



Next Generation Social and Emotional  
Learning Assessment System

Do you have a clear picture of  
**YOUR STUDENTS'**  
**SOCIAL** and **EMOTIONAL**  
**LEARNING SKILLS?**



ACT® Tesseract® makes it easy by providing an individual report for every student and comprehensive reports for your school as a whole.



# Tessera SNAPSHOT

- Comprehensive next-generation assessment system for Social and Emotional Learning skills
- Two assessments: One for middle school students (grades 6–8), and one for high school students (grades 9–12)
- Advanced assessment methodology that goes beyond traditional self-reporting to yield more reliable, valid results
- Easy to administer online
- Reports that are user-friendly for students and schools
- Strengthens and supports student self-knowledge, goal-setting and growth mindset

The research is unequivocal: Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) skills strongly predict academic achievement, career success and lifelong well-being. Many studies find that these attributes contribute as much or more than academic skills in helping students succeed.

In addition, there's evidence that some Social and Emotional Learning skills are easier to strengthen than cognitive ones, and these strengthened skills may last longer.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

Educators, policymakers, and parents are understandably eager to invest in Social and Emotional Learning skill development, especially as SEL factors are increasingly incorporated into accountability metrics. For example, ESSA mandates that states include a “non-academic measure” in their school accountability systems.

Clear, accurate understanding of existing student skills and strengths is essential in order to target interventions and support Whole Child initiatives. Highly effective Social and Emotional Learning skill-building efforts depend on reliable assessment. Until now, however, growth in SEL curricular programs has far outpaced reliable assessment options.

## RESULTS DATA REPORTED IN A CLEAR, EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND FORMAT.

**ACT Tessera** Scores for Student Name – April 2018

ACT Tessera measures five important social and emotional skills, described to indicate your current level on each skill. Don't worry too much if you get one of the skills. You can always improve with practice.

For detailed information on improving the five Tessera skills, and for of how star scores are related to percentiles, go to [www.act.org/tt-test](http://www.act.org/tt-test)

Skill	Description	Score
<b>Grit</b>	Grit reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate persistence, goal striving, reliability, dependability, and attention to detail at school.	3 stars
<b>Teamwork</b>	Teamwork reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate collaboration, empathy, helpfulness, trust, and trustworthiness.	3 stars
<b>Curiosity</b>	Curiosity reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate assertiveness, influence, optimism, and enthusiasm.	3 stars
<b>Resilience</b>	Resilience reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate stress management, emotional regulation, a positive response to setbacks, and persistence.	3 stars
<b>Leadership</b>	Leadership reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate assertiveness, influence, optimism, and enthusiasm.	3 stars

★ At or below the 10th percentile. Approximately 84% of the national tested sample scored at this level or lower. ★★ Between the 10th and 20th percentiles (inclusive). Approximately 76% scored lower or at this level. ★★★ Between the 20th and 30th percentiles (inclusive). Approximately 68% scored lower or at this level. ★★★★ Between the 30th and 40th percentiles (inclusive). Approximately 60% scored lower or at this level. ★★★★★ Above the 40th percentile. Approximately 52% scored lower or at this level.

**ACT Tessera** Report for SCORING TEST SCHOOL (XKCRP1)

**Grit**  
Grit reflects the extent to which a student's actions demonstrate persistence, goal striving, reliability, dependability, and attention to detail at school.

Percentile	Description
1%–10% Percentile	A student who scores in this level is most likely developing the skills described in the other levels. This student can improve by working to use helpful feedback received on school assignments.
11%–20% Percentile	Occasionally attempts challenging things and seeks trying, even when things get difficult.
21%–30% Percentile	Sometimes checks to see if he/she is meeting his/her goals, even without teacher help.
31%–40% Percentile	Responds to most helpful feedback received on school assignments.
41%–50% Percentile	Someones attempts challenging things and seeks trying, even when things get difficult.
51%–60% Percentile	Often checks to see if he/she is meeting his/her goals, even without teacher help.
61%–70% Percentile	Selects out and responds to helpful feedback on school assignments.
71%–80% Percentile	Almost always attempts challenging things and seeks trying, even when things get difficult.
81%–90% Percentile	Often checks to see if he/she is meeting his/her goals, even without teacher help.
91%–100% Percentile	Selects out and responds to helpful feedback on school assignments.

**Average grit percentile for all grades: 51 %**

Grade	Number of Students	Percentile
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Totals	5	60.3
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Female	3	57.0
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Male	2	65.0
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Totals	4	39.0
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Female	3	37.7
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Male	1	2.0

**ACT Tessera** Report for SCORING TEST SCHOOL

**School Climate Detail**

I am comfortable sharing my thoughts with adults at my school.  
Responses were 69% positive on average for all grades.

	No. of Students	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Totals	9	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Female	3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Male	6	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Totals	4	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Female	3	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Male	1	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Totals	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Female	0	-	-	-	-	-	-

This is an example of what part of the individual student and school aggregate reports might look like.

Contact us for a Tessera walkthrough  
[act.org/contact-acttessera](http://act.org/contact-acttessera)

# A SOLUTION YOU CAN TRUST

Tessera is an all-in-one, multifaceted solution that gives students, parents, teachers, and schools a comprehensive view of Social and Emotional Learning skills.

- Our robust, next-generation online assessment tool is easy for schools to administer and requires no special or time-consuming preparation.
- The assessment tool integrates three different methodologies to reliably and validly measure a student's Social and Emotional Learning skills.
- Our detailed reports deliver the data required to support student and school self-knowledge, growth, Whole Child development, and continuous improvement.

## MULTIDIMENSIONAL, COMPREHENSIVE, AND RESEARCH-DRIVEN

Tessera is based on the research-validated and widely adopted Big Five personality factors. The broad, multidimensional Big Five framework encompasses attributes related to successful performance across different ages, contexts, and cultures.

Tessera measures six areas of Social and Emotional Learning Skills:

- Grit
- Teamwork
- Resilience
- Curiosity
- Leadership
- School Climate

## TESSERA INTEGRATES THREE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES TO ENSURE VALID RESULTS.

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the ACT Tessera assessment interface. The top-left screenshot shows a 'SELF-REPORT ITEM' with a Likert scale from 'Strongly Agree' to 'Disagree'. The top-right screenshot shows a 'SITUATIONAL JUDGMENT TEST ITEM' with a Likert scale from 'Very Likely' to 'Very Unlikely'. The bottom-left screenshot shows a 'FORCED CHOICE ITEM' with two columns of statements and Likert scales for 'Most Like Me' and 'Least Like Me'.

Each skill area is assessed using three different techniques:

- 1 Self-report test items.** Students rate the extent to which they agree with several statements.
- 2 Situational judgment test items.** Students are presented with several scenarios and possible responses to each. They then rate the likelihood that they would engage in each response.
- 3 Forced-choice test items.** Students are presented with several statements and asked to select the statements that are “most like me” and “least like me.”

This multimodal approach makes it extremely difficult for students to fake their responses and minimizes reference bias. These are problems typically associated with assessments relying solely or primarily on self-report test items.

# Tessera HELPS YOU HELP YOUR students

- School leaders receive reports of aggregate and individual student performance
- Each student receives a personal profile report
- Students and schools receive recommended resources and strategies to address areas identified as requiring increased focus





Learn more about how Tessaera can help you accurately assess your students' Social and Emotional Learning skills—and deliver the sound data critical to promoting continued growth and Whole Child development.

Call toll free 855.730.0400

Visit [act.org/act-tessaera](https://act.org/act-tessaera)



## Tessaera, SEL and the Whole Child

Whether it's called the Whole Child approach, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), or Social and Emotional Learning skills, focusing on and supporting students' holistic growth is taking on new urgency in schools across the country.

Educators, parents and policymakers recognize that preparing students for success in the 21st century demands going well beyond teaching academic skills. Legislation, such as ESSA, increasingly incorporates non-academic measures into accountability metrics.

Until now, however, reliable measurement of Social and Emotional Learning skills has been challenging. The Tessaera next generation assessment system uses advanced methodology to deliver highly valid results and user-friendly reports. Equipped with this data, schools and students can support holistic self-knowledge, goal-setting and continuous improvement.

[act.org/act-tessaera](https://act.org/act-tessaera)

Contact us: [act.org/contact-acttessaera](https://act.org/contact-acttessaera)

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