

ASSESSMENTS

New York State administers foreign language exams to assess students at the end of level 1 (Proficiency exam) and at the end of level 3. (Regents exam)

If you want to assess your students using a standardized test that actually evaluates reading, writing, speaking, and comprehending, these tests have stood the test of time.

A copy of the New York State Proficiency Exam is online at:

<http://www.nysedregents.org/testing/slpexams.html>

The Regents exams are on the following web site

www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lote.html

Other standardized FL assessments are:

The annual competitions by the various AAT's. There are tests for every level. They are not really tests that are supposed to show what the students know. They are actually contests with prizes. As a result, the questions tend to focus on things that students find confusing. A score of 50% is actually an average score. Many students find it discouraging to be asked so many things that they have not mastered.

College equivalency tests. The AP, the CLEP, and the SAT II all purport to correlate high school language course work with university language course work. Different universities accept different scores on different exams. Students need to check with their universities. My own son would have received only 6 credits if he had taken Spanish AP. Instead, he got 14 credits of Spanish on his college transcript by taking the CLEP! He went directly into the 300-level.

The SAT II is normally used for placement and admission to a university, but not for granting credit. It is a good idea to know the policy for the one or two universities that the majority of your students attend.