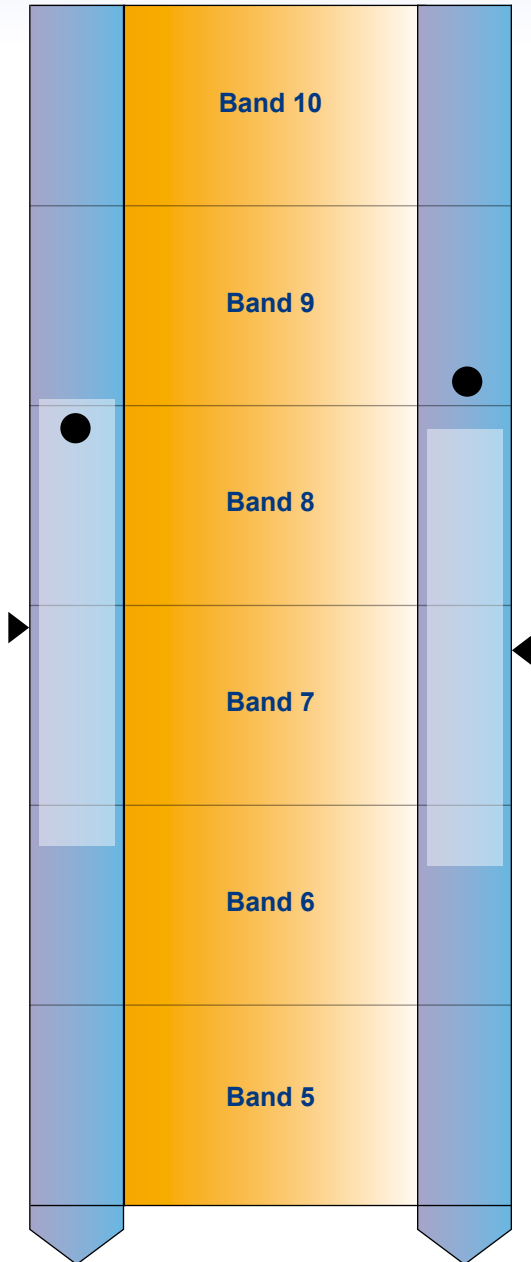


Range of achievement for the middle 60% of Year 9 students in Australia

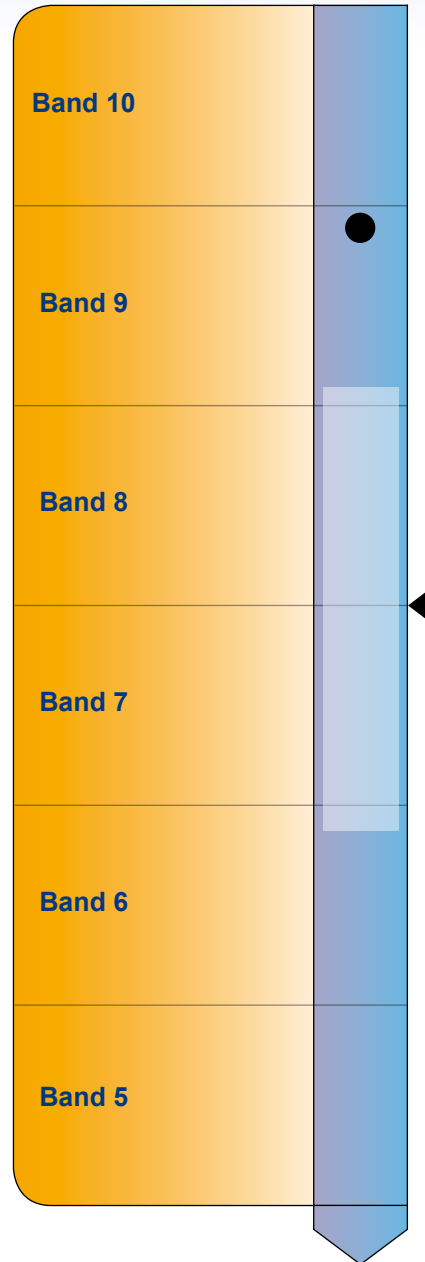
## Language Conventions

Spelling

Grammar & Punctuation



## Numeracy



Year 9

Students were assessed on aspects of spelling, grammar and punctuation. Tasks included:

- correctly spelling multi-syllable words with less regular spelling patterns
- identifying errors and then correctly spelling complex words
- identifying examples of figurative language and various parts of speech
- recognising the correct use of semicolons and italics.

Students were assessed on aspects of numeracy. They were allowed to use a calculator for part of the assessment. Tasks included:

- interpreting and solving problems involving decimals
- solving a problem involving multiple operations
- interpreting and solving complex equations
- using algebra to solve problems involving multiple operations
- calculating the circumference of a circle
- determining the probability of a chance event.

## Summary of Skills Assessed 2008

The following table describes some of the skills assessed in this year's tests. The skills increase in difficulty from the lowest to the highest band. A student assessed in a particular band is likely to have correctly answered questions involving skills in that band and in each band below it.

