



2014 SAGE Summative Off Grade/Course Items and Vertical Alignment

The SAGE (Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence) is designed for two primary functions.

- Test students' proficiency of the Utah Core Standards with a high degree of specificity using an adaptive algorithm that adjusts to a student's individual performance.
- Measure student growth from year to year by using a vertical scale

In order to allow SAGE to show growth from year to year in the future (vertical scaling) in English Language Arts and Math, this first year of administration students will see some items that are aligned to content above or below grade level. This will be true only for the 2014 Summative administration.

Please note the following about these items:

1. These items are used as important data points for vertical scaling
2. Except in a few rare circumstances, students will NOT know which items are vertical linking, so students should attempt to do their best on ALL items.
3. Students will only see a very small number of items not aligned to their grade or course.
4. These items do not lengthen the test this year, as in future years these items will be replaced with new, grade level, field test items.
5. These items do NOT count for student scores, or class, teacher, school, or LEA accountability, they are only used to gather data to determine the vertical growth scales.

If you have any additional questions regarding these "out of level" items, please contact Kurt Farnsworth, Assessment Development Coordinator at kurt.farnsworth@schools.utah.gov