



## FCAT Achievement Levels

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) measures student performance on selected benchmarks in reading, mathematics, writing, and science that are defined by the Sunshine State Standards (SSS). The SSS articulate *challenging content* that Florida students are expected to know and be able to do. The SSS were developed in seven content areas and were adopted by the State Board of Education in May 1996. All public schools are expected to teach students the content found in the SSS.

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the Florida Sunshine State Standards tested on the FCAT Reading and Mathematics (Grades 3-10). Achievement levels will be established for FCAT Science in spring, 2006, and for FCAT Writing+ in spring 2007.

Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest.

### Achievement Level Definitions

<b>Level 5</b>	This student has success with the most challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . A student scoring in Level 5 answers most of the test questions correctly, including the most challenging questions.
<b>Level 4</b>	This student has success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> . A student scoring in Level 4 answers most of the test questions correctly, but may have only some success with questions that reflect the most challenging content.
<b>Level 3</b>	This student has partial success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> , but performance is inconsistent. A student scoring in Level 3 answers many of the test questions correctly but is generally less successful with questions that are the most challenging.
<b>Level 2</b>	This student has limited success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> .
<b>Level 1</b>	This student has little success with the challenging content of the <i>Sunshine State Standards</i> .