Year 9

Band	Reading	Writing	Language Conventions	Numeracy
10	Analyses and reflects critically on many aspects of complex texts. Identifies the strategies used to construct an argument. Identifies the meaning of a complex expression in a text.	Writes a well-constructed, complete story that explores a theme and engages the reader. Creates distinct characters and develops events effectively. Correctly and effectively controls a variety of sentence structures. Correctly uses all punctuation, including complex punctuation. Spells all words, including many difficult and complex words, correctly.	Spells complex words that are used infrequently, are subject-specific, or have irregular spelling patterns. Recognises complex grammatical conventions and demonstrates the use of complex punctuation in written English.	Solves complex, multi-step problems involving percentages and decimals. Applies ratio to calculate a proportion. Interprets a map and uses multiple operations with decimals to calculate a distance. Identifies the pair of values that satisfy an algebraic expression. Solves a multi-step algebra problem. Calculates the surface area of a triangular prism.
9	Interprets language to identify a writer's change of focus in a complex text. Synthesises and interprets ideas that are implicit in the conclusion of a text.	Incorporates elaborated ideas and the suggestion of a theme into an effective story. Makes consistently precise word choices that enhance the meaning or mood. Always punctuates sentence beginnings and endings correctly. Uses complex punctuation correctly most of the time. Shows variety in paragraph construction to pace the story.	Spells complex words and words with difficult double-letter patterns. Recognises a wide variety of common grammatical conventions. Identifies that a text is written in third person. Demonstrates the correct use of punctuation in written English, with few errors.	Applies a proportion to calculate distance. Solves algebraic equations with one variable and expressions involving multiple operations with negative values. Determines an algebraic expression to model a relationship. Interprets data to determine the relationship between mean, median and mode. Applies knowledge of angle properties of polygons to calculate angle size.
8	Identifies figurative language used in a text. Connects ideas in a complex paragraph in a factual text. Infers the writer's point of view in a book review. Connects ideas and makes an inference about key details in a book review. Draws ideas together to identify the main purpose of an explanation and the point of view in an argument.	Writes a cohesive story that attempts to engage the reader. Makes deliberate and appropriate word choices to create an emotional response. Attempts to use features of recognisable text types such as fantasy or adventure stories, and devices such as humour or drama. Constructs most complex sentences correctly.	Spells words with difficult letter patterns. Spells words that are often pronounced differently from the way they are spelled. Recognises complex grammatical conventions, such as selecting correct words to complete adverbial phrases. Identifies the function of a word and the grammatical term used to describe it, such as noun, verb or adjective. Recognises the correct use of complex punctuation in written English, such as the use of semicolons.	Solves problems involving ratio and percentage increase. Solves a multi-step rates problem involving speed and mixed numbers. Determines equivalent algebraic expressions. Calculates duration between digital times. Interprets stem-and-leaf plots. Calculates circumference. Describes probability using decimals. Applies knowledge of intersecting lines to calculate angle size. Determines direction using compass points and angle size of turn.
7	Identifies the effect of using a first-person narrator. Identifies the tone of a complex factual text. Understands the connections between the words and the visual aspects of a text, such as a diagram. Identifies the reason for an unusual use of punctuation in a factual text. Identifies and connects complex ideas in an explanation.	Writes a story with a beginning and a detailed complication. Develops characters and setting through description or dialogue. Joins and orders ideas using connecting words and maintains clear meaning through the story. Correctly spells most common words and some difficult words, including words with less regular spelling patterns and silent letters.	Spells difficult words with less regular spelling patterns, including words that contain silent letters. Recognises common grammatical conventions, such as selecting the correct words to complete verb phrases. Recognises figurative language, such as metaphors. Recognises the correct use of punctuation in written English, such as the use of commas around a phrase.	Calculates with percentages and converts mixed numbers to improper fractions. Solves equivalent algebraic expressions and expressions involving multiple operations. Matches data in a table to points on a graph. Calculates and compares the area of similar shapes. Reads a protractor scale to measure angle size. Visualises the net of a cube with distinctive faces.
6	Interprets descriptive language in a narrative. Connects ideas to interpret the motivation of characters. Locates information in an introduction to a factual text. Infers a writer's response to a given situation. Identifies the tone of an argument.	Organises a story into paragraphs that focus on one idea or a group of related ideas. Uses accurate words or groups of words when describing events and ideas. Punctuates nearly all sentences correctly with capitals, full stops, exclamation marks and question marks. Correctly uses more complex punctuation marks some of the time.	Spells multi-syllable words with less regular spelling patterns. Recognises common grammatical conventions, such as the purpose of italics in a text. Recognises that a text is written in present tense. Recognises the correct use of punctuation in written English, such as speech marks, capital letters and question marks in direct speech.	Solves problems involving addition and subtraction of decimals. Continues number patterns in a table of values. Calculates the average using data in a table. Interprets information in a graph by comparing two points. Identifies scale and locates position on a plan using coordinates and a key. Identifies the net of a triangular prism.
5	Locates directly stated information and infers the main idea in a narrative. Identifies how a character feels. Interprets a character's actions.	Structures a story to include a beginning, a complication and events that are related to each other. Includes enough supporting detail for the story to be easily understood by the reader, although the conclusion may be weak or simple. Correctly structures most simple and compound sentences and some complex sentences.	Spells frequently used words with less regular spelling patterns. Recognises common grammatical conventions, such as the correct form of past tense verbs. Recognises some correct use of punctuation in written English.	Solves a simple algebraic expression by substituting a given number. Identifies symmetry in irregular 2D shapes.