

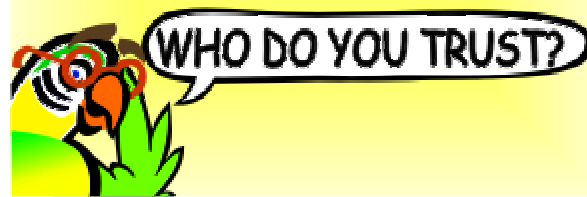
CLASSROOM BITS & BYTES

The TAKS Man cometh.



And he's bringing a label for *your* school.

If you're really concerned about your rating,
you need some help. But the question is



Trust someone PROVEN to raise scores . . .

- Dallas Middle College HS - from 55% to 95%
- Sam Houston HS (HISD) - 48 point increase
- Ereksen MS (AISD) - from Recognized to Exemplary
- East Texas school from Unacceptable to Acceptable

Use of GoToLearn's diagnostic assessments and in-depth tutorials has resulted in great success stories

The assessments diagnose students needs at the TEKS level. The tutorials show step-by-step solutions, explain incorrect answers and show multiple ways to solve problems. The exclusive dual-language display allows you to determine if it is the concept - or the language that the student does not

understand.

Call (972-543-4290) or email for more information. Sally Philipp sphilipp@gotolearn.org

Language is an Art

Homonyms

Words that are spelled and pronounced the same, but have different meanings.

last

How long did the movie last?
Steve came last in the race.

account

I read the account in the newspaper.
We have a joint bank account.

race

You cannot discriminate against people on the basis of sex, race or religion.
She won the race.

long

The line was so long that I opted not to wait.
I long for a day at the beach.

match

She won her tennis match 6-0.
Do you have a match so I can light the fireplace.

draw

The soccer match ended in a draw.
I wish I knew how to draw.

Quote

"Knowledge is only an instrument in the hand of wisdom."
Daniel Payne

Teaching Tip

As we prepare for the TAKS tests, some things that may help you to help your students are as follows.

Replication of the test scenario helps to familiarize the student and make expectations relevant. If you know that the test will have approximately 40 questions, create 10 questions and print/ reproduce them in a format similar to the TAKS test presentation of the questions. Have your students enter the room, take their seats, and prepare to take the test - just as they would with the TAKS test. Turning in their completed answer sheet should also resemble the completion of the TAKS.

The next week, repeat the scenario - with 15-20 questions (or whatever is grade appropriate for your students). Again, the questions, answer sheets should look like the TAKS. They should begin, and end the session much as they would on TAKS test day.

The following week - repeat again - adding more questions. Repeat until you have arrived at the number of questions in the test.

It's a good way to practice concepts that may be included on the test, and to familiarize the students with the testing environment.

If the testing scenario is 'familiar' to the students, a lot of the nervousness goes away. It is one of the reasons that lawyers take witnesses into an empty courtroom and have them sit in the witness chair prior to testifying.

More test prep ideas to come.

Grin

Funny Answers to Exam Questions

Q: What do you know about the first Olympic Games?

A: Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits, and threw the java.

Q: Who was Julius Caesar?

A: Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Dying, he gasped out: "Tee hee, Brutus."

Q: What happened to Joan of Arc?

A: Joan of Arc was burn to a steak and was canonised by Bernard Shaw.

Q: What were people like in Medeival times.

A: In midevil times most people were alliterate. The greatest writer of the futile ages was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature.



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