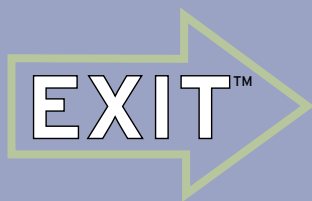


Action Learning Systems, Inc.



A Series of Comprehensive
Courses in English-Language Arts
and Mathematics to Prepare
Students for the California
High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)





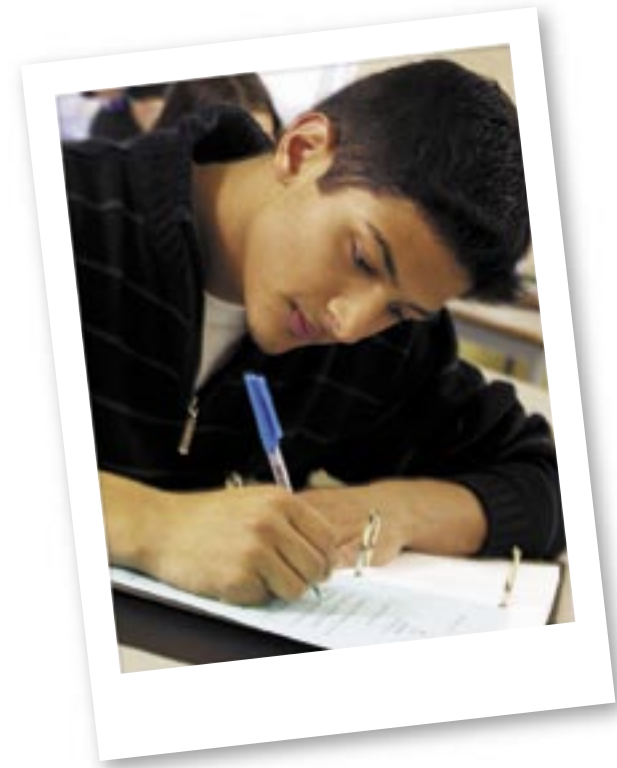
Helping Students Master the CAHSEE

As students struggling to pass a high-stakes exam can tell you, test-taking strategies such as scanning ahead and eliminating options are not always enough to earn a passing score. Their teachers know that students must also understand and apply their knowledge when taking these important tests. Action Learning Systems' EXIT program not only prepares students to apply test-taking strategies on tests such as the CAHSEE, but also helps students develop solid reading, writing, and problem-solving skills that directly transfer to other content areas and assessments.

2004–2005 Grade Ten Students: Percentage Not Passing the CAHSEE

	English-Language Arts	Mathematics
All Students	25%	26%
African American Students	37%	46%
Economically Disadvantaged Students	40%	39%
English Learner Students	61%	51%
Hispanic/Latino Students	38%	39%
Special Education Students	70%	70%

Source: California Department of Education



Action Learning Systems' EXIT™ Course: Designed to Increase Student Success on the California High School Exit Exam

Using the CAHSEE blueprints, the EXIT team of curriculum specialists identified the key California content standards that students must master for CAHSEE success. These focus standards are highly assessed, are easily linked across content areas, and serve as prerequisites to other standards. The focus standards are embedded into all EXIT units and modules.

Action Learning Systems went through an extensive process to develop the EXIT course. Once focus standards were determined, ALS gathered a team of experienced California teachers to design each EXIT unit and module. The EXIT course was field-tested in a statewide pilot program with a representative sample of California students in urban and rural areas. The entire course was analyzed and refined to ensure that the units and modules reflected students' mastery of the standards tested on the CAHSEE.

Standards Mastery for Students, Flexible Delivery Options for Educators

EXIT English-Language Arts and Mathematics courses:

- Align specifically to the California content standards assessed on the CAHSEE
- Ensure standards mastery
- Develop test preparation strategies
- Provide flexible delivery options

EXIT consists of units and modules developed by teachers and content specialists. The EXIT units are integrated, multi-week instructional sequences built on the skills that students must master to be successful. Units build sequentially and incorporate SDAIE scaffolds that allow for access and content mastery. The EXIT modules for both Mathematics and English-Language Arts are stand-alone lessons that target specific skills. Modules also allow teachers

to differentiate instruction and can be delivered in whole groups, small groups, or independently.

The EXIT courses include:

- Pre-tests that allow teachers to assess student levels and see immediately where further instruction is necessary
- Teacher tool kits with class materials, transparencies, posters, and manipulatives
- Curriculum-embedded assessments throughout the units and modules
- Study guides and workbooks for students
- Post-tests designed for use as a final review prior to the CAHSEE

EXIT™ At a Glance

	EXIT™ English-Language Arts	EXIT™ Mathematics
Standards-Aligned Content	Various writing types designed to develop reading comprehension and process writing skills	Various mathematical functions designed to develop metacognitive skills and enforce student participation
Units	7 Units (85 hours): 1. Autobiography 2. Biographical Narrative 3. Expository Writing 4. Response to Literature 5. Persuasion 6. Business Letter 7. Review	5 Units (114 hours): 1. Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability 2. Number Sense 3. Algebra and Functions 4. Measurement and Geometry 5. Algebra I
Modules	20 five-hour modules consist of student-paced skills review, including Writing Strategies, Response to Literature, Reading Comprehension, and Listening and Speaking	13 three-hour modules consist of teacher-taught reviews to refine and sharpen skills
Testing	CAHSEE preparation pre-tests and post-tests are provided, along with pre/post writing evaluations	CAHSEE preparation pre-tests and post-tests are provided
Materials	Student and teacher study guides, workbooks, transparencies, poster sets, reciprocal teaching cards, and manipulatives	
Training	Expert training and in-class support are customized options for implementation	

About Action Learning Systems

Action Learning Systems helps schools and districts focus on—and meet—their ultimate goal of increasing student achievement. We help school communities find strategic solutions by offering standards-based instruction and materials, research-based strategies, training and coaching, and intervention programs. We provide coherence across curriculum, instruction, and assessment so that every element of a school works collectively to improve student achievement.



Increasing Student Achievement

Who Benefits From EXIT™?

EXIT was developed as a strategic intervention. The program is targeted to students who are up to two years below grade level—students classified as below basic and low basic. This program is ideal for Special Education students and English Learners. Scaffolded lessons were especially written to accommodate various adaptations and modifications which are commonly found on student's Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504s.

Email Action Learning Systems at info@actionlearningsystems.com or call us at 916-447-0762 for more information on the EXIT CAHSEE preparation course and other ALS products.

